

Meeting Minutes
 Central WUCC Meeting #17
 MDC Training Center – 125 Maxim Road, Hartford, CT
 October 18, 2017 1:30 p.m.

The Central Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) met on October 18, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. at the MDC Training Center at 125 Maxim Road, Hartford, Connecticut. Notice of the meeting was sent to WUCC members and posted on the DPH website <http://www.ct.gov/dph>.

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

WUCC Member Representative	Affiliation
Kenneth Skov	Aquarion Water Company
Ray Jarema	Berlin Water
Mary Ellen Kowalewski	Capitol Region Council of Governments
David Radka	Connecticut Water Company
William Jarzavec	Cromwell Fire District
Bill Milardo	Town of Durham
Jim Ventres	Town of East Haddam
Brendan Avery	Hazardville Water Company
Jonathan Avery	Hazardville Water Company
Patrick Kearney	Town of Manchester
Peter Hughes	Town of Marlborough
Dennis Waz	Meriden Public Utilities
David Banker	Metropolitan District Commission
Bob Young	Town of Middletown
Raymond Esponda	Town of New Britain
David Kuzminski	Town of Portland
Tiffany Lufkin	Regional Water Authority
Eugene Koss	Tolland Water
Neil Amwake	Wallingford Water Division

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

Non-WUCC Member Representative	Affiliation
Corinne Fitting	CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Rich Iozzo	CT Department of Public Health
Eric McPhee	CT Department of Public Health
Jeanine Gouin	Milone & MacBroom, Inc.
Guy Russo	Prime AE Group
Mary Mushinsky	River Advocates of SEC
Judy Allen	Save Our Water - CT
Jason Coite	UConn
Stan Nolan	UConn

The following actions took place:

1. Welcome & Roll Call

- The meeting was called to order at 1:34 PM by Co-chair David Radka of the Connecticut Water Company. A roll call was conducted in which everyone stated their name and affiliation.

2. Approval of September Meeting Minutes

- The minutes for the September meeting were unanimously approved. Ray Esponda from the City of New Britain, Jon Avery from Hazardville Water Company, and Bill Milardo from the town of Durham abstained from voting, as they were not present at the September meeting.

3. Review of Formal Correspondence

The following correspondences were logged subsequent to the September meeting of the Central WUCC:

- September 1, 2017 – A letter from the Town of Bolton to J.R. Russo & Associates about known future building areas within 1 Mile of 1100 Boston Turnpike in Bolton.
- September 21, 2017 – Letter from WUCC chair members to all WUCC members requesting data collection and module question completion for the Integrated Report on or prior to the November 2017 scheduled WUCC meetings.
- September 21, 2017 – Email correspondence from WUCC Chair David Radka to the town of Bolton requesting additional information for 7 Loomis Road in Bolton.
- September 28, 2017 – Letter from the Connecticut Department of Public Health to Graybill Properties, Old Lyme for Phase 1-B CPCN Approval.
- September 28, 2017 – Letter from the Connecticut Department of Public Health to Graybill Properties, Old Lyme for well water quality and quality suitability review.

- October 3, 2017 — Email correspondence from the Connecticut Department of Public Health to the Central WUCC regarding information pertaining to systems located near 1100 Boston Turnpike in Bolton, CT
- Various – The Town of Bolton various email correspondences, mapping, and information to the WUCC Co-Chairs regarding information on CPCN applications.

4. Review of two proposed CPCN systems in Bolton

- Mr. Radka reported that the demand for the Loomis Street system in Bolton is expected to be 600 gallons per day. System representatives have stated that there are no public water systems near the site; however this only includes community water systems. The CT DPH did state that there are several non-community water systems nearby. Mr. Radka stated these are not public service companies and tend to operate water systems ancillary to their businesses. He did not believe the WUCC wished to begin mandating that non-community systems provide service to neighboring properties, but could serve to encourage dialogue between existing and proposed non-community system owners.
 - Peter Hughes from the town of Marlborough made a motion to approve the system and Jim Ventres from the town of East Haddam seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Eugene Koss from the Town of Tolland abstained from voting.
- Mr. Radka reported that the second system in Bolton will serve a dental facility, with an expected demand of 450 gpd.
 - Mr. Ventres made a motion to approve the system and Mr. Hughes seconded the motion.
 - Mr. Koss asked if the developer knew about the option of joining the system with the small non-community systems nearby.
 - Ray Jarema from the town of Berlin asked how we can avoid having all of these little systems separate so we can stitch them all together.
 - Mr. Radka stated that if a water main runs by a property in the future, they are required to hook up to the main. DPH confirmed this rule is a condition of the DPH approval for a well.
 - The vote was passed unanimously with Mr. Koss abstaining from the vote.

5. Presentation by DPH on the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)

- Cameron Walden of the CT Department of Public Health gave a presentation on the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, for which a public hearing is scheduled on October 25, 2017.

