

notice to each member. Three members of the Commission shall constitute a quorum. The Commission shall keep a record of its proceedings which shall be open to the public for inspection.

(d) The Chairman shall preside over meetings of the Commission and shall direct the performance of the powers and duties as herein stated.

5. The Commission shall have the following power and duties:

(a) To act in an advisory capacity to the Director;

(b) To keep itself fully informed of the activities of the Department and to receive periodic and special reports concerning the current operations of the Department;

(c) To consider the needs for further water resources development of the State from the points of view of the several economic and social interests of its people, and to approve long-range plans and programs of the Department.

(d) To promulgate rules and regulations pursuant to the authority granted by the laws of Maryland and to modify or amend the same from time to time, as may be necessary and proper in order to carry out the responsibilities of the Department. Rules and regulations promulgated shall be subject to the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act and any other rule which requirements impose by law. Any such rules and regulations adopted shall have the force and effect of law, unless and until modified or repealed by the General Assembly. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to give the power to change or modify any law enacted by the General Assembly either before or after the passage of this article. All rules and regulations of the Water Pollution Control Commission and those rules and regulations of the Department of Geology, Mines and Water Resources pertaining to the appropriation of waters and to reservoirs and dams and to well drillers in effect immediately prior to June 1, 1964, shall continue to be effective thereafter until rescinded.

(e) To approve programs of the Department as represented in the annual budget request.

(f) To assist the Director in fostering public awareness and understanding of the objectives and functions of the Department, and in stimulating public participation and interest in orderly, integrated water resource development within the State;

(g) To hold public hearings and to sponsor meetings in any part of the State when deemed necessary or useful in the execution of its duties.

Powers and Functions

6. The Department shall be responsible for supervising and planning the multiple purpose development of the waters of the State for the best interests of all its inhabitants. The Department shall prepare and develop a general water resources program which contemplates the proper conservation and development of the waters of the State, in a manner compatible with multiple purpose management on a watershed and/or aquifer basis or other appropriate geographical unit thereof. The program shall recognize and be consistent with the functions of the Department of Chesapeake Bay Affairs