

Meeting Minutes
Western WUCC Convening Meeting
Brookfield Municipal Center – 100 Pocono Road, Brookfield, CT
September 12, 2017 10:00 AM

The Western Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) held a meeting on September 12th, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the Brookfield Municipal Center at 100 Pocono Road in Brookfield, Connecticut. Prior written notice of this meeting was given via emails from the Department of Public Health (DPH) to eligible WUCC members, chief administrative officials, local health directors, town clerks, the Secretary of State, state agencies (OPM, PURA, DEEP, CT Office of Consumer Counsel, CT DOT, CT DECD, the Commissioner of Agriculture), and other interested persons. Notice of the meeting was also posted on the DPH website <http://www.ct.gov/dph/wucc/>.

The following WUCC member representatives were in attendance (listed in alphabetical order of affiliation):

WUCC Member Representative	Affiliation
Doug Arndt	Town of Bethel
Russell Posthauer (Co-Chair)	Candlewood Springs Property Owners Assoc.
David Day	Danbury Public Utilities
Mike Elliot	First Taxing District Water Department
David Banker	Metropolitan District Commission
Aaron Budris	Naugatuck Valley Council of Government
Joanna Wozniak-Brown	Northwest Hills Council of Government
Tom Villa	South Norwalk Electric & Water
Mike Towle	Western CT Council of Governments

The following non-WUCC member representatives were in attendance (listed in alphabetical order of affiliation):

Non-WUCC Member Representative	Affiliation
Doug Hoskins	CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
Eric McPhee	CT Department of Public Health
Justin Milardo	CT Department of Public Health
Linda Ferraro	CT Department of Public Health
David Murphy	Milone & MacBroom, Inc. (MMI)

A copy of the meeting agenda is attached. The following actions took place:

1. Welcome & Roll Call

The Chairs opened the meeting at 10:05 AM. The chair requested a roll call of attendees. Mr. Murphy provided a brief refresher of the process to date and an overview of the goals of the meeting.

2. Review of August Meeting Minutes

Mr. Posthauer asked if there were any comments or changes from the floor. No comments were made. Mr. Villa moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Posthauer seconded. Members voted unanimously to approve.

3. Review of Formal Correspondence

Mr. Banker stated that two correspondences had been sent or received by the Western WUCC since the last meeting:

- 2017-09-04 – Response from Connecticut Water Company to the Western WUCC with answers to questions in modules 8-10.
- 2017-09-11 – Response from Aquarion Water Company to the Western WUCC with answers to questions in modules 8-10.

4. Public Comment

The Chairs opened the public comment period. No public comment was received.

5. Presentations by DPH

a) Small System Capacity presented by Eric McPhee

- Mr. McPhee presented areas of the state with high concentrations of small systems and discussed options to increase resiliency and reliability and discussed available funding via DWSRF program.

b) Public Act 17-211 presented by Linda Ferraro

- Ms. Ferraro presented the revisions to existing FOIA laws resulting from Public Act 17-211 including the requirement for water utilities to submit a redacted Water Supply Plan for new/revisions moving forward and the list of protected information.
- Ms. Wozniak-Brown asked if towns can receive FOIA determinations/assistance for requests regarding town owned water systems. She also asked about dam-related information that is already in hazard mitigation plans.
- Ms. Ferraro replied that the town can if they have a water system and the request is in regards to the water system. Regarding dams, anything already in the public record is not subject to redaction.
- Mr. Arndt asked how quickly FOIA requests are processed.
- Ms. Ferraro responded that the intent is to respond in a reasonable period of time, which may be 4-6 weeks, but this period can be longer.
- Mr. Villa asked about water supply plans that are already on file. Ms. Ferraro replied that the agency would utilize the previous/existing policy for those plans.

