

Housatonic Water Utility Coordinating Committee

Minutes of November 4, 2009 Meeting. Brookfield Town Hall

- **Call to Order at 10:15 AM by Co-Chair Russ Posthauer. Introductions of attendees.**

Attendance: As recorded on Attendance Sign-In Sheet:

Russ Posthauer:	Candlewood Springs, WUCC Co-Chair
Kevin Moran:	United Water CT, WUCC Co-Chair
Casey Fleming:	State of CT – DPH, DWS
Alex Tabotabai:	State of CT – DPH, DWS
Steve Messer:	State of CT – DPH, DWS
Bruce Witchen:	State of CT – OPM
Jim Vocolina:	State of CT – DPUC
Tom Caruso:	State of CT – DPUC
Bob Silvaggi:	Town of Brookfield
Drew Swanson:	Brookfield Water Advisory Board
Don Morrisey:	Aquarion Water Co.
Erik Bernard:	Aquarion Water Co.
Ron Black:	WSSD Inc, Olmstead Water Supply Co.
Andrew Morosky:	Bethel Public Utilities
Steve Polizzi:	Rural Water Co.
Rich Amorossi:	Brookfield Water Co.
Ralph Tedesco:	Town of Brookfield
Jerry Murphy:	Town of Brookfield
George Benson:	Town of Newtown
Terri Schnoor	DEP/WPLR
Marty Handshy	Brookfield Water Advisory Board
Keith Sorenson:	Heritage Village Water Co.
Dr. Ray Sullivan:	Brookfield Health

- **Approval of minutes from 2 prior meetings, amended as noted:**
 - 06-17-09 Minutes, p.5, Item 6...amend quote from “said that” to “it was stated that”
 - 06-17-09 Minutes, Don Morrisey attended , not David Connors
 - 07-15-09 Minutes, Erik Bernard asked that minutes include reference that a discussion about contentious issues and how to resolve them was held, requiring further discussion, and that the State DPH provided options that other WUCCs have adopted.
- **Discussion: Updating ESAs**

Steve P. discussed the ‘new’ map and the need to redraw a more detailed and comprehensive map.

Steve M. discussed the procedures set forth by the WUCC in its November, 1987 report of Final Exclusive Service Areas (ESA). Each ESA holder was required by the WUCC to submit a “Statement of Confirmation of Exclusive Service Area Boundaries” and the report states, “If at some time in the future, it is in the best interest of the undersigned utility to make service boundary adjustments, such adjustments must have the written approval of all parties and the appropriate regulatory authority (DOHS). Such adjustments must be reconfirmed by completion of a new Statement of Confirmation of Exclusive Service Area Boundaries.” Steve M. went on to point out that revised statements of confirmation were never filed for ESA changes and that it is important that the WUCC keep up to date records of all ESA changes within the management area and follow its own procedures when those changes occur.

It was agreed that a clearly defined map should be created, following the original procedures, requiring review of original documents. The members requested that the map of the original ESA boundaries be distributed to everyone; Steve P. offered to get a copy to Russ P. to scan and send to everyone.

A committee was established to review existing ESAs (Rich A., Steve P., Ron B., Casey F., Erik B.) There was a discussion of what evidence is needed to determine the current ESA boundaries and DPH documents and Minutes of

previous meetings were cited as evidence that should be compiled. It was suggested that undocumented changes and assignments should be brought to the attention of the DPH and WUCC for discussion and determination. Rich A recommended that the towns' P&Z commissions and other municipal agencies should also be included in ESA planning, and that towns need copies of changes and should provide comments.

Steve M. stated that each water system has the right and obligation to serve their ESA as claimed and that it is for the benefit of each ESA holder that they ensure that their ESA boundaries and any changes to them are properly documented and approved. Casey F. requested that all ESA holders each provide a map of what they believe their current ESA to be so that it can be documented, compared with existing records, and determined if any disputed territory exists.

- **Discussion: Request of United Water CT to expand ESA into unclaimed area of Bethel**

Copies of a map of the proposed change were passed around and had also been made available on the DPH website.

Kevin M. stated that Bethel public works has reviewed and supports the proposed expansion, as shown on map.

A question was raised as to whether a diversion permit is in place.

After a brief discussion, a Motion was made and seconded to Approve the United Water CT expansion of their ESA into the unclaimed service area in Bethel as shown on their submitted map. Don M. asked if proper procedures have been followed regarding this matter. Steve P. recommended that this issue be resolved and approved now. A discussion was held that the motion be amended to make the approval contingent on a letter from United Water CT stating that proper procedures have been followed. Steve M. stated that such documentation will be required by the DPH as well.

The motion was Approved.

- **Old Business:**

Erik B. raised a motion that "this WUCC not entertain any further contentious changes to the existing ESAs until procedures for doing so are established and agreed upon."

Discussion: It was noted that the 1986 procedures are already in place. Discussion held on membership, voting procedures and rights. Steve M. stated that the DPH is trying to help get consistency between the different WUCCs in the state. Russ P. asked Erik B. to chair a committee to review such procedures. Steve P., Steve M., Jerry M., and Russ P. stated interest in being on such a committee.

The motion was voted on and Approved.

Don M. raised a question regarding clarification of how the HWUCC is going to proceed with meetings, officers; in general, what is the organizational structure of the WUCC? Erik B. indicated that the committee established above could also address the overall organization and procedures of the HWUCC.

Kevin M. updated the members as to the status of Well #5.

Steve P. stated he has accepted a position on the Water Planning Council Advisory Board, and that he might therefore be available as a contact to bring any concerns the WUCC might have before the WPC. Russ P. stated that Steve P. might also be able to bring information back to the WUCC.

- **New Business:**

Ray Sullivan, Brookfield Health, discussed concerns about private well systems in Brookfield, specifically Sandy Lane radium issues. He commended the members for work done so far, but asked that additional problems not be forgotten and be addressed.

The next meeting date was discussed, specifically the Annual Meeting. Russ P. suggested that it be held early in 2010. Steve P. suggested that the procedural committee could address this issue. It was agreed that an annual meeting should be set for early in the calendar year.

- **Meeting adjourned**