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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
PUBLIC UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

STATE WATER PLANNING COUNCIL

Regular Meeting held Via Teleconference on
October 4, 2022, beginning at 1:32 p.m.

H e l d B e f o r e :

JOHN W. BETKOSKI, III, WPC CHAIRMAN,
and PURA VICE-CHAIRMAN

1 **A p p e a r a n c e s :**

2 **WATER PLANNING COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

3 **JOHN W. BETKOSKI, III, CHAIRMAN (PURA)**

4 **MARTIN HEFT (OPM)**

5 **LORI MATHIEU (DPH)**

6 **GRAHAM STEVENS (DEEP)**

7

8 **ALSO PRESENT (on record):**

9 **VIRGINIA de LIMA**

10 **ALICEA CHARAMUT**

11 **DENISE SAVAGEAU**

12 **KAREN BURNASKA**

13 **DAVID RADKA**

14 **LISETTE STONE**

15 **DAN AUBIN**

16 **CAROL HASKINS**

17 **DAN LAWRENCE**

18

19 **Staff:**

20 **LAURA LUPOLI**

21 **ALYSON AYOTTE**

22

23

24

25

1 (Begin: 1:32 p.m.)

2
3 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Good afternoon, everyone.

4 Welcome to the October 4, 2022, meeting of the
5 Connecticut Water Planning Council.

6 We'll call the meeting to order. The first
7 order of business is the approval of the September
8 6, 2022, transcript -- which has been sent out.

9 Do I hear a motion to approve?

10 LORI MATHIEU: So moved.

11 MARTIN HEFT: I'll second then.

12 THE CHAIRMAN: Moved and second. Any questions on the
13 motion?

14
15 (No response.)

16
17 THE CHAIRMAN: If not, all those in favor signify by
18 saying aye.

19 THE COUNCIL: Aye.

20 THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed?

21
22 (No response.)

23
24 THE CHAIRMAN: The transcript is approved. Is there
25 any public comment on any of the agenda items this

1 morning -- this afternoon, I should say.

2
3 (No response.)
4

5 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. So let's move right down to the
6 state water plan. One of the first things we have
7 on the agenda which has been sent out to us is the
8 Water Planning Council logo. We thank Allie for
9 her work on that.

10 Graham, would you like to take that?

11 GRAHAM STEVENS: I would, yeah. Thank you, Jack.

12 I'm just pulling up the final document, which
13 if I'm permitted to share I can share with the
14 entire Council.

15 Let's see here.

16 Wow, that was seamless. So hopefully you can
17 see a document that says, Connecticut State Water
18 Planning Council final logo. So like folks had
19 heard before, you know we have someone very
20 talented in this arena who was able to help create
21 a modern logo for our purposes.

22 And you can see here a vertical lock up, as
23 it's called, for the Connecticut Water Planning
24 Council, Connecticut state water plan.

25 Obviously you can see the CT. You can also

1 see the arrow within the "C" implying action,
2 which we are an action council. We have an action
3 plan.

4 And then the water droplet in the middle with
5 the five glints of light -- potentially you can
6 interpret that as, is the four agencies, and our
7 all-important stakeholder, our stakeholders.

8 And then here is the vertical lock up -- it's
9 a term I've just learned -- that both could be
10 used in different, you know, so all four of these
11 could be used for our purposes, whether it be to
12 brand state water plan documents or Council
13 activity in the two forms that you see on my
14 screen.

15 So I'm going to stop the share so that
16 everyone -- so that we can discuss, if that's
17 okay, Jack?

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Yeah, that's fine.

19 GRAHAM STEVENS: So I just wanted to see if anybody had
20 any concerns on the logo. Obviously, we've shared
21 this with other options in the past. So that is
22 the logo that folks had gravitated towards and we
23 added the acknowledgment of our critical
24 stakeholders, not just the agencies in the water
25 droplet.

1 And I think at this point maybe we could
2 entertain a motion to move forward on the adoption
3 of the logo through the appropriate Secretary of
4 State process, whatever that may be.

5 **THE CHAIRMAN:** All right. You're making motion. Do I
6 hear a second to that motion?

7 **MARTIN HEFT:** Was that a motion, Graham? That was
8 me --

9 **GRAHAM STEVENS:** I was suggesting a motion. I could
10 make a motion, Martin -- unless, Lori, Martin and
11 Jack, unless you want to discuss the logo before
12 we move it to that point?

13 **LORI MATHIEU:** Yeah, a few questions. So I wish to
14 share this with my Commissioner's office.

15 **GRAHAM STEVENS:** Okay. Absolutely.

16 **LORI MATHIEU:** Right? And along with that, as you
17 mentioned, the use of this. The purpose and the
18 use I think is important to express so that, how
19 would we use it?

20 Do we have to develop a protocol on its use?
21 I think that that would be what I'd like to chat
22 about.

23 **GRAHAM STEVENS:** Okay, yeah. I mean, just my snap
24 reaction there, Lori, is obviously this -- this
25 logo would be for Council use and approved use by

1 stakeholders through the Council for documents
2 that represented the Council, or spoke to the
3 state water plan.

4 It would be no different than, say, DEEP or
5 DPH's logo. It would not be something that others
6 could utilize without the express consent.

7 LORI MATHIEU: Okay. I guess that that's what I was
8 thinking. So that you know no one's going to take
9 this and put it over someplace that it doesn't
10 really belong.

11 So here this would be under any one of our
12 documents, or use on our agendas, on any other
13 plans or reports. If there's any letters that get
14 signed by Jack --

15 GRAHAM STEVENS: Right.

16 LORI MATHIEU: Well, this would be the use of this.
17 And that we would have as a Council control of the
18 use of our letterhead.

19 I mean, this would be on letterhead. Right?
20 But use of this logo on letterhead.

21 GRAHAM STEVENS: Correct. I would see that. Yes, I
22 agree with you on, if it moves forward and does
23 seek a state approval for use it would be
24 available for -- and Virginia has just put
25 something on the chat -- our web presence. Right?

1 Any outreach materials that we put together
2 or that we approve as a Council or direct folks to
3 undertake, but obviously any correspondence, the
4 future revisions of the state water plan. Who
5 knows? Maybe one day business cards for the Water
6 Planning Council employees which we would love to
7 talk about soon on the agenda.

8 But that would be my recommendation, but
9 given Lori's comments, Jack, I'll retract my
10 discussion on a motion and I will send this out
11 via email to the other three Councilors for their
12 consideration.

13 And I would suggest that we add this to the
14 agenda for next month for final action.

15 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Well, let me ask you this, this question
16 about the secretary. What does the Secretary of
17 State, what role does --

18 **GRAHAM STEVENS:** That's something that I haven't
19 finalized my evaluation on. But I would say when
20 we come back next month, that we should entertain
21 a motion to take any administrative step necessary
22 to seek the approval of the use of this logo as an
23 agency logo, whether it be through the Secretary
24 of State or through action before agency
25 representatives.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Sounds good.

2 Martin, you have question?

3 MARTIN HEFT: Sure -- no, just a couple of comments.

4 Thanks, Graham on that and Lori, for your
5 comments.

6 As I see, the logo is basically the same as
7 any of our own agencies, OPM's logo, DPH's Logo.
8 So obviously it gets used on everything, obviously
9 with the permission of that agency in this, as
10 Graham has mentioned, on the Water Planning
11 Council for that.

12 I as well -- because we are for separate
13 agencies; I'd like to take this just through our
14 administration on our side on it just so they can
15 review it -- make sure no issues.

16 And I greatly appreciate the explanation of
17 what the different pieces mean and everything on
18 that. And the logo looks great.

19 Connecticut General Statutes Section 4-51 is
20 where all state agencies, all state departments
21 have to have this, their seals or their logos
22 approved by the Secretary for that. So that's the
23 provision that Graham was referencing. It's
24 literally a statute that has one line that
25 basically just says it has to be approved by the

1 Secretary.

2 So it's a very simple thing that once we
3 approve it, pending approval of the Secretary
4 under that statute/provision -- then we'd be set
5 to go. And I'm sure that they just look at it to
6 make sure there's no conflicts, if we had parts of
7 the state seal in it or anything else that way, as
8 the Secretary of State is the keeper of the seal,
9 if you will, so.

10 GRAHAM STEVENS: Thanks for that citation. Martin, I
11 remember reading that over the years. I just
12 hadn't been able to find it yet, but --

13 MARTIN HEFT: Yeah. Well, I had to remember what it
14 was as well before the meeting when this was on
15 the agenda. It's like, oh. I looked this up
16 prior, so I had to find it myself -- so.

17 GRAHAM STEVENS: Thank you for flagging that for us.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Well, I don't know if we want to wait.

19 Can we go back to our respective agencies and
20 kind of get a sign off before the next meeting?

21 GRAHAM STEVENS: That would be great. I mean, I think
22 that's, you know, I'll leave it up to -- I mean,
23 I'm --

24 THE CHAIRMAN: Martin, can we can we conceptually
25 approve it today pending our higher ups saying

1 it's okay.

