

## **Public Drinking Water Working Group Session Summary**

June 21, 2005 8:00 am – 10:00 am

Harrisburg City Hall

354 Smith Street

### **Meeting Objectives:**

- Approve final working group goal statements
- Review and finalize specific strategy recommendations
- Discuss Drinking Water Working Group Report format
- Lay out next steps and timeframe for writing the Working Group Report

### **Attendees:**

Tim Bunnell, City of Harrisburg

Gordon Kurtz, Benton County Public Works

Shawn Stevenson, Oregon Association of Water Utilities (OAWU)

Jo Ford, Weyerhaeuser

Faye Stewart, Lane County Commissioner

Tom Pattee, Department of Human Services-Drinking Water Program

Rick Nelson, City of Harrisburg

Dan Mumford, Bergeson-Boese & Associates

Denise Kalakay, Lane Council of Governments

Scott Shine, Lane Council of Governments

### **Quick Update on GWMA Committee Progress**

Scott Shine gave an update on the progress of the GWMA Committee and the issues discussed at the last meeting. Specifically it was noted that the Committee discussed how to guide the work of the working groups. It appears that the Committee will develop broad overarching goals and allow a lot of flexibility to the working groups at the beginning, getting more specific as the process moves forward.

### **Goal Statements: Review, Refine, and Approve**

*Actions: Discussion on proposed goal statements and approve final goal statements*

Draft goal statements had been prepared from the input received during the first two meetings.

These were hung on the wall around the room and the working group was asked to review them.

Working group members either indicated that they approved of the goal as is, approved with changes, or did not approve. During this process, no working group member indicated that they did not approve of any of the goal statements. Minor changes were made and points discussed surrounding the goals. After making the suggested changes, the group approved of all but two of the goals. Staff committed to reworking the two goals according to the group's input and circulating these by e-mail. This has been completed since the meeting and all seven goals have been approved by the working group. See attached document for final goal statements.

## **Discussion**

Denise Kalakay introduced issues to the group that arose while detailing strategies, such as who is responsible for implementation, funding for strategy implementation, and the future of the working group. She said it is possible that the development of the GWMA Action Plan is a long-term process and it may take up to two years. The working group provided input on three questions posed to them:

- Does the working group want to continue to meet after the report is prepared?
- Is there support for bringing together these strategies in a region-wide drinking water protection plan?
- Should LCOG seek funding to coordinate this effort?

The group was concerned primarily about funding issues and indicated that if the funding was available, they would be interested in continuing to meet. There was overall support for having LCOG seek funding to coordinate this effort. The group also stated that there was no reason to wait until the release of the Action Plan to start implementing strategies.

## **Potential Strategies: Review, Refine, and Approve**

*Actions: Review draft strategy recommendations, suggest other strategies to develop, and approve final strategy recommendations*

Strategy recommendations were being compiled on a continual basis from the previous meetings and through individual working group member contributions. These strategies were formatted using a standard template for the sake of consistency. The collection of strategy recommendations was presented to the working group for approval. There were approximately 30 strategy recommendations. The working group approved these draft strategies and provided input on strategies that deserve particular attention.

## **Next Steps: Writing the Working Group Report**

The intent of the meeting was to get working group approval on goals and strategies to be included in the GWMA Action Plan. Since the working group was able to achieve consensus on the goals and strategies, staff committed to drafting a preliminary report. Since the GWMA Committee is taking a break for the summer, it was decided that the working group would take a break from meeting and staff would begin preparing the report. The working group committed to getting back together in September before the next GWMA Committee meeting and reviewing the draft report. Staff indicated that they would be in touch with working group members throughout the process of drafting the report. This timeline was agreed upon and the group set a target meeting date for the middle of September.