

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Eastern WUCC Meeting**  
**Teleconference/Videoconference held via Zoom, hosted by SCCOG**  
**November 16, 2022 1:00 p.m.**

The Eastern Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) met on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. The meeting was held remotely, via Zoom teleconference and videoconference software. Prior notice of the meeting was posted on the DPH website, Eastern WUCC webpage: <http://www.ct.gov/dph/wucc/>.

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

WUCC Member Representative	Affiliation
Ingrid Jacobs	Aquarion Water Company and WUCC Tri-Chair
Sam Alexander	SCCOG and WUCC Secretary
Bob Congdon	WUCC Tri-Chair and former Preston First Selectman
Ron Gaudet	Groton Utilities
Jon Avery	Jewett City Water Company and WUCC Tri-Chair
Josh Cansler	Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority

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

Non-WUCC Member Representative	Affiliation
Mary Buchanan	CIRCA
David Murphy	CIRCA and Resilient Land and Water
Melissa Mostowy	CT DEEP
Rich Iozzo	CT DPH
Eric McPhee	CT DPH
Lisette Stone	CT DPH
Victoria Vetre	Resilient Land and Water

A copy of the meeting agenda is attached.

The following actions took place:

**1. Welcome & Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Ingrid Jacobs (Aquarion Water Company). All in attendance stated their names and affiliations.

**2. Approval of May 18, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

Bob Congdon (Tri-chair and former First Selectman of Preston) made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Sam Alexander (Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments (SCCOG)) seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**3. Correspondence**

Sam Alexander noted that there was no formal correspondence.

**4. Discussion: SCCOG Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan / Resilient CT 2.0**

David Murphy (Resilient Land and Water and the Connecticut Institute for Resilience and Climate Adaptation (CIRCA)), Mary Buchanan (CIRCA), and Victoria Vetre (Resilient Land and Water) presented on a joint effort in southeastern Connecticut: A regional continuation of CIRCA's Resilient CT program (which was successfully implemented in other parts of Connecticut), and the update of the Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments' Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan (which will now be called a Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan (HMCAP)). *Separate minutes for this agenda item were prepared by Resilient Land and Water, and are included as an appendix.*

**5. Activities in Member ESAs/Towns**

Members discussed the high cost of materials and supply chain issues.

**6. Public Comment**

There was none.

**7. Next Meeting**

The next tentative meeting date is April 19<sup>th</sup>, at SCCOG offices in Norwich.

**8. Adjourn**

Josh Cansler made a motion to adjourn. Sam Alexander seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 1:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Samuel Alexander (Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments)  
Recording Secretary

# Meeting Minutes

## Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Plan (HMCAP) and *Resilient Connecticut*

### Planning Meeting

## Eastern Connecticut Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC)

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**Date:** November 16, 2022

**Time:** 1 PM to 2 PM

**Location:** Zoom

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#### Attendees

Ingrid Jacobs	Aquarion Water Company and WUCC Tri-Chair
Sam Alexander	SCCOG and WUCC Tri-Chair
Bob Congdon	WUCC Tri-Chair and former Preston First Selectman
David Murphy	CIRCA and Resilient Land and Water
Victoria Vetre	Resilient Land and Water
Mary Buchanan	CIRCA
Lisette Stone	CT DPH
Melissa Mostowy	CT DEEP
Ron Gaudet	Groton Utilities
Eric McPhee	CT DPH Drinking Water
Rich Iozzo	CT DPH Drinking Water
Jon Avery	Jewett City Water Company
Josh Cansler	Southeastern Connecticut Water Authority

#### Overview

CIRCA and Resilient Land & Water attended a meeting with Eastern Connecticut Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) and SCCOG (which is a member of the WUCC) to discuss the update of the SCCOG multi-jurisdiction hazard mitigation plan, describe the expansion of *Resilient Connecticut* into the SCCOG planning region, and discuss how water utilities might be included in both efforts. David presented an overview of the hazard mitigation plan update process, and Mary provided an overview of the *Resilient Connecticut* project. David described the new category of HMCAP actions for public water systems, explained that public water systems were repeatedly identified as a climate-related concern during the *Resilient Connecticut* outreach with municipalities and tribes, and presented a list of potential new HMCAP actions related to water systems. The meeting was then opened to questions and comments from the group.

Lisette Stone asked how the actions from the HMP are being coordinated moving forward. Some of the water utilities mentioned in these actions (i.e., NPU) aren't present at the meeting; have they been involved?

- David responded that the last action has been assigned to the COG to help with this coordination, and asked Sam whether the Regional Water Supply Management team still exists. Sam responded that the Regional Water Supply Management Team still exists but hasn't convened in some time.
- Bob responded that the committee hasn't met in at least four years, and suggests that it should meet to discuss the interconnections between Ledyard and Norwich at the Ledyard town line, as well as other topics.
- David also added that most of the outreach thus far has been with Windham Water Works directly, as well as some emails with NPU, so those will continue. Mashantucket Pequot Tribal Nation offered up its action about TTHMs directly. David remarked that ultimately the WUCC, SCCOG, and all of the utilities will need to collaborate to continue this conversation and undertake actions.

David explained that several of the actions (i.e., Windham Water Works and NPU expansions in Franklin) are ideas that came from the towns, and are clearly aspirational. He explained that these types of actions are helpful to have in the plan when applying for grant funding. For example, the new DEEP Climate Resilience Fund Track 2 requires that actions be listed in an existing plan.

Jon Avery said that he isn't aware of any conversations with Lisbon about expanding the Jewett City Water Company water system. He indicated that this would represent a long-term concept, as no concrete plans were in place.

- David responded that this action came out of the vulnerability and risk analysis, as opposed to any direct ideas from conversations with Lisbon. The local contacts in each municipality can remove actions from the list if they want, or can add to the list, so the Lisbon contacts will eventually weigh in.
- Jon added that the water company would be happy to work with the towns, especially if they have a funding source. Discussions with Jewett City are currently in progress to see if the water system can be expanded within the borough.

Mary shared the draft Heat CCVI map for the SCCOG region and provided a brief description of the tool. Jon Avery asked whether wildfire risk is suggested by the CCVI heat vulnerability map. David responded that wildfire and drought risks are depicted in separate maps which are included in the HMCAP. David explained that the wildfire risk maps, drought risk maps, and heat CCVI mapping have some common layers or contributors. For example, locations of parcels with private wells are a layer common to the drought, wildfire, and heat CCVI maps.

Jon Avery asked if the FEMA flood mapping for 100-year and 500-year flood zones has changed.

- David explained that the FEMA maps have not changed, and FEMA's methodology has not changed. FEMA maps are based on a statistical analysis of past events. However, we recognize that precipitation events are changing. NOAA's precipitation data in Atlas 14 is being revised, and one of the actions in the HMCAP is to make sure that new data in Atlas 15 will be used to design stormwater systems and culverts, etc.
- Jon Avery pointed out that the water company owns a dam (located in Griswold) and needs to make sure that they are doing maintenance/repairs/design using the best data. The company's engineers need to be using the latest design criteria. That information needs to be in this plan.
- Jon Avery and David will discuss this further and will work out the language for an action about this. Jon asked for David's contact information.

Ingrid asked how non-municipal water utilities could access the FEMA grants. David explained that the process would be similar to when residential property owners seek funding for home elevations: the municipality is the applicant, and therefore needs to develop an agreement with the entity benefiting from the project (such as a property owner or Aquarion).

Multiple people would like the slides from this presentation. Sam will share these with the minutes and will also share the contact information for the CIRCA/Resilient Land & Water team.