2 Can we conceptually approve it, Martin?

3 MARTIN HEFT: I mean, yeah.

4 I mean, anything can happen.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: I'm trying to --

6 MARTIN HEFT: You can do that. Whether everyone feels
7 comfortable doing that, putting clauses as of
8 pending it's cleaner; if it's just a motion that's
9 done completely, you accept the logo without
10 caveats in it -- because then you've got to go
11 back and ratify those caveats at a future meeting,
12 anyways.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Fair enough.

14 MARTIN HEFT: So in either case you're going to have to
15 bring it up again the next meeting. I think it's
16 cleaner to go back to each of our respective
17 agencies, come back the next meeting. You know
18 obviously if there's any concerns with that, to
19 obviously let Graham and the team that's worked on
20 this know prior to the next meeting, so.

21 THE CHAIRMAN: Fair enough.

22 MARTIN HEFT: That would be my thoughts.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. So let's -- any other comments on
24 this?

25 LORI MATHIEU: Yeah, I agree with that plan. Just

1 another thought -- and it may be for another time,
2 but you know that all of our agencies have a
3 little tag line. You know ours is keeping people
4 healthy. You know? But maybe that's another
5 thing to add to this.

6 Now that we actually look official, do we
7 actually need -- we need, like, a mission.
8 Because I often talk about the Water Planning
9 Council. And they're like, who is that? Like,
10 who? What are they made up of? And what -- like,
11 how would we use this in the letterhead? You know
12 we should think about that.

13 But this, it's cool to have this step in
14 place. So those are just other things I'm
15 thinking about while we're moving this forward --
16 but I'm fine with the plan.

17 I like the design. I think it's wonderful.
18 I think it really represents us well, and can't
19 wait to use it -- but need, need permission first.

20 So thank you.

21 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Any other comments?

22
23 (No response.)

24
25 **THE CHAIRMAN:** If not, thank you, Graham and Allie, for

1 putting this together. It's really very well done
2 and very catchy, and I can't wait to make it
3 official.

4 Moving right along, Virginia, sub-topical
5 workgroup to develop the state water plan updates
6 for January 2023. Virginia has sent out, and Dave
7 had sent out a proposal for a sub workgroup on the
8 report to the General Assembly.

9 They kind of laid out what they'd like to do
10 and the scope of it, and who they'd like to be
11 part of this.

12 And if we're going to try to get in on time
13 we've got to move very quickly on this.

14 Don't we, Virginia?

15 VIRGINIA de LIMA: Absolutely. And you may recall that
16 at your last meeting you approved the concept of
17 doing this, requested the formal proposal -- which
18 you now have.

19 You'll note in it that there is highlighted
20 in yellow -- it was, we need to determine which
21 agency is taking the lead in terms of the
22 logistics of it and posting it on the web, and
23 other FOIA type of things. That was something
24 that you all had requested that we do in all of
25 our proposals.

1 And we didn't feel -- the group that was
2 working on, it didn't feel comfortable designating
3 a lead agency without your input. And hopefully
4 you can decide amongst yourselves today who that
5 would be so we can finalize this and get your
6 approval on the proposal.

7 You may recall that DEEP has taken the lead
8 on the USGS data collection workgroup that's
9 ongoing -- and so I'm speaking just personally
10 now. I think it would be nice for this
11 responsibility to fall to a different agency.

12 DAVID RADKA: If I could add, Jack and everyone else?

13 The other thing you want to draw your
14 attention to is that when we discussed that, this
15 at our last meeting -- and prior reports were
16 shared with us to OPM, recognizing that the last
17 annual report was submitted in 2015.

18 While this is -- really technically it should
19 be 2022 report, we thought it would be more
20 beneficial to go back, not necessarily to 2016,
21 but at least at a minimum from when the state
22 water plan was adopted. We think that would
23 enable us to better capture the very things that
24 were accomplished and further support the
25 significance, the importance of the work that's

1 being done -- especially as it would going forward
2 to Legislature with the budget.

3 So that's our recommendation. Obviously,
4 we're looking for input on that also.

5 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Do we have any suggestions about who
6 could be the lead agency on this? I would suggest
7 maybe the Office of Policy -- well, poor Martin
8 has his hands full with the drought, but --

9 **GRAHAM STEVENS:** (Unintelligible) --

10 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Well, we have plenty of water now --
11 don't we, Martin?

12 **MARTIN HEFT:** Well we're still in -- actually
13 surprisingly, the western part of the state is
14 getting in worse condition now than the eastern
15 part of the state under the new national drought
16 monitor.

17 But regarding the workgroup, just to keep
18 this on topic -- one of the things as I'm looking
19 at it is looking at the annual report, developing
20 it; and I think the work of looking into this and
21 kind of going through it is, do we need a sub
22 workgroup to do this?

23 The IWG could handle this already. Most of
24 the members, all the representatives on here are
25 all of the IWG already.

1 Is there a need for a separate subgroup for
2 this when you know the IWG could develop the
3 annual report piece?

4 We asked the advisory group to submit a piece
5 on it there, and the Water Planning Council you
6 know has an annual report.

7 I think looking at a whole sub workgroup and
8 everything else, I'm not sure we need to go to
9 that extreme level for that. I think it could be
10 done less without a whole separate workgroup being
11 set up.

12 So I'm just questioning that. And looking at
13 it, I know -- you know that even if we want to
14 include the separate sub workgroups that are
15 working, as that each of those individually submit
16 their annual report information it gets compiled
17 and everything else. I mean, that's the way I've
18 worked other annual reports from my municipal
19 experience and everything else.

20 And looking at having this whole extra group
21 when we have a IWG already, that seems that this
22 would fall under that realm of the full IWG.

23 **DAVID RADKA:** Virginia, if I may respond?

24 Thank you, Martin. And that is one way we
25 could approach it, but I think as we were kicking

1 this around, we thought given the short timeframe
2 that having a smaller really focused group that
3 has the ability to meet as frequently as possible
4 as opposed to trying to pull together the whole
5 implementation workgroup, it would probably
6 facilitate the completion of this in a more
7 expeditious fashion, if you will.

8 But certainly if you feel that separate sub
9 workgroup -- I'm sure we could proceed
10 accordingly.

11 THE CHAIRMAN: Graham or Lori?

12 GRAHAM STEVENS: I don't have strong feelings in either
13 way. I think -- I mean, obviously there's the
14 task that's fast approaching, and then there's
15 what is the best way to deal with this on a going
16 forward basis?

17 And I think Martin's suggestion on a
18 going-forward basis makes a lot of sense. Every
19 time there's a work product there's a report out
20 that can be incorporated into the future annual
21 report. You write that report all year long, and
22 then at the end it's -- there's the better way to
23 do it.

24 But I could also see that a small tasked
25 group with the short timeframe might be helpful.

1 VIRGINIA de LIMA: Well, the one thought that I have,
2 is that --

3 LORI MATHIEU: If -- I'm sorry. If I could, Jack,
4 reach out to Dan Aubin? I know he has some
5 thoughts on this, if that's appropriate?

6 Dan?

7 DAN AUBIN: Sure. Thanks, Lori. Good afternoon, Water
8 Planning Councilmembers.

9 And for the public record, my name is Dan
10 Aubin. I work for the Connecticut Department of
11 Health in the Environmental Health and Drinking
12 Water Branch.

13 The ending report for the workgroup that I
14 led for the state water plan implementation
15 tracking and reporting basically identified two
16 potential future sub workgroups; one to focus on
17 an interim measure, because right now there is no
18 process or sub workgroup. So there would be a
19 collected small group of folks who would work on
20 building a process under this version of the state
21 water plan, while also considering improvements
22 for the state water plan 2.0 someday.

23 But as David mentioned -- and David is
24 correct. We're running out of time for this year.
25 The sub workgroups I recommended in theory should

1 have all year to kind of work on this at a very,
2 like, once a month type of schedule. If we're
3 trying to account for the 2022 year, I would lean
4 towards the recommendation of a small group of
5 hopefully one person potentially from every
6 agency, and maybe one representative from the
7 implementation workgroup and from the advisory
8 group.

9 And in reality with the short window we could
10 try something new. We could try using, you know,
11 technology to our advantage such as a Microsoft
12 Forms application that maybe would be sent.

13 We would craft questions and run those
14 questions by the Water Planning Council. And with
15 your approval, those questions would gather
16 information from folks or sub workgroups who have
17 done work pertaining to the state water plan;
18 gather that data and response into a private
19 SharePoint site which we could manage with our
20 group and then hopefully produce an Excel sheet,
21 even maybe a report to acknowledge a summary of
22 facts.

23 That's kind of the -- that's a short way to
24 do it with the tight timeframe that we have. That
25 might sound easy. I assure you none of what I

1 just said would be easily done before the end of
2 this year, but it would be an opportunity to try
3 something new.

4 Thank you.

5 LORI MATHIEU: Thank you, Dan. Good ideas, because I
6 know Dan has been thinking about this and working
7 on it and has put a lot of -- as you can tell, a
8 lot of thought into this.

9 So I guess my thought would be for right now
10 to come up with a process that makes sense to pull
11 together what we can for the end of this year.

