

Meeting Minutes  
Central WUCC Meeting #10  
MDC Training Center – 125 Maxim Road, Hartford, CT  
March 13, 2017 1:30 p.m.

The Central Water Utility Coordinating Committee (WUCC) met on March 13, 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):

<b>WUCC Member Representative</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Dan Lawrence	Aquarion Water Company
Ray Jarema	Berlin Water
David Radka	Connecticut Water Company
Eric Trott	Town of Coventry
Jim Ventres	Town of East Haddam
Tim Smith	East Hampton WPCA
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
R. Bartley Halloran	Metropolitan District Commission
Bob Young	Town of Middletown
Tiffany Lufkin	Regional Water Authority
Richard Meskill	Wallingford Water Division

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

Non-WUCC Member Representative	Affiliation
Dean Applefield	CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
David Cooley	CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Brendan Schain	CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Tom Edson	CT Department of Public Health
Eric McPhee	CT Department of Public Health
Justin Milardo	CT Department of Public Health
Jeanine Gouin	Milone & MacBroom, Inc.
Rebecca French	Uconn CIRCA
Jason Coite	UConn
Stanley Nolan	Uconn
Gene Roberts	UConn

The following actions took place:

**1. Welcome & Roll Call**

The meeting was called to order at 1:36 PM by Co-chairs David Radka of the Connecticut Water Company and Bart Halloran of the Metropolitan District Commission. A roll call was conducted in which everyone stated their name and affiliation.

**2. Approval of February Meeting Minutes**

The meeting minutes for the February meeting were unanimously approved.

**3. Review of Formal Correspondence**

The following correspondences were logged following the February meeting of the Central WUCC:

- February 21, 2017 – The Co-Chairs received a letter from Aquarion claiming the ESA for the unclaimed area in the towns of Bolton, CT and Columbia, CT.
- March 10, 2017 – The Co-Chairs received a letter from the department of public health for approval of the reactivation of a well for a business in the town of Mansfield, CT.

Formal correspondence will be available for viewing on the DPH website <http://www.ct.gov/dph>.

**4. CIRCA Presentation on DPH Drinking Water Vulnerability Assessment and Resilience Plan**

- Rebecca French, representing the University of Connecticut CIRCA, gave a presentation on the Universities Vulnerability Assessment and Resilience Plan. This presentation is available for viewing on the DPH website <http://www.ct.gov/dph>.

### Discussion:

- David Cooley from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection asked how the US rain maps explain the current flooding events in California.
  - Ms. French replied that the rain data slide used information up until 2012, so the current flooding events in California may adjust the data if they are added.
- Jonathan Avery from the Hazardville Water Company stated that the US corps of engineers uses data to present a flood plan when a company plans a new well. He asked if this data is incorrect given the presentation data. He stated this is common when a company drills a well field and they can often be in a flood plain.
  - Ms. French stated that it is possible the US corps of Engineers uses different data, but she was not sure their data is different than the FEMA data. She stated that sometimes data is not updated in a long time, so it is important to see when the data presented was last updated.
  - Mr. Radka stated that as the standards for flood levels etc. change, the water companies will change with the standards.
  - Ray Jarema from Berlin Water stated that FEMA, NOAA, and the EPA are possibly all using different maps, which could be an issue. He stated that some places are using methods of say going one foot above the 100 year flood level for safe measure.
    - Ms. French confirmed that some places are putting free boards with one, two, or even three feet above the 100 year flood level, but there is no requirement or standard around that.
- Mr. Jarema asked what the proxy data was in the sea level graph.
  - Ms. French stated that sea gauges have been around since roughly the mid-1800s due to the industrial revolution, so prior to gauges we can only speculate what the sea level was. Some methods included in this proxy data are using ice cores, marshes and other geological data to estimate the sea level before gauges.

### **5. Discussion of the Approach to ESA on DEEP and other state lands**

- Jeanine Gouin from Milone & MacBroom, Inc. stated that the WUCC decided to remove the DEEP owned lands from the maps in the last meeting. Through that discussion there was a question on the identity of the University of Connecticut along with other state agencies on being WUCC members and ESA holders. A discussion since the meeting has clarified that the University of Connecticut and other state agencies cannot be WUCC members or own ESAs. This ruling still allows these agencies to remain existing water systems, but they have no ESA. The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is still a very different entity beyond this ruling.