6. Integrated Report Modules Review & Discussion

a) **Satellite Management/Small System Challenges & Viability**

- Mr. Murphy reviewed the number of small systems in the Western WUCC, challenges/issues with the small systems and the dispersion of troubled small systems within the WUCC based upon DPH scorecard ratings.
- Mr. Murphy discussed the viability of small systems, the possibility of connecting to larger systems, the role of the WUCC to review new small systems and the potential for the WUCC to make recommendations for small systems for satellite ownership or transference of ownership, if needed. He asked WUCC members if they were comfortable making specific recommendations about small systems, as would be expected in the Integrated Report.
- Mr. Day stated that the WUCC should consider making recommendations for acquisition or transference of small systems, but the long term cost to bring these systems into compliance can be high.
- Mr. McPhee stated that the WUCC should also consider the long term benefits of interconnecting small systems.
- Mr. Posthauer stated that recommendations for acquisition or transference should include reasons why and a discussion of the financial issues and the anticipated benefit.
- Ms. Wozniak-Brown asked if there is a common pathway for owners or occupants of small water systems to proceed to turn over control of the system or report issues with a small system.
- Mr. McPhee replied that DPH has a procedure for receiving and investigating complaints from customers of water systems, but only the listed administrative contact of the water system can formally turn over the water system.
- Mr. Budris suggested grouping small systems together by the issues/challenges they have. Each category would then have a set of options to solve problems specific to the category.
- Ms. Wozniak-Brown urged the report to avoid being too damning to any one system; and she recommended categorizing small systems into those who need new water vs. those that do not need new water.
- Mr. Murphy confirmed that the small systems could be grouped by their challenges to provide alternatives for each type of challenge.
- Mr. Day asked if the DPH Drinking Water State Revolving Fund is available to help small systems.
- Mr. McPhee confirmed that DWSRF funds are available for small systems and have been used in the past for the generator installation program. He also stated that innovation or change in the implementation of the program may be needed if funds would be used to interconnect multiple small systems.

b) **Minimum Design Standards**

- Mr. Murphy reviewed challenges and possible paths to follow to set minimum design standards.
- Mr. Posthauer asked if the intention is to impose uniformity across the WUCCs and state for design standards above the current minimum standards.
- Mr. Murphy replied that the intent is to recognize and resolve widespread issues across the WUCC and to benefit new systems which have yet to go through the CPCN process. The WUCC could decide to only recommend minimum design standards, which would then be up to the towns and utilities to accept or reject.

- Ms. Wozniak-Brown stated that the villages and small towns would be interested in recommended standards and a comparison of requirements, such as industry versus utility versus Fire Department/NFPA requirements.
- Attendees said that the report should provide a list of references for where to obtain standards.

c) Future Sources/Raw Water Quality/Acquisition of Land for New Stratified Drift Wells

- Mr. Murphy reviewed challenges, potential solutions and responses received from Aquarion Water Company and Connecticut Water Company.
- Mr. Budris asked if the future sources should include a discussion of non-potable sources for industrial and other non-potable uses.
- Mr. Murphy stated that this is not currently included in the integrated plan, but the State Water Plan included discussion of Class B water for non-potable use.
- Mr. Budris asked if non-potable sources could be developed next to large industrial water customers.
- Mr. McPhee added that a solution moving forward could be to require large industrial water customers to develop where non-potable water sources are available. For example, the Integrated Report could recommend that new power plants be sited near Class B waters.
- There was consensus among members to include Mr. McPhee's recommendation for large non-potable water customer development in the report.
- Mr. Murphy asked if members have evaluated the effects of anticipated minimum streamflow releases on their utility's margin of safety and available water in the future.
- Mr. Elliot stated that the First Taxing District is anticipating an effect, but has not yet completed the evaluation. Mr. Villa stated the same.
- Mr. Day stated that Danbury has an exemption by virtue of its water diversion permit for 25 years, but they have begun an evaluation of the effects after this period.
- Ms. Wozniak-Brown stated her support for the use of non-potable water for non-potable uses. She also asked for the viability of existing small system sources, especially those in need of replacement and the need for this information to be available to the COGs so that they can work toward the preservation of future water sources in these areas. She recommended that new small systems should be looking at ways to use less water.
- Mr. Murphy asked if the WUCC could develop a list of large water users which could consider a switch to non-potable sources. He asked Mr. Hoskins if DEEP has seen any diversion permit applications that would reflect this type of change in water use, and Mr. Hoskins replied that DEEP has not.
- In the discussion of potential future sources, Mr. Villa asked when the last surface water source in Connecticut was developed.
- Mr. Murphy stated that most future planned sources in the state are groundwater. Mr. Hoskins noted that New Britain is currently evaluating the development of a new Reservoir. Mr. Murphy stated that this tangentially impacts the Western WUCC region because New Britain's sources are in the western region.
- Ms. Wozniak-Brown asked if industrial users can use on-site groundwater if it is contaminated.
- Mr. Posthauer stated that most new industrial developments want on-site potable water to be available.