12 And I don't know how far back we have missed.
13 I even hate to ask this question, but I want to
14 admit that we probably have missed reports in the
15 past.

16 Does anyone know how far back we go with
17 missing dates?

18 VIRGINIA de LIMA: The last report was 2015.

19 LORI MATHIEU: All right. So I know that in the past
20 I'm willing to admit that we've missed annual
21 reports. So what we've done in that instance is
22 we look back and we report what we can so that we
23 can sort of make up and catch up to where we are
24 now. And maybe we can do some of that, and do our
25 best to do that to be fair to the process.

1 And then we developed the process that Dan
2 had suggested, you know, moving forward. And I
3 like Graham's idea of there were the groups that
4 work every single, you know, on all these items
5 throughout the year, that they would report out
6 and they would be rolled up into an annual report.

7 **THE CHAIRMAN:** I mean, once we do it this year we'll
8 have the outline for future reports because I'm
9 surprised. You know we've been living in a very
10 different world in the past several years, and
11 nobody's been screaming or calling me up saying,
12 where's the report?

13 So it would be great to get it done for 2022
14 and submit it.

15 Virginia, you have your hand up?

16 **VIRGINIA de LIMA:** I do. Thank you. Thank you, Jack.

17 A couple of points. One, I think that the
18 logical way to make up the past is to, as Dave
19 said, to have this be since the implement -- since
20 the approval of the state water plan, that we
21 focus on that.

22 Actually, at the time the statute changed so
23 that the reporting guidelines changed a little bit
24 with the approval of the state water plan. And so
25 I think that would be a logical starting place.

1 Also as has been alluded to, this group is
2 doing two things. It's not only compiling the
3 report that's due this January, this coming
4 January -- but also coming up with a structure for
5 future reports. And that's something that I
6 think, as Dan said, appropriately falls to a focus
7 group.

8 Also picking up on what Dan said, it may very
9 well be that the appropriate representation --
10 representative from one or another agency is not
11 the same person that sits on the implementation
12 workgroup, but rather somebody who has skills with
13 some of the tools that Dan mentioned and could
14 really help us by bringing those, those electronic
15 and technical skills to the process rather than
16 the representatives from the agencies that we
17 already have, most of whom have primary skills in
18 water issues, and you know also skills in the
19 computer side of things -- but perhaps that's not
20 their primary focus.

21 So having a different group would give us the
22 ability to tap that expertise as well. I think
23 I've got a volunteer for that work.

24 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Okay. So it looks -- I kind of agree.

25 I think we need to have a specific group for this.

1 THE COUNCIL: Aye.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed?

3 MARTIN HEFT: Aye.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: So the vote is three to one.

5 The motion is carried.

6 VIRGINIA de LIMA: And if I may, Jack? We have not yet
7 determined the lead agency on this, then the
8 agency responsible for the FOIA requirements.

9 THE CHAIRMAN: Well, we're going to give it over to
10 OPM. I mean, Martin knows a lot about FOIA and --

11 MARTIN HEFT: We are not accepting it. We handle the
12 drought and we handle the larger --

13 THE CHAIRMAN: I'm just kidding, Martin. A little
14 levity this afternoon, Martin. I'm not -- I'm
15 just kidding.

16 We'll gladly -- PURA will gladly be the lead
17 agency on this.

18 VIRGINIA de LIMA: Thank you very much.

19 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. All right. We're going to move
20 on to the state water plan biennium budget update.

21 Mr. Stevens?

22 GRAHAM STEVENS: Thank you, Jack.

23 So as the Council and participants know,
24 we've been, thanks to Martin's leadership, putting
25 together a budget to ensure that there's a

1 sufficient amount of funds appropriated through
2 the general fund for the baseline operations of
3 staff for the Water Planning Council to help us
4 with things like reporting, coordination,
5 deadlines and any other, any other tasks that are
6 assigned by the Water Planning Council that fit in
7 with underneath those people's expertise and
8 training.

9 And DEEP, you know through the direction of
10 OPM, has requested this budget item and that would
11 be placed underneath PURA in the structure of the
12 budget, but it would be a general fund line item
13 to handle both personnel as well as operating
14 expenses.

15 And that has been -- as far as I understand,
16 that has been communicated to our budget analysts
17 at OPM, and we anticipate that will be entertained
18 by OPM and the Governor's Office through the
19 typical biennial budget adjustment process.

20 **THE CHAIRMAN:** So, Martin -- first of all, thank you,
21 Martin. Thank you very much -- because Martin was
22 really instrumental in getting this moving through
23 OPM.

24 And Graham, do we have to do anything? Do we
25 have to make any kind of motion? Or with this,

1 since we're not an agency I would imagine
2 everything is through DEEP.

3 GRAHAM STEVENS: Correct. Everything would be through
4 DEEP because this, this budget item would be under
5 PURA -- which for administrative purposes, you
6 know PURA and DEEP are aligned in the budget.

7 So I think we've already made the decision to
8 move forward as a Council. And again thank you,
9 Martin, for doing the significant legwork and
10 planning to put this budget proposal together and
11 then move it forward.

12 MARTIN HEFT: Jack, if I may on that? Thanks. Thanks,
13 both.

14 So, yeah. So obviously it will go up in
15 review during the budget process and everything.
16 Obviously we're already aware. The OPM Secretary
17 is already aware of it -- and at his suggestion
18 that it go through this process. So obviously, I
19 will reiterate that during my meetings with him as
20 well.

21 I also just wanted to note that last week,
22 when I was doing a presentation on the Council on
23 Environmental Quality and discussed our budget and
24 everything with that, they are sending out a
25 letter to the Governor's Office and OPM in support

1 of the budget.

2 I just wanted to let you know that as well.

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much, and thanks to the
4 CEQ for supporting that. That's great, and I
5 appreciate you representing us there.

6 Anything else? Lori, any comments?

7 LORI MATHIEU: No. Just I thank everyone for all of
8 your work and putting this forward, and hopefully
9 when we have these resources in place we'll be
10 able to do so many more work efforts that we
11 haven't been able to accomplish prior.

12 So I appreciate all the work, and the work to
13 date. So thank you.

14 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Okay. Nothing further under
15 the budget -- then we will move on to the agency
16 reports, WUCC. Lori?

17 LORI MATHIEU: Thank you, Jack.

18 With me today is set stone Lisette Stone.
19 Eric is away. So Lisette works for the Department
20 of Public health; works in Eric's group and part
21 of ERIC's team. And Lisette can give us a brief
22 update on the WUCC.

23 LISETTE STONE: Yes, good afternoon, thank you for
24 having me. So the three corridors continued to
25 have breakout meetings. Our next implementation

1 meeting is November 16th. We are continuing to
2 prioritize items from the 12.1 table of the
3 statewide coordinated water system plan, and with
4 a focus on encouraging participation of public
5 water systems of all sizes and emphasis on
6 collaboration with municipalities and regional
7 councils of government to promote education and
8 outreach to advise best management practices
9 concerning development and drinking water
10 resources.

11 LORI MATHIEU: Excellent. Thank you, Lisette.

12 Are there any questions about Lisette's
13 information in the next meeting that comes up?

14 THE CHAIRMAN: You have the 16th? November 16th?

15 LORI MATHIEU: November 16th.

16 And Lisette, that meeting is what again?

17 Of which group?

18 LISETTE STONE: It's the implementation group. So it's
19 all three corridors of moving implementation items
20 statewide together.

21 LORI MATHIEU: Excellent. Any questions?

22
23 (No response.)

24
25 LORI MATHIEU: And like all of our meetings, everyone

1 is welcome to attend. Right, Lisette?

2 LISETTE STONE: Yeah.

3 LORI MATHIEU: Okay. And how do we find information on
4 the meeting?

5 LISETTE STONE: The agenda is published on the WUCC
6 webpage. I can provide that link in the chat
7 shortly.

8 And it will be a virtual via Teams for now.

9 LORI MATHIEU: Thank you.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Excellent. Thank you very much. Lori,
11 private wells?

12 LORI MATHIEU: Yeah. So for private wells we had, as
13 we knew last year, we had a white paper on changes
14 that we thought would be instrumental in requiring
15 private well owners on property transfer to test
16 for a whole host of parameters to also include
17 uranium and arsenic, because we've had some really
18 good science and data from USGS showing really for
19 the very first time where the arsenic and uranium
20 deposits lay.

21 And that we found it incredibly important as
22 a team and a group representing water, and as well
23 as public health that we would want our private
24 wells to be tested on a property transfer.

25 So that law became -- and it didn't pass in

1 the way that we had first proposed it, in a way
2 that we had approved it through their counsel --
3 but the law is under Public Act 22-58. And in
4 particular that public act is quite long, but
5 Section 60 of that public act made revisions to
6 Section 19a-37.

7 And right now there's a letter which I could
8 copy all of you on. And when I see the final
9 version, Jack, I could send it to you. We've
10 sent, what we call, a circular letter out to the
11 local health directors, the Connecticut
12 Association of Realtors and the Commercial
13 Environmental Laboratories on this law change and
14 what has changed as of October 1, which was a few
15 days back -- and I can share that with you.

