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*Executive Director*

## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Landowner Equity and Land Preservation Committee  
**From:** Margaret Nordstrom, Executive Director  
**Subject:** Committee Meeting Minutes – January 22, 2015  
**Date:** February 9, 2014

A Landowner Equity and Land Preservation Committee meeting was held on Thursday, January 22, 2015 at the Highlands Council office in Chester. Committee Members present: Committee Chair Walton and Committee Members Dressler, Francis, and Visioli. Present via phone: Council Chair Rilee.

Staff Members present: Margaret Nordstrom, Andrew Davis, Chris Danis, James Humphries, Kim Ball Kaiser, and Annette Tagliareni.

Also present via phone: Tyler Yingling, Assistant Counsel, Governor's Authorities Unit.

Committee Chair Walton opened the meeting at 3:03pm.

### Landowner Equity and Land Preservation Program

Committee Chair Walton asked committee members if they had any further questions regarding the program. There were no questions/comments.

Ms. Nordstrom gave an overview on how the program will be presented to Council on January 22<sup>nd</sup>:

- Chairman Rilee will make general remarks regarding the program
- Committee Chair Walton will go over the program
- Chief Counsel Davis – review the rulemaking process & timeframe

Chairman Rilee asked if a timeline can be prepared for the process. Chief Counsel Davis responded that a timeline can be prepared and the rulemaking process will take approximately six months.

Ms. Nordstrom announced that Council's February 19<sup>th</sup> meeting has been cancelled. The next Council meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2015 at 4:00pm.

#### Water Fee

Ms. Danis gave a status on a proposed approach for evaluating a potential water fee and indicated that there are three components being used to collect data:

- Update Highlands Water Resources Technical Report information which was based on 2003 water use data. The NJGS NJWater database has updated information to 2011.
- Working with NDEP, New Jersey Geological Survey (NJGS) to update the April 2004 Technical Memorandum that evaluated who are Highlands water users in the state.
- NJDEP and Rutgers are conducting a statewide evaluation of public water utility use and determining water use trends until 2040. The Highlands Council staff serves on the technical advisory committee for that project.

At the next committee meeting, Susan Payne (Executive Director, SADC) and Greg Romano (Chair, Garden State Preservation Trust) will join the committee to discuss the Highlands Development Credit Technical Assistance Memo and Scope of Work incentives prepared by Highlands consultants.

*The Committee adjourned at 3:27pm.*