

Meeting Minutes
Western WUCC Convening Meeting
Brookfield Municipal Center – 100 Pocono Road, Brookfield, CT
July 11, 2017 10:00 AM

The Western Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) held a meeting on July 11th, 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
Dan Lawrence (Co-Chair)	Aquarion Water Company
Doug Arndt	Town of Bethel
Russell Posthauer (Co-Chair)	Candlewood Springs Property Owners Assoc.
Keith Nadeau	CT Water Co.
David Day	Danbury Public Utilities
Mike Elliot	First Taxing District Water Department
David Banker	Metropolitan District Commission
Aaron Budris	Naugatuck Valley Council of Government
Donna Culbert	Newtown Health Department
Joanna Wozniak-Brown	Northwest Hills Council of Government
Tuffany Lufkin	South Central CT Regional Water Authority
Tom Villa	South Norwalk Electric & Water
Steve Cerruto	Torrington Water Co.
Jim Rollins	Winsted Water Works
Richard Nalette	Winsted Water Works

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
Melissa Czarnowski	CT Department of Energy & Environmental Protection
Linda Ferraro	CT Department of Public Health
Lori Mathieu	CT Department of Public Health
Eric McPhee	CT Department of Public Health
Justin Milardo	CT Department of Public Health
David Murphy	Milone & MacBroom, Inc. (MMI)
Gail Lucchina	CT Public Utility Regulatory Agency
Margaret Miner	Rivers Alliance
Steve Rugar	Tata & Howard

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

1. Welcome & Roll Call

The Chairs opened the meeting at 10:00 AM. The chairs 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 June Meeting Minutes

Mr. Lawrence asked if there were any comments or changes from the floor. No comments were made. Mr. Posthauer moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Villa seconded. Members voted unanimously to approve, Ms. Wozniak-Brown and Mr. Rollins abstained from the vote.

3. Review of Formal Correspondence

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

- 2017-06-13 – Letter from Western WUCC accompanying the Final Recommended ESA document to DPH from Milone & MacBroom
- 2017-06-22 – Letter from Western WUCC with Data Request for Integrated Report
- 2017-06-27 – Letter from Water System Specialties with information regarding Landmark Academy small system.
- 2017-06-27 – Letter from Water System Specialties with information regarding Wellspring Foundation small system.

4. Public Comment

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

5. Water Planning Council State Water Plan Review

- Ms. Mathieu made a presentation reviewing the State Water Plan process and points covered in the draft State Water Plan document. Ms. Mathieu reviewed the following topics:
 - Goals of the State Water Plan
 - Objectives
 - Five Most Important Points of the Plan
- Mr. Murphy reviewed slides regarding:
 - Stakeholder Process
 - Key Plan Elements
 - Background White Papers
 - Technical Information

- Modeling Opportunities
- Ms. Mathieu closed out the presentation discussing:
 - Policy Recommendations
 - Top Ten Consensus Policy Priorities
 - Pathways Forward
 - Comment Process Utilizing PURA Docket 17-07-01, expected to begin Mid-July
- Ms. Miner raised concern with the process involved to submit comments on a PURA docket and the need for help for municipalities and public water systems to implement conservation based rates, similar to the WICA rate adjustment process for private utilities.

6. Integrated Report Module 1 – Maintenance & Replacement of Existing Supply Sources/Asset Management

- Mr. Murphy asked the attendees to hold off on questions or comments until the presentation on the three modules was completed.
- Mr. Murphy reviewed the schedule of topics for discussion, discussed updates to the module questions disseminated at the last WUCC meeting.

7. Integrated Report Module 2 – Financial Considerations/Declining Revenue vs. Increasing Costs

- Mr. Murphy reviewed module two, including issues with declining revenues, collections, variations in the cost of water across the WUCC and state as well as the revised questions included in the module.

8. Integrated Report Module 3 – Coordination of Planning (Between Systems, with Towns, Across ESA Boundaries)

- Mr. Murphy reviewed the existing examples of coordination of planning, including the WUCC process, mutual aid organizations and POCD/water supply planning processes. Mr. Murphy also discussed the limitations of some data due to security concerns, limitations to coordination due to different planning schedules and the accessibility of GIS Data.
- Mr. Murphy reviewed the revised module three questions and opened the floor to questions/comments.
- Ms. Wozniak-Brown stated that the COGs and municipalities had been involved with providing data and feedback in the Water Supply Assessment, but based on the modules; questions for the COGS seem limited. What will the COGS/municipalities be able to contribute to the Integrated Report process?
- Mr. Murphy states that the COGs can review and consider how they would respond to the module questions.
- Mr. Lawrence stated that the WUCC will need to work to define a path forward for small medium and large utilities alike.
- Ms. Wozniak-Brown stated that future requests for information should include a paragraph or blurb with the request to inform the reader of the importance and use of the data being requested.

- Ms. Wozniak-Brown asked if there would be a benefit to the process if outside groups or organizations were brought in to discuss their experience with topics, such as farmers with drought.
- Mr. Lawrence replied that this may be difficult due to the Integrated Report's focus on water supply
- Mr. Posthauer asked who among small systems had been contacted with the last data request.
- Mr. Murphy replied that the request had been sent by DPH to the listed administrative contact.
- Ms. Miner stated concern over the small percentage of the overall WUCC membership which attend the meetings and asked where in the integrated plan topics/modules the environmental impacts and aquatic habitat would be considered.
- Mr. Murphy replied that although there are not specific modules for these items, they will be included among several topics such as interconnections, and it will be addressed where there is a nexus among in-stream flow, new source, interconnection and source water protection.
- Mr. Murphy stated that the WUCC will distribute the revised module questions after the meeting. They will remain in a draft format, since there still could be revisions to the questions moving forward.
- Mr. Rupar asked if it is the WUCCs intention to obtain answers to the modules prior to the WUCC meetings to present results at the meetings.
- Mr. Murphy replied yes, results will be presented at the meeting and will be used in drafting the appropriate section of the Integrated Report.
- Ms. Lufkin asked if it is the intent for members to provide answers to modules prior to the meeting to discuss those modules.
- Mr. Murphy replied yes, if possible. Members could answer and submit all of the module questions now, or submit each module prior to the appropriate meeting.
- Mr. Posthauer asked if it is best to provide answers in an electronic word document format.
- Mr. Murphy replied that an electronic format would work best.
- Mr. Lawrence added that the WUCC would request responses in a word file format.
- Ms. Miner raised concern with the expanded exclusive service area, the potential acquisition of Aquarion by Eversource and having a single entity responsible for water, gas and electric service.
- Mr. Murphy stated that there were not substantial exclusive service area changes observed in half of the Western WUCC area.

9. Review Integrated Report Modules for the Next Meeting

- Mr. Murphy reviewed the list of modules for discussion at the August WUCC meeting, including the modules reviewed today and source water protection, joint use/ownership of facilities, fire protection, water conservation and drought planning.

10. Other Business

- Mr. McPhee stated that DPH has developed an on-line GIS map to view ESAs within Connecticut. The application should be available within a few weeks, but the ESA lines may not be accurately depicted beyond a certain scale.

- Mr. Budris suggested setting a scale dependency to prevent users from zooming in beyond the range of accuracy.

No items were raised for discussion.

As there was no more business, Mr. Villa made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Posthauer seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting closed at 11:51 AM.

The next Western WUCC Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday August 8th, 2017 to be held at the Brookfield Municipal Center at 100 Pocono Road in Brookfield, Connecticut.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Banker, Recording Secretary – Western WUCC