16 So it speaks to the fact that if a certified
17 laboratory, we want -- we first of all, we want
18 certified laboratories doing the testing. And if
19 there is a test that is taken by a certified
20 laboratory, that information needs to be shared
21 with the local health department as well as the
22 Department of Public Health.

23 And the whole concept here, and again if --
24 if there is a test taken -- in many property
25 transfers we believe that tests are taken, this

1 law change did not mandate that, even though
2 that's what we really wished for -- but that
3 didn't happen. But we do know that many, many
4 tests do take place.

5 And the idea here is that the Department and
6 our local health partners would have these in the
7 information gathered and developed into a format
8 that could be shareable at a high level. We can't
9 share the details on private property information,
10 but we certainly could start to gather the
11 information, and we're moving towards that end.

12 So I'm happy to report that we're developing
13 a process internally, and hopefully over the next
14 year we can get to a better place. Where right
15 now we're seeing pieces of paper or faxes, or a
16 variety of different formats that our Department
17 receives this information in. And we know that we
18 don't receive all of the information that is out
19 there on private wells, because again primary
20 responsibility for regulating private wells falls
21 on local, our 61 local health departments.

22 So we are working on a process where these
23 lab reports would be provided to our Department.
24 And again, it's really the first phase of
25 reporting in, and we plan to work on a better

1 reporting process over the next many months.

2 So again, Jack I can -- and this is all being
3 worked through our private well program. Ryan
4 Tetreault is the supervisor within our group who
5 is handling this matter and gathering information.

6 But we're very excited to be able to start to
7 see more information and gather it in a format
8 that's consistent and that could be shareable, and
9 you know again with an eye toward looking at the
10 bigger picture of what we are seeing in these
11 private well results.

12 So we're just starting down this road. It's
13 not going to happen overnight, but I can share
14 with you, Jack, the circular letter when I see the
15 final. I'm trying to find it now. I think it
16 just went out yesterday; the circular letter,
17 again to our local health directors, the
18 Connecticut Association of Realtors and the
19 Commercial Environmental Laboratories.

20 So I'll share that when I see it.

21 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Okay. Did you see the check? Can you
22 repeat the bill and legislative reference number?

23 **LORI MATHIEU:** Yes. So the bill number itself, Public
24 Act 22-58, Section 60; it made changes to current
25 law of 19a-37.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

2 Virginia, do you have a question on this?

3 VIRGINIA de LIMA: I would wait until after Martin and
4 Graham had -- if they have questions?

5 THE CHAIRMAN: Martin and Graham, do you have questions
6 on WUCC?

7 GRAHAM STEVENS: No, no questions.

8 MARTIN HEFT: No, I don't have any questions, but just
9 in preference of the way we handle things really
10 should be waiting until public comment for the
11 next, for any -- anyone other than the commission
12 members at this point.

13 LORI MATHIEU: So any questions, Graham, Jack, Martin?

14 GRAHAM STEVENS: No questions, Lori. Thank you.

15 LORI MATHIEU: Okay.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: Virginia, can you wait until the end?

17 VIRGINIA de LIMA: Sure.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay.

19 LORI MATHIEU: And again, I will get you that circular
20 letter so that you can see it. You see all the
21 breakdown and all the information is there.

22 So thank you.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Thank you very much. Appreciate
24 it, Lori.

25 Workgroup reports. Back to you Virginia, you

1 and David.

2 VIRGINIA de LIMA: Okay. In terms of the
3 implementation workgroup we did talk a lot about
4 the outreach and education group, but I see that
5 Denise is on the agenda further down -- so I won't
6 focus on that.

7 Though, at our last couple of meetings we've
8 talked about the topical sub workgroup looking at
9 USGS data, primarily the stream flow gauges and
10 the groundwater level network. That proposal,
11 that invitation to participate in the workgroup
12 went out to a big list of people. We've got a
13 really exciting group of people who have
14 volunteered to participate.

15 And when Dave and I looked at that list, we
16 noticed that there were some gaps, if you will,
17 that we do want to pursue. For instance, there
18 was not a representative from the water industry
19 or consultants working with the water industry. I
20 mean, there are certainly a lot of consultants
21 that do that kind of work. So it doesn't have to
22 be an industry representative itself.

23 Also, we noticed that there perhaps could be
24 more representation from environmental and
25 recreational groups. As I think I've said in

1 other meetings, that when the USGS did an analysis
2 of their gauge dating, the biggest number of folks
3 were recreational, fishermen, kayakers, canoers.

4 And so we want to try once again to involve
5 some of those groups. But as I said, I was
6 surprised, pleasantly surprised at the number of
7 people that were interested in participating in
8 this.

9 So we're going to follow up on that in the
10 next couple of days. David has already sent an
11 e-mail to Betsy Gara to try and scare up some
12 industry type folks, and we're going to be working
13 with Elisa certainly in terms of her contacts with
14 environmental groups and also with some of the
15 recreational groups. So hopefully we will
16 finalize that group, but it should be a very rich
17 and productive discussion.

18 And then we already have talked about the
19 annual reporting group, and so I don't need to go
20 into any more detail about that.

21 David, do you have things to add to that?

22 DAVID RADKA: I think just as a follow up to the
23 earlier, very good discussion on the annual
24 report, and Dan's quick but excellent summary of
25 pieces of what their recommendations were, I know

1 in the past -- and I think, Lori, you might have
2 raised it that it was beneficial probably to have
3 Dan and obviously Corinne co-led that group
4 there -- but at this point have Dan do a brief
5 report at a future meeting just so -- I know you
6 have the hard copy, but I think he could summarize
7 the recommendations.

8 Because there were several and that they
9 speak to what we were talking about, which is not
10 only trying to do something expedient to meet this
11 upcoming deadline, but there are also
12 recommendations to move forward to develop, not
13 just a framework, but the ultimate, you know, what
14 could this -- or what should this potentially look
15 like, this reporting requirement?

16 And it's going to take some more effort on
17 the part of implementation workgroup. And again
18 as I said, he's probably best suited to provide
19 that update for you, I'm sure -- if he's willing.
20 I'm sure he's willing.

21 VIRGINIA de LIMA: Another, just another quick followup
22 in terms of that report, one that we anticipate
23 that the primary distribution of that will be
24 electronic so that it can have links.

25 What we would like to do, if we possibly can,

1 and it would be a challenge, is to have what would
2 be an actual printed report be two sides of one
3 piece of paper.

4 This is acknowledging that our legislators
5 are very busy people. They have a lot of things.
6 That two sides of one piece of paper would
7 electronically have links to greater detail of
8 each of these things.

9 But it would be a very high level summary of
10 what a particular workgroup or advisory group has
11 done, and then have the more detailed information
12 available.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Graham, do you have a question?

14 DAVID RADKA: I just wanted to ask Dan if there was
15 anything he wanted to quickly add?

16 DAN AUBIN: No, I believe that that covers it, that
17 that makes a lot of sense. And that's basically
18 the findings from the report that we issued from
19 the workgroup that Corinne and I led.

20 LORI MATHIEU: And David, I like your idea. If Dan is
21 so willing to give more detail to us next time, if
22 we think that's appropriate, Jack.

23 Dan, you're okay with that?

24 DAN AUBIN: Sure, absolutely.

25 DAVID RADKA: Great.

1 LORI MATHIEU: Very good. Thank you.

2 DAVID RADKA: Thank you.

3 GRAHAM STEVENS: Jack, if I could?

4 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, please?

5 GRAHAM STEVENS: So I like the idea of having a
6 two-pager. I think a two-pager, it's like our
7 version of a one-pager, because it's double sided.

8 But I think that's probably a bit ambitious.
9 If I had more time I would have written a shorter
10 note, but I don't think we do have the time this
11 year.

12 And I also think that there's probably some
13 value in having more along the lines of an
14 executive summary version that may have a couple
15 of figures, that may have some text boxes; things
16 that look like someone who doesn't have a lot of
17 time but does want to consume the information will
18 read, and it will be very supportive of our budget
19 proposal.

20 Because there's a lot. There's a lot to
21 show, and I just don't want to be -- I just don't
22 want folks to be bound by, like you know, we've
23 got to boil it down to two pages.

24 But I do like the idea of making the report
25 available through a link which we could

1 potentially put on the webpage. We would just
2 need to ensure that we would -- I think we have to
3 print -- Martin would know -- about nine copies
4 for the state library, and additional copies for
5 the General Assembly as their rules may require.
6 And I'd be glad to pay for that out of our budget
7 as well.

8 It's a pain to do, but that is the procedure
9 for any report required by law to be produced.

10 VIRGINIA de LIMA: The question related to that,
11 Graham, if there were -- whether it be two pages
12 or five pages in executive summary, and that there
13 were then links to more detailed documents. Would
14 copies of the documents in the links also be a
15 requirement to the --

16 GRAHAM STEVENS: For the official -- for the official
17 state library record; and as at the discretion, I
18 believe, of the committees of cognizance, of the
19 clerk of the committees of cognizance.