6. Integrated Report Module #9: Minimum Design Standards

- Jeanine Gouin of Milone & MacBroom, Inc. presented an overview of the role of minimum design standards in the WUCC process. The WUCC can make recommendations, but DPH requires minimum design standards for public water systems and many individual systems have their own, more restrictive minimum design standards.
- Mr. Radka asked the attending members what they envisioned as the role of the Central WUCC regarding minimum design standards for the central region and posed the question as to community systems having more stringent standards than non-community systems.
 - Mr. Koss stated that it may be better for community systems to adhere to state standards rather than to put those standards on the local community. Any time a town blocks development for water standards, they are seen as being against business.
 - Mr. Jarema stated that Berlin has used a combination of the 10 state standards in conjunction with MDC's standards. These standards are sufficient for large systems, but it may be too extensive for small systems. There should be some standard for non-community systems. He stated that it would be critical for all non-community systems to be required to have a certified operator.
 - Eric McPhee from the CT Department of Public Health agreed there should be an operator for every TNC system, but there was enough pushback that that requirement did not get passed.
 - Mr. Jarema stated that many of these systems could have a problem such as a total coliform hit and the owner will have no idea what action to take.
 - Mr. Koss stated that for many small systems the cost of a problem could be quite a bit larger than a problem for a large system due to the size of the systems and the dollar amounts required.
 - The topic of frequency of inspections by DPH for non-community systems was raised, noting that inspections of transient and non-transient non-community systems should be more frequent.
 - A potential recommendation of the Central WUCC is that DPH adopt regulations for non-community systems, including minimum design standards and certified operator requirements.

7. Integrated Report Module #10: Future Sources, Raw Water Well Quality, and Acquisition of Land for New Stratified Drift Wells

- Ms. Gouin noted that the future needs of many systems are stated in the Water Supply Plans; however, the planning horizons of those plans differ from the WUCC planning horizons. She reiterated the need for information on future system needs, especially from members who have new or expanded ESAs. She asked the members to reassess any potential future sources inform the WUCC of any future plans.

- Mr. Jarema stated that the real problem with future needs is related to population projections. The numbers for people per home and home usage fluctuate so drastically that it is very difficult to project.
- Ms. Gouin acknowledged that those factors can vary, but the WUCC is simply asking each system to do the best job they can in projecting. She stated that the people who know each system best are those that operate the system, so best judgment is requested.

8. Integrated Report Module #11: Future Interconnection and Impact/Disjoined Service Areas/Integration

- Ms. Gouin noted that there are many interconnections throughout the central region. She asked if any systems were currently planning on any interconnections in the future. She also asked what the obstacles to creating an interconnection were and are there regional interconnection needs.
 - There was a general consensus that more interconnections – both active and emergency – are desirable.
 - Mr. Jarema stated that Berlin currently purchases water from both New Britain and from Cromwell through interconnections. He emphasized the benefits to interconnections for resiliency and redundancy which create a safety factor.
 - Ms. Gouin indicated that at one time DPH would deduct emergency interconnection capacities from a water system’s available yield but they no longer do that. Deductions continue to be made for non-emergency interconnections.
 - Patrick Kearney of the Town of Manchester stated that he needed a sale of excess water permit to feed a consecutive system. This is a problem with future consecutive systems.
 - Mr. Radka stated that CT Water has encountered that problem a number of times and, where possible, historic consecutive water systems should be considered part of an existing customer base, with demand already factored in available supply/margin of safety calculations.
 - Other impediments to interconnections include the potential for water quality issues; monitoring requirements; cost control; fire protection costs; diversion permit process; and water blending issues.

9. Integrated Report Module #12: Impacts of Climate Change

- Ms. Gouin reported numerous statistics on temperature and rainfall/flooding patterns and pointed out some of the implications relative to public water supplies. She also noted that some of the FEMA flood data is outdated due to changes in hydrology. She asked if there was a regional position relative to climate change or strategies that should be developed for the region.

- Mr. Esponda stated that the climate is changing and we will have more droughts and more flooding in the future. He stated there is a need for further storage capacity to fight against these long droughts.
 - Mr. Jarema stated it is very challenging to build a new reservoir in the state, so the issue of water capacity is a real and daunting challenge.
- Mr. Radka asked whether individual utilities were planning for climate change in their infrastructure. He asked if we are at a point where the state should be asked to develop climate change scenarios to guide standardized planning.
 - Ms. Gouin stated that it is very difficult to have a standard for an entire region since coastal communities and floodplain areas are very location/watershed dependent.
 - Mary Ellen Kowalewski of the Capital Region Counsel of Governments stated that the Capital Region is developing a plan around regional weather events.
- One potential recommendation of the regional plan is a need for greater risk assessment around climate change and natural hazards, such as hurricanes and flooding.

10. Integrated Report Module #13: Existing and Future Regulations

- Ms. Gouin quickly went through a summary of the existing and future regulations. This module will be covered in further detail at the November Central WUCC meeting.

11. Public Comment

- Judy Allen from Save Our Water – CT raised the issue of lead pipes leading into someone's home. She stated she was unclear if a homeowner wanted a lead service replaced and cannot pay for it, will the water company be required to replace it and who will pay for that work. She stated the WUCC should take a stand on this issue since there is a responsibility for economically challenged people. She also asked what percentage of Water Supply Plans were less than 10 years old. She stated she would make further comments in a letter to the WUCC.
 - Ms. Gouin stated the information on WSP age is available in the Water Supply Assessment for the Central Region, available online on the DPH website.
- Mary Mushinski from River Advocates of South Eastern Connecticut asked if the WUCC is recommending conservation even when usage is going down?
 - Mr. Radka noted that because water revenue adjustment legislation only applied to private utilities, conservation remains more of a disincentive for municipal and regional water departments, so the question is difficult to answer.
- Ms. Gouin stated that water conservation was the subject of an earlier WUCC meeting and will be addressed in the Integrated Report. The previous drought did bring up the question of relooking at some of the drought triggers around the state.

- Ms. Allen stated that she remembered a presentation for the WUCC stating that Connecticut was lagging many states when it comes to conservation.
 - Mr. Radka confirmed that the presentation from CDM Smith on the State Water Plan did present Connecticut as being behind other states for conservation.

12. Other Business

- There was no further business.
- The meeting was adjourned at 3:39 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brendan Avery, Recording Secretary – Central WUCC