## Discussion:

- Dean Applefield from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection stated that from a planning standpoint it would make sense to add in wording specific to DEEP lands on the map.
  - Mr. Radka stated that in the Eastern WUCC, they added in DEEP lands to the maps and included specific wording singling those lands out.
  - Mr. Jarema asked if UConn can expand their system with new lands that they purchase.
    - Mr Radka stated that they can expand within their own area.
  - Patrick Kearney of the Town of Manchester asked that if Connecticut Water Company has a main going past a UConn property, wouldn't CT Water relinquish their ESA to UConn. They would then have to come before the WUCC to make that change.
    - Mr. Radka stated that any water supply entity can bring an issue before the WUCC body.
  - Mr. Kearney asked if there are other state entities that have a similar situation to UConn.
    - Eric McPhee from the Department of Public Health replied that there are other entities that are not all together on a list, but they are all represented on the DPH map.
  - Mr. Avery asked if it will be clearly defined where UConn is and where CT Water is.
    - Ms. Gouin replied that it will be clearly defined.
- Mr. Radka asked the WUCC how it plans on keeping the DEEP owned lands on the map.
  - Peter Hughes from the Town of Marlborough stated that if they are currently being left off the maps, continue to keep them off.
  - Mr. Radka stated that there is value in all the WUCCs being aligned on how DEEP lands are handled. He stated that the Eastern WUCC has decided to leave DEEP lands on the maps has a separate layer.
- Mr. McPhee stated that DPH is working on language of how UConn's existing service area is defined.

## 6. Discussion on New and Revised Claims

- Mr. Radka stated that Connecticut Water Company was able to clarify the lines between themselves and UConn in the town of Mansfield, CT. CT Water was also able to clarify the lines between themselves and the town in the town of Tolland, CT. He also stated that CT Water moved their ESA line to 200 feet south of route 44 in Bolton at the town's request.

- Mr. Radka stated that the town of Bolton requested that CT Water take the ESA for the entire town. CT Water assessed their ESA and decided to only request the northern portion as stated previously. He stated that Mary Ellen Kowalewski from the Capitol Region Council of Governments indicated that the town asked that the remaining part of town be left unassigned, so that the town would only have one ESA holder.
- Dan Lawrence from Aquarion Water Company stated that there is precedent in the Western WUCC for towns requesting that area be left unassigned and in his opinion, their reason is not acceptable. The towns in the Western WUCC gave reasons such as that the land is undevelopable.
- Ms. Gouin asked how the WUCC wanted to leave Aquarion's claim of the town of Bolton.
- Mr. Hughes stated that the WUCC should leave Aquarion's claim on the map.

## **7. Consideration and Approval (for Public Review only) of the Preliminary ESA Report and Mapping**

- Ms. Gouin reviewed the requirements and responsibility for ESA holders.
- Mr. Radka stated that it is Milone & MacBroom's intent that the WUCC adopt these requirements.
- Mr. Avery asked where the WUCC is leaving the situation with Aquarion's claim and the town of Bolton.
  - Mr. Radka stated that the WUCC will reach out to the town to make sure they put something in writing such as has been done in the Western WUCC.
  - Mr. Hughes stated that the town should know it is likely their town's ESA will be assigned to someone.
  - Mr. Lawrence stated Aquarion will reach out to both the town of Bolton and the town of Columbia since it is claiming new ESA in both towns.
  - Bob Young with the town of Middletown asked confirmation that the WUCC is leaving Aquarion's claimed ESA on the maps.
    - Ms. Gouin replied that the WUCC would be adding Aquarion's claim, but emphasized that these areas are not established ESAs, so there will be time to resolve conflicts or modify ESAs if necessary.
  - Mr. Hughes made a motion to adopt the Preliminary ESA report. Jim Ventres of the town of East Haddam Seconded the motion.

- Mr. Applefield asked that the document not set specific dates in the text since unexpected things happen.
- The motion passed with 11 votes in favor. Mr. Kearney and Mr. Young abstained from voting.

#### **8. Public Comment**

- There was no public comment

#### **9. Other Business**

- Mr. Radka stated that DEEP came out with the preliminary classifications of the rivers in the Connecticut River Basin. Comments are due by June 2<sup>nd</sup>, so anyone wishing to make a comment should do so by that deadline.
  - There was some communication from DPH in regard to a restaurant in Mansfield, CT. This TNC system is seeking approval to reactivate a previously approved well and they are not within 2000 feet of an existing system.
  - Mr. McPhee stated that the system is probably not required for WUCC approval due to the well only being reactivated, but DPH is bringing it to the WUCC anyway.
  - The WUCC unanimously approved of the reactivation.
- The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Brendan Avery, Recording Secretary – Central WUCC