20 I think that we could let our legislative
21 friends print it out themselves if they so choose.
22 I don't think that -- it's not a requirement of
23 law that we print and produce that report for them
24 in paper form, but it is for the state Library. I
25 believe it's nine copies.

1 So I'd be happy to pay for the printing of
2 the nine copies as well as the printing of some
3 reasonable amount of executive summary handouts
4 that we could hand out. You know typically I'd
5 just give those to our legislative liaison and as
6 as someone asks questions we can have that to hand
7 out, as with the other agencies I'm sure.

8 THE CHAIRMAN: Great. Thank you.

9 Virginia, anything else?

10 VIRGINIA de LIMA: No, that's all for me.

11 MARTIN HEFT: Jack, if I may just to follow up with
12 Virginia's report?

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Sure.

14 MARTIN HEFT: Thanks.

15 So Graham, you are correct with the number of
16 printed copies and such there. The rest can all,
17 obviously all be digital.

18 Just thanks for the work on the USGS working
19 group. I did want to let you know that I did
20 relay that to the CEQ meeting last week, as well
21 as one of the things that were going on. So they
22 were very happy to see that going on.

23 But if you're also -- I know you're reaching
24 out to some of the associations and such for
25 filling those other vacancies. If there's

1 something that our agencies can help you with, if
2 you're looking for key people for that, we may
3 have some contacts or people to direct you to as
4 well if you want to get us those vacancy per se
5 that you're looking for, for certain areas.

6 More than happy to assist if we can on that
7 side as well, Virginia.

8 VIRGINIA de LIMA: Thank you very much for that,
9 Martin.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Very good. Any questions for David or
11 Virginia?

12
13 (No response.)
14

15 THE CHAIRMAN: If that, we'll move onto the interagency
16 drought workgroup. Martin?

17 MARTIN HEFT: Thank you. So the interagency drought
18 workgroup met last month, and everything is -- we
19 left it as status quo, if you will. There were no
20 changes made based upon the data of the previous
21 month.

22 We are meeting this Thursday. We'll look at
23 obviously the rainfall that we received in
24 September obviously as part of our monthly totals,
25 and some of the, you know, obviously the new

1 information that's come in since this weekend with
2 some of the rain we've got, although it's not been
3 a lot.

4 As I mentioned earlier, some of the national
5 drought is changing kind of geographically in the
6 state of where some of the levels are shifting
7 things a little bit more to the west from the
8 eastern side. So obviously, we'll be continuing
9 looking at that and making any recommendations at
10 Thursday's meeting.

11 I did mention that I did do a presentation to
12 the Council on Environmental Quality. The
13 majority of it was based on water conservation
14 measures. In the presentation -- which I know the
15 Councilmembers here saw prior to that going out,
16 and I'm happy to share that with anyone I know.
17 CEQ has it posted with their information as well.

18 I ran through the state water plan. I ran
19 through the drought plan; reviewed the
20 conservation measures within all of those,
21 answered their questions afterwards and everything
22 else after about an hourlong presentation and chat
23 with them.

24 As mentioned, they were very happy with
25 what's been going on. Obviously, continual need

1 for us to continue looking at water conservation
2 measures, that there's still obviously concerns
3 there -- but I did outline pieces that we have
4 coming forward as well as things that we have
5 done.

6 So I just wanted to do a quick report on that
7 as part of the drought update.

8 LORI MATHIEU: Martin, could I ask? So for CEQ, did
9 they have any questions for us? Did they have any
10 concerns that they wanted to relay to us?

11 MARTIN HEFT: Sure. So the only big concern was -- and
12 I don't never know if it was necessarily a huge
13 concern, but one of the things they asked was
14 about the minimum standards in our building codes,
15 which we had looked at previously.

16 And some of that was part of our report that
17 was done through -- and I always forget their
18 name -- with our \$50,000 grant that we had had to
19 do with the water efficiency group.

20 They had done -- and there were some
21 recommendations in there about implementation.
22 They are going to look at that. I did get them a
23 copy of that report following the meeting. I
24 said, you know, obviously explained to them part
25 of the issue is in legislative matters it's

1 difficult for the Council to be able to bring
2 something up before four separate agencies, but
3 they might be willing to bring something up on
4 their side about changing those water standards
5 regarding toilet flushing and everything else on
6 that piece there.

7 So that was one item that we discussed, and
8 other things were just looking at things more on a
9 year-round basis rather than looking at water
10 conservation during drought periods. Those were
11 kind of the two bigger takeaways, if you will.

12 LORI MATHIEU: Thank you.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Any other questions for Martin?

14
15 (No response.)
16

17 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Martin.

18 Hopefully you won't be as busy.

19 MARTIN HEFT: Thanks.

20 THE CHAIRMAN: Outreach and education, Denise?

21 DENISE SAVAGEAU: Thank you. So just quickly, the
22 education and outreach committee hasn't met again.
23 Usually we meet the first Thursday of the month,
24 and the first Thursday didn't meet before your
25 Water Planning Council this month. Usually we do

1 meet before you.

2 So we're going to -- our next meeting is
3 scheduled. Actually, we're going to be
4 rescheduling a meeting that would happen the
5 Thursday the 6th because of conflict. And I'll
6 talk about that more in a minute.

7 But the big thing that we're going to be
8 looking at is coming to you for next time. So
9 we'll want to be on the action agenda for the
10 theme for next year's work. And we had put out
11 there that we're looking at climate change as
12 being the theme. We think it's very timely, and
13 it gets into all of the issues, whether you're
14 talking about drought, flooding, you know, water
15 quality; there's a whole host of things that we
16 can talk about under climate change.

17 So we'll be putting something together once
18 we meet and have that ready for presentation, both
19 to the implementation workgroup, as well as the
20 Water planning Council for next time, to look at
21 that and see if that's a thing.

22 That said, if there's any other suggestions
23 on where we'll be, you know, just get those to us
24 as soon as possible. We'll probably be meeting
25 sometime next week -- so if you have any other

1 thoughts on topics or themes for us to be working
2 on.

3 The branding where it's the -- I just want to
4 remind you, we're glad to see that moving forward.
5 We think it's really important as we develop some
6 of these work; that the work and some of the fact
7 sheets that we want to do, having those branded
8 with the state water plan I think will really
9 help.

10 The people just say, like, they know where
11 this material is coming from, and it's just going
12 to provide something that's really united, so
13 having that branding on all of that. So thank you
14 for moving that forward.

15 And then the last thing is we do have some
16 recommendations that we're going to be running
17 through you again on the work of what needs to be
18 done on the website, because we definitely need to
19 make sure that this website is accessible and
20 available, and can really do what needs to be
21 done.

22 So we'll be, again bringing those to the
23 Water Planning Council -- excuse me, the state
24 water planning implementation workgroup, and then
25 you know, to you guys. So that's kind of where we

1 are.

2 I just wanted touch quickly on the meeting
3 dates -- is that we had always met on the first
4 Thursday of the month. This is becoming
5 problematic for several of our members -- now have
6 other meetings that popped up that they had no
7 control over as standing meetings, including
8 myself more and more.

9 I also work with the Long Island Sound study
10 and more and more their meetings are on Thursdays.
11 And so there constantly is a conflict, but I know
12 that there's other members of our group who also
13 have that.

14 So we have a poll out to the all the members,
15 and we're looking to see what date we'll be
16 changing that to. And we will let you know.

17 It looks like it may be the mornings before,
18 on Tuesday mornings, sometime before one of the
19 other workgroups meets, or the Water Planning
20 Council meets, but we will keep you informed of
21 that.

22 And I'm happy to answer any questions.

23 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Thank you, Denise.

24 Martin, a question?

25 **MARTIN HEFT:** No, just a kind of introduction for

1 Denise. In case you're not aware, Denise, as
2 you're mentioning climate change as a potential
3 theme, I'll get you the information -- but OPM has
4 a new climate policy development coordinator that
5 works directly under the Secretary, that you'll
6 probably want to be in touch with.

7 And I believe she was going to be on this
8 meeting, but Johanna Wosnik Brown --

9 LORI MATHIEU: I think she's on.

10 MARTIN HEFT: -- is the new climate person. So we'll
11 make sure that you get in touch with her, Denise,
12 because I'm sure she'd want to be involved in
13 anything regarding that.

14 DENISE SAVAGEAU: All right. Thank you, Martin. And
15 of course, as you know, we're always looking for
16 members to be on our outreach and education
17 workgroup. So we'll be happy to have anyone join
18 us.

19 And I've worked with Johanna before -- so
20 happy to have her join our workgroup.

21 MARTIN HEFT: Great. Thanks.

22 LORI MATHIEU: And also, Jack, if I might?

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Sure.

24 LORI MATHIEU: So our department has a new office of
25 climate and public health. It's within my branch

1 and we're working to stand up a team of people.
2 We have -- as it's federally funded positions.
3 And we're trying -- we have one filled, and two
4 more yet to be filled, but we are working on a
5 number of efforts. And we'd love to bring those,
6 at least the one, one and a half people that we
7 have working on it to your group or talk about
8 what we do.