- Mr. Arndt stated that on-site resource generation of large amounts of water will usually require DEEP permits to remove the water, discharge wastewater generated at the site or both.
- Mr. Murphy asked WUCC members if there is a water supply problem to solve in the region, referencing the maps in the presentation. Mr. McPhee stated that the WUCC has the opportunity to formalize regional review of water supply and formalize potential movement of water between water systems such as those in southwestern Connecticut.
- Mr. Villa asked if the WUCC will consider use of Class B water for water supplies.
- Mr. Murphy stated that the State Water Plan process had decided that Class B supplies will not be considered for potable water supplies in the future.
- Mr. Banker expressed concern that the use of registered capacities in the Margin of Safety review may mask some water deficits, where the existing infrastructure may not generate the registered capacity.

7. Review Integrated Report Modules for the Next Meeting

- Mr. Murphy reviewed the list of modules for discussion at the October WUCC meeting, including any continuation of the current topics (future sources, raw well water quality and acquisition of land for new stratified drift wells), future interconnections and impact, impacts of climate change and the impacts of existing and future regulations.

8. Other Business

- Mr. Banker stated that the WUCC will be contacting members to request information regarding projected safe yield reductions from the application of revised minimum streamflow release requirements.

No items were raised for discussion.

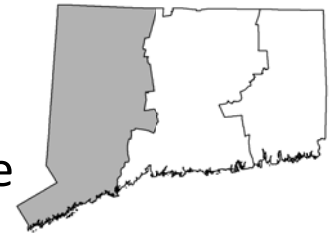
As there was no more business, Mr. Elliot made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Villa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting closed at 11:45 AM.

The next Western WUCC Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday October 10th, 2017 to be held at the Brookfield Municipal Center at 100 Pocono Road in Brookfield, Connecticut.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Banker, Recording Secretary – Western WUCC

Western Region Water Utility Coordinating Committee



Meeting Agenda
September 12, 2017
Location: Brookfield Town Hall
Time: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Russell Posthauer, Jr., Co-Chair
russellposthauer@ccaengineering.com
203-775-6207

Daniel Lawrence, Co-Chair
DLawrence@aquarionwater.com
203-362-3055

David Banker, Recording Secretary
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860-278-7850 Ext. 3650

1. Welcome & Roll Call (5 minutes)
2. Review and Approval of August Meeting Minutes (5 minutes)
3. Review of Formal Correspondence (5 minutes)
4. Public Comment (5 minutes)
5. Presentation by DPH on Revised Water Supply Planning Guidance Related to Public Act 17-211 (30 minutes)
6. Integrated Report Modules Review & Discussion (60 minutes)
 - a) Satellite Management/Small System Challenges & Viability
 - b) Minimum Design Standards
 - c) Future Sources/Raw Water Quality/Acquisition of Land for New Stratified Drift Wells
 - d) Review of previous modules, if needed
7. Review Integrated Report Modules for next meeting (10 minutes)
8. Other Business, if time allows

If the meeting is postponed, the revised meeting date will be Tuesday September 19th.