9 We have a federal CDC grant known as BRACE.
10 And we can come and present on it, or talk to you
11 more about the new office and the work of that
12 office, if you'd like.

13 DENISE SAVAGEAU: Yeah, that would be great. I mean,
14 we're always, you know, looking to have people
15 come and talk to us and give us some ideas.

16 And particularly as we develop this theme on
17 climate change, I think it's just, you know,
18 really important and I know that there's a lot of
19 work going on. I think it's really timely,
20 especially with, you know, more and more work
21 coming out of the GC3, and I think we're going to
22 be seeing that. So thank you.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Denise I saw the chat. Someone asked,
24 do you have a date for the planned fall workshop
25 on water monitoring?

1 DENISE SAVAGEAU: We don't have a new date yet. That's
2 something we'll be working on.

3 THE CHAIRMAN: And the other thing -- because you
4 wanted to talk. You sent me an e-mail earlier
5 today regarding the conference coming up in the
6 end of October for water.

7 DENISE SAVAGEAU: Excuse me?

8 THE CHAIRMAN: You had sent me an e-mail earlier today
9 about a reminder about a conference coming up the
10 end of October?

11 DENISE SAVAGEAU: Oh, yes. So I sent -- there's a
12 conference with the Doherty Lab that's out of
13 Columbia University. So if anybody's interested
14 in that, I can send that.

15 Actually, maybe I can put something in the
16 chat.

17 THE CHAIRMAN: Yeah.

18 DENISE SAVAGEAU: It's a really -- it's an
19 international panel on some of the challenges
20 we're facing with water. And I just thought that
21 this group would really be interested in that,
22 because it's all facets of water from drought to
23 flooding and everything that we work with.

24 So I will put a link to that workshop in the
25 chat. Thanks, Jack, for reminding me.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much. Any other
2 questions for Denise?

3
4 (No response.)

5
6 THE CHAIRMAN: Moving right onto the Water Planning
7 Council advisory workgroup. Alecia and Dan
8 Lawrence?

9 ALICEA CHARAMUT: So the majority of our time at our
10 last meeting was spent discussing some of the
11 items from the watershed lands group. So I will
12 let Karen in a bit talk about that, but I do
13 believe Carol had some items from our membership
14 committee. Go ahead, Carol.

15 CAROL HASKINS: Thank you. So I circulated a memo to
16 Jack -- and Laura hopefully that's gone out to the
17 Councilmembers -- the details out the current
18 membership roster for the Water Planning Council
19 advisory group.

20 And within that it shows the category of
21 representatives, the instream, out-of-stream, or
22 neutral representation, the assigned group for
23 terms, who the assigned appointed representative
24 is as well as their alternate.

25 And within that you'll see where the

1 vacancies lie and noted that group one members
2 will be up for term renewals at the beginning
3 of -- starting terms in January of 2023.

4 So before we move a membership roster slate
5 through for consideration by the Council, looking
6 at where the vacancies currently are we'd like to
7 get some input from the Councilmembers in terms of
8 a recruitment strategy.

9 And we've put forth some ideas that have been
10 bounced around among the nominating committee
11 regarding the vacancy in the agricultural category
12 as well as the business and industry association
13 category. And there's a consideration for a
14 potential reassignment to move the Connecticut
15 Nursery and Landscaping Association to the water
16 intensive business cat -- from the water intensive
17 business category to agriculture, which may give
18 us some more opportunities for some pathways to
19 fill that water-intensive business.

20 So hopefully everyone has seen that memo.

21 Have you guys had a chance to see that?

22 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Did people get a copy of that?

23 **MARTIN HEFT:** I don't recall seeing it.

24 **GRAHAM STEVENS:** I don't recall seeing it either. My
25 apologies if it was.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: My apologies. Carol, the only thing I
2 got from you was relative to some recommendations
3 in terms of vacancies, but did you actually sent
4 the list?

5 CAROL HASKINS: I did, yeah. I had sent an attachment
6 to that e-mail that -- I don't know if I'm allowed
7 to screen share, but I can pull up --

8 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes, you can.

9 CAROL HASKINS: -- the memo that I sent around to you.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: We'll allow you to screen share.

11 CAROL HASKINS: Okay. Great.

12 So what I had sent to Jack was -- let me zoom
13 out just a smidge, I think, here -- was -- it just
14 dropped down to, like, 150.

15 Maybe that will fit the screen a little
16 better.

17 So within this, it had considerations for the
18 vacancies in the agricultural category. The ones
19 that have been talked about in the past included
20 Bonnie Burr from the UConn extension, Chelsea
21 Gazillo from the Working Lands Alliance, Elizabeth
22 Moore from Connecticut Farmland Trust, which
23 didn't really get us too far in previous
24 conversations. It was kind of warm reception
25 previously, but really never took off.

1 And in our more recent conversations we
2 learned that UConn clears on-boarding an
3 agricultural outreach staff person. So from the
4 nominating committee perspective that feels like
5 the most likely lead in terms of getting someone
6 that may be able to commit.

7 But another new name that came up was
8 actually a recommendation from one of my interns
9 and her involvement in the 4H program -- is this
10 Erica Fern who is the Executive Director at our
11 farm, the 4H education center in Bloomfield. And
12 she was the recent candidate for the Department of
13 Ag Commissioner appointment.

14 And again, there's a reconsideration for
15 reassigning the Connecticut Nursery and
16 Landscaping Association to a different category,
17 to agriculture which may open up that other
18 water-intensive business category.

19 And then from the business and industry
20 Association category that was our Middlesex
21 Chamber of Commerce -- Jeff Pugliese, I believe is
22 the correct pronunciation of his name, and he left
23 his position back in April. And kind of the next
24 two biggest chambers that we see being fairly
25 active are New Haven Chamber of Commerce as well

1 as Waterbury Chamber of Commerce where they have
2 dedicated staff people, and may be able to get
3 some better engagement because they have dedicated
4 staff people. And I understand they also have
5 state policy-focused staff people. And since
6 moving to a Zoom meeting versus driving to
7 New Britain may be able to get better engagement
8 there.

9 And then if we were to reassign CNLA some
10 ideas that have been bounced around for other
11 water-intensive business category representatives,
12 include folks like the Connecticut Association of
13 Golf Superintendents who did have a lot to say
14 about the state water plan when it was being moved
15 through in the public comment period. So better
16 to have their input early on in the process we
17 feel, versus later.

18 Connecticut Brewers Association, there's also
19 a staff person there; a water-intensive business,
20 certainly. When we bounced that around at the
21 Council -- sorry, the advisory workgroup meeting
22 two weeks ago, the Connecticut Beverage
23 Association -- kind of going wider than just the
24 brewers was a suggestion, although that appears to
25 be more for package stores, not necessarily

1 bottlers.

2 But there are some bottling associations, but
3 they're very specific to, like, Pepsi has their
4 own bottlers association. Coca-Cola has their own
5 bottlers association.

6 And yeah. Those were the ideas being punted
7 around, but we'd love to hear ideas from the
8 Council. Maybe there's folks that we're missing
9 that we should be considering, or if you guys have
10 prioritized pathways, do you think would be
11 appropriate to pursue?

12 For example, if you wanted to prioritize one
13 chamber over another, we would love to hear that
14 input before we started recruiting, before we
15 started making asks.

16 And below is -- a second page of that was
17 what the current membership roster is looking like
18 currently.

19 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Thank you very much for sharing that.

20 And again, I apologize for not getting that out to
21 the members. I don't recall seeing it, but anyway
22 I --

23 **CAROL HASKINS:** It was a late Friday, I think -- or
24 something. It was a late evening when we were
25 exchanging e-mails on this.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. I'm going to open it up for
2 discussion. I know that it might be nice to reach
3 out to the -- I've contacted the Waterbury
4 chamber. If we can get somebody from the
5 Waterbury chamber involved, it's a very large
6 chamber and it goes out to the 'Bury's, to
7 Southbury, Middlebury, and Woodbury.

8 I don't know. What's the pleasure of the
9 Council? Do you want to digest this and then go
10 back to your agencies, and perhaps come up with
11 some suggestions.

12 I see Graham. Are you raising your hand,
13 Graham?

14 GRAHAM STEVENS: I was, old-school style.

15 THE CHAIRMAN: I like that. I like that better than
16 the little yellow thing popping up.

17 GRAHAM STEVENS: I know. It's not very appropriate,
18 but I mean -- I apologize, but I would like to
19 look at it, if I could and digest a little bit the
20 consumptive or high-intense users in a
21 recategorization.

22 THE CHAIRMAN: And we have time -- and we do have some
23 time.

24 GRAHAM STEVENS: I don't like to hold things up if I
25 don't have to, but is there -- I'm sorry, the

1 nursery and -- it's down from the screen. What's
2 the association, the nursery and growers
3 association?

4 CAROL HASKINS: The Connecticut Nursery and Landscaping
5 Association.

6 GRAHAM STEVENS: Okay.

7 CAROL HASKINS: And they currently represent the water
8 intensive business category.

9 GRAHAM STEVENS: And that's different than the Nursery
10 Growers Association. Correct?

11 CAROL HASKINS: Yes. As far as I know it is, yes.

12 GRAHAM STEVENS: And has there been interest from that
13 group, or involvement?

14 CAROL HASKINS: If there has been I am not aware of it.

15 Someone else that's been involved with the
16 advisory group longer may have a better time to
17 get on that.

18 GRAHAM STEVENS: Again, I'm just curious about which
19 wells have run dry, so to speak. I'm not sure if
20 your -- I didn't capture in this screen share; I'm
21 not sure if your document captured that
22 information.

23 Because if folks are not participating, then
24 we should certainly be to looking for different
25 people, or making a call like Jack had suggested.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: I mean, Martin and Lori, are you okay
2 with that? Can we just give you a little more
3 time to take a look at the list?

4 MARTIN HEFT: Yeah, and I know -- thanks, Jack -- that
5 it just got sent out to us.

6 One thing just under the business and
7 industry, you may want to also -- I know you have
8 New Haven, Waterbury there.

9 Do you have Metro Hartford Alliance? I don't
10 know if they have dedicated staff or not to
11 certain areas, but that's also a huge chamber as
12 well covering every -- I mean, they actually
13 encompass part of Middlesex area as well, all the
14 way up to the top of the state.

15 So that it's kind of all of central
16 Connecticut just as another large piece there
17 under the business and industry side.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

19 So Carol, what we'll do is we'll take that,
20 we'll take that back and we'll hopefully get some
21 names and suggestions back to you ASAP.

22 CAROL HASKINS: Okay. Thank you very much.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: No. Thank you, for -- I know it's
24 always a challenge recruiting people and getting
25 them to stay on, and meetings. I think you're

1 right, though, in this new Zoom world we're in.
2 It might be a little bit easier to get people
3 involved.

4 So Alecia, do you have anything further?

5 ALICEA CHARAMUT: No, other than I have a couple of
6 things on the watershed lands group before I hand
7 it over to Karen.

8 Dan, am I forgetting anything?

9 DAN LAWRENCE: I was muted -- but no, you're not.

10 ALICEA CHARAMUT: Okay. Before I hand it over to Karen
11 on the watershed lands report, related to that a
12 couple of things, items on the watershed lands
13 issues.

14 First, Graham and I are meeting Friday the
15 14th to talk about the letter. And I apologize,
16 we didn't have anything before this meeting for
17 the Water Planning Council to take a look at.
18 This was the letter to GAE.

19 It's all on me. We had a couple of back and
20 forths, and then it died with me. So we actually
21 have a date, so.

22 GRAHAM STEVENS: We're in it together. Don't worry.

23 We succeed together, and we fail together.

24 THE CHAIRMAN: (Unintelligible.)

25 ALICEA CHARAMUT: And the other thing was that was

1 brought up at the meeting that I think is very
2 germane to water planning issues was that there a
3 petition for declaratory ruling has been submitted
4 to the Department of Public Health by the
5 Metropolitan District Commission.

6 It is to -- hold on. Let me bring this up,
7 because it's very, very legalese -- a ruling as to
8 the applicability of certain regulations on the
9 10 billion gallons of water behind Colebrook Dam,
10 and whether the state abandonment statute applies
11 to that water.

12 I have checked the DPH website. I don't
13 think that public hearing has been scheduled yet,
14 but I believe it may be scheduled before the next
15 Water Planning Council meeting.

16 You know, the concerns I had brought up in
17 bringing this to the watershed lands group is
18 that, you know, I believe that, you know, this
19 would severely -- if the MDC is granted in favor
20 of this petition, then it would severely limit
21 DPH's ability to regulate future potential
22 drinking water sources.

23 And I know DPH can't say anything here about
24 this because, you know, that they're in this
25 process, but I think it's important for folks in

1 water planning circles to be aware of this and be
2 on the lookout for it.

3 Karen, anything else?

4 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Thank you.

5 Now we'll turn it over to Karen.

6 Good afternoon, Karen.

7 **KAREN BURNASKA:** Well, we had -- first of all, the last
8 meeting of the watershed lands group was
9 September 9th. It was a well attended and a very
10 good meeting, and you have just heard snippets of
11 two of the main discussion items.

12 One was the watershed lands group did discuss
13 the comments made at the last Water Planning
14 Council meeting regarding the letter to the GAE
15 Committee regarding the land conveyances, and the
16 result is that Alecia and Graham are revising the
17 letter. That was one.

18 The second big item, important item of
19 discussion was this MDC petition for a declaratory
20 ruling about the water behind the Colebrook
21 Reservoir, so that was second.

22 The third thing we talked about that was very
23 good -- because we had a great land presentation
24 by John Triana of the Regional Water Authority on
25 their land protection program. It was very, very

1 enlightening.

2 We also -- Alecia also gave us a brief
3 update, a brief summary of how and what's going on
4 regarding Rivers Alliance; a review of how better
5 to protect wetlands and water, watershed land and
6 headwaters and hope -- and I believe, and Alecia
7 can --

8 ALICEA CHARAMUT: Riparian buffers and headwaters,
9 Karen.

10 KAREN BURNASKA: Right. Thank you, riparian
11 buffers and headwaters, and hopefully that there
12 will be some sort of draft that she can make
13 public in December.

14 And we also heard from Erin Bodros about the
15 WUCC project to develop the story map that would
16 aid municipal officials and developers on the
17 importance of protecting watershed land. That map
18 has gone over to DPH. Lisette Stone was at the
19 meeting, and DPH is going to finalize it, and it
20 will be housed on their website.

21 So a very good meeting. Lots of activity
22 going on, and the next meeting is not until
23 December -- but we keep plugging along, so that's
24 it.

25 And we'll answer any questions you have, but

1 date.

2 GRAHAM STEVENS: And Jack, a point of personal
3 privilege if you don't mind, sir?

4 I just wanted to make an announcement under
5 other business to let folks know that Connecticut
6 DEEP now has an acting deputy commissioner of
7 environmental quality, a name known to many folks
8 who've engaged with the agency over the years,
9 Tracy Babbage.

10 Tracy has a long tenure in state service.
11 She formally worked with the Department of Public
12 Works. She then moved to the air bureau working
13 on small business outreach issues, and then she
14 worked in the air bureau for a while before
15 transferring to this agency -- you may know,
16 Jack -- DPUC.

17 And she acted as I believe their legislative
18 liaison and quasi-chief of staff before coming
19 back to DEEP to work as our bureau chief of the
20 Bureau of Energy and Policy Technology, and then
21 moved again to become the bureau chief of the
22 Bureau of Air Management, BAM as it is
23 affectionately known here at DEEP because they're
24 so impactful.

25 So she's not with us today, but she may join

1 in the future, and at such time I'll repeat her
2 resume, you know, because she's my new boss. But
3 I just wanted to let people know of that change,
4 which is important for us to make sure we have a
5 deputy going into the legislative session.

6 And in her absence is Paul Farrell who will
7 be acting in the Bureau chief role for BAM.

8 Thank you.

9 THE CHAIRMAN: I mean, for those that know Tracy, Tracy
10 is just a wonderful individual. She did a great
11 job when she was bureau chief for energy over at
12 New Britain.

13 And she's very enthusiastic, a great
14 personality, fun -- but very smart; gets it real
15 quick, and I'm thrilled. She's going to be great.
16 I've talked to her several times in the last week.
17 We're very excited -- (unintelligible). And we
18 congratulate her on behalf of the Council.

19 Okay. Now we're going to go over to, any
20 other business before we go with public comment?
21 Any other new business?

22
23 (No response.)
24

25 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Public comment. Virginia, you

1 had your hand up before.

2 Do you still have a comment?

3 VIRGINIA de LIMA: First of all, I want to just point
4 out, Jack, you had suggested having the Waterbury
5 chamber participate. I just want to point out
6 that they have water in their name, and maybe that
7 would be an appropriate thing.

8 My other comment is morphing a little bit. I
9 don't see Lori that is still on the call and I had
10 a question specifically for Lori when she was
11 talking --

12 THE CHAIRMAN: She's still on here. She's still on the
13 call.

14 LORI MATHIEU: I'm still here. I'm just in transport,
15 and had to turn my computer off.

16 So I'm on my phone.

17 VIRGINIA de LIMA: Excellent. Good. I'm glad. I'm
18 glad to hear that. I was very pleased when you
19 were talking about the circular letter and
20 basically asking that the various labs share
21 their -- the data, the results of their analysis
22 with DPH.

23 Because I think that would be the basis of a
24 very robust database on water quality and water
25 quality changes in the groundwater across the

1 state. I think that's great and it has a lot of
2 potential.

3 My question is, asked there been any
4 discussion of how those data or that database can
5 be integrated with the data coming from the USGS
6 to make it an even more robust data set?

7 LORI MATHIEU: Excellent question. There's a lot of
8 work that's going on right now behind the scenes
9 to stand up what we are doing right now. And
10 we're also looking at the future.

11 That's an excellent question, because I want
12 to integrate all of the data coming in so that,
13 the idea -- it wasn't the initial idea with this
14 law, but it was one of the points of emphasis is
15 that information seems to be all over the place.

16 You have it in various local health
17 departments. You have it in USGS. You have some
18 information at DEEP. You have some information
19 that comes into our office at DPH.

20 So yes, I would love to have an integrated
21 approach and that is the next phase of gathering
22 this information. So if there are ideas of for
23 the future I think we should think them through.

24 But thank you for your question.

25 VIRGINIA de LIMA: Well, that's great. And I think

1 perhaps in the future it needs to be something
2 that's the focus of some group.

3 I know, and you may recall back 20, maybe
4 even 30 years ago when they tried to integrate the
5 EPA databases with USGS and other folks. It was
6 not pretty, and it never became a truly viable
7 database because there are huge challenges to
8 doing that.

9 I think it would be very appropriate if those
10 challenges could be addressed and that we could
11 have something where there was a consistency
12 between all the various sources of those data so
13 that they can come together. And just one of the
14 things that came out of that -- if such an effort
15 were to be pursued, one of the challenges was
16 location of where the sample came from.

17 This was surface water as well as
18 groundwater. And the USGS perspective is always
19 using latitude and longitude as the location.

20 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Thank you, Lori. And thank you,
21 Virginia.

22 Alecia, do you have a comment?

23 **ALICEA CHARAMUT:** Yes. Thank you, Jack.

24 So we -- developing our State water plan was
25 a huge accomplishment and we all did it together.

1 And there has been a lot of initiatives that have
2 been born out of, you know, the various groups
3 that get together through the Water Planning
4 Council that have been driven by stakeholders.

5 And I would like to say that I am very
6 process oriented. I understand how important
7 process is, but I just want to point out that this
8 is the only opportunity that stakeholders and
9 leaders of these groups have to have a dialogue
10 with the Water Planning Council.

11 This dialogue is extremely important. On
12 some of these issues these folks have either
13 driven these initiatives, made sure they were put
14 forward and have been the boots on the ground
15 getting work done. And you know, we need to
16 either understand -- we need to understand each
17 other, and this is the only space we have to do it
18 because of the FOIA rules.

19 And so I just ask that we be able to continue
20 this dialogue in the Water Planning Council
21 meetings. And sometimes this dialogue is
22 difficult to have when the conversations aren't
23 happening.

24 And so you know, I know things are very
25 different on Zoom and so it's easy to feel sort of

1 detached, but it's going to be very difficult to
2 continue to fill leadership roles in some of these
3 positions going forward if we can't have this
4 partnership and dialogue moving forward to get
5 really good things done.

6 So that's my comment.

7 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Thank you, Alecia.

8 I just want to -- the question, as you know,
9 we did the water planning Council pre-COVID we did
10 actually listening tours all over the state
11 talking to the various stakeholder groups as we
12 put the plan together.

13 But what I'm hearing from you I think is that
14 you think we should have more of a dialogue at
15 these particular meetings, or should we have
16 more -- we go out and do hearings? I mean, I just
17 need a little bit more information of what
18 exactly -- do you think we're too rigid at these
19 meetings?

20 **ALICEA CHARAMUT:** I feel that it has gotten fairly
21 rigid lately now. You know, when there is a
22 motion on the table I completely understand that
23 there are times -- but when we're -- there are
24 discussions about some of the initiatives that
25 have come out of our workgroups, you know, we've

1 been told that we can't be part of that
2 conversation, real-time conversation anymore and
3 these have been times where people haven't been
4 asked to be part of the decision, just part of the
5 information gathering as the Water Planning
6 Council is speaking.

7 And this feels very different than it has in
8 the past, you know, since I've been involved with
9 water planning.

10 VIRGINIA de LIMA: And just a quick followup. What I
11 was planning to say until Lori identified that she
12 still was on the phone, had Lori no longer been
13 there, the fact that my question to her was
14 postponed until public comment, it would have been
15 completely lost.

16 That did not happen and I'm glad she was
17 available. But I think that's the --

18 THE CHAIRMAN: I guess I'm going to have to pose the
19 question. Not to put them on the spot. I mean,
20 as far as I -- I like the back and forth, but I
21 have a resident FOI expert on this Council. I'm
22 not trying to give him a hard time.

23 Martin -- why can't we do that, Martin? If I
24 as Chair decide to let a person answer a question
25 during a meeting, what's wrong with that?

1 What's going to happen? Am I going to go to
2 the FOI police or something?

3 **MARTIN HEFT:** No. Actually Jack, it has nothing to do
4 with FOI. It's just procedures for doing a
5 meeting and as we had Virginia speak while we were
6 talking about that, her proposal there on it and
7 everything else -- but just general questions
8 really should be left towards the public comment
9 period and everything.

10 And so it winds up -- you know in all
11 honesty, it winds up being a judgment call for, is
12 it relative to this particular topic versus the
13 other? And that obviously, the Council can
14 address those items, because obviously we want the
15 input and everything.

16 One of the reasons we kind of just -- as
17 you've noticed recently the agenda got changed
18 around where we have those action items where we
19 know the board has to vote on them. We want to
20 make sure those things get accomplished and done,
21 which we move those to the top of the agenda.

22 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Right.

23 **MARTIN HEFT:** The reports, you know because those items
24 are going to be things we've already heard about
25 at previous meetings, or we've had that discussion

1 previously.

2 Those are the things that are on the vote
3 thing. It's not going to be something that's
4 brought up at this meeting to be voted upon.

5 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Gotcha.

6 **MARTIN HEFT:** You know during the report period of each
7 of the committees or the workgroups, that's our
8 dialogue time and everything else. If obviously
9 there's questions as we're voting, either prior to
10 us having a motion on the floor, or even if there
11 is a motion if we need to get a question answered
12 we can ask that and create that dialogue and
13 everything.

14 We just can't have it be an open discussion
15 with everybody back and forth, back and forth
16 because you know we have a duty to do as the
17 representatives of the Water Planning Council.

18 So there's definitely -- you know we want
19 that chatting between, with all of us and
20 everything. There's just proper times, and if
21 it's relevant to the piece that we're talking
22 about? Yeah, we can ask anyone to speak and
23 provide something during that time period.

24 **DENISE SAVAGEAU:** Jack, if I could address that also?
25 Having worked in public government and been at

1 numerous public meetings as the staff person for a
2 public agency with a municipality, it's the
3 Chair's responsibility to determine when someone
4 speaks and doesn't speak.

5 It shouldn't be one or the other
6 councilmembers saying, oh they can't speak now.
7 That the Chair's prerogative to let someone speak,
8 and quite frankly I think shutting down the
9 dialogue -- I have to agree with Alecia and
10 Virginia, it has not been to the benefit.

11 There are times when asking a question of the
12 Water planning Council advisory group
13 implementation workgroups, the sub groups folks;
14 we have the answers and if you don't ask us the
15 question or if we raise our hand, you know
16 sometimes we could help you with that dialogue
17 when you're spinning your wheels and we have the
18 answer.

19 And I think that -- I appreciate that you
20 don't want to take public comment. That's not the
21 same thing as getting information you need to
22 continue the dialogue you're having.

23 And again, I think it's the Chair's
24 prerogative to do that.

25 LORI MATHIEU: Jack, if I could?

1 This is Lori. Just my thought on that to
2 follow up on what Denise has said, and what Martin
3 has just said. I think what we can do maybe is
4 work to clarify how we could, you know, within how
5 we've been proceeding.

6 Because I do like how Martin has brought a
7 sense of structure to our meetings, however I
8 think to make it clear to everyone, what are the
9 times when it's just the Councilmembers speaking?
10 And what are the other times?

11 And then to Jack's prerogative, that Jack
12 could allow a -- (unintelligible). But I will
13 tell you, from my point of view I've been
14 frustrated because the four of us can never really
15 chat with each other until and unless we have
16 these meetings.

17 So you know, to have uninterrupted
18 discussions is really important between the four
19 of us. And you know I run my inland wetlands
20 meeting. I've done it for -- I don't know, 28
21 years. And so it's very structured at the local
22 level. It's very controlled and we've never
23 really had that before, but I -- you know I sort
24 of like the structure.

25 It helps us accomplish work items, but then I

1 think maybe we need to come up with some protocols
2 so that people can understand, you know, when we
3 can have these more free discussions versus when
4 it's inappropriate to do so.

5 Just my thoughts, Jack. Thank you.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Well, I think the fact that Martin has
7 helped us reorganize the scheduling -- we have
8 action items at the beginning, and that's really
9 when that's something we as Councilmembers
10 discuss. But it is the Chairman's prerogative.
11 And I too chair the local economic development
12 commission, and I would not think of telling a
13 taxpayer if they had a question, oh, you know, sit
14 down.

15 I mean, you know we have different styles --
16 maybe, Lori, but I think you have to trust me.
17 There has to be some flexibility. We've only been
18 is for 20 years -- 22 years, I think, I've only
19 been on the Water Planning Council. But I think
20 we have to have people have their opportunity to
21 talk.

22 That being said, I don't disagree with
23 Martin, Lori, is that there are items we have to
24 discuss as a Council. And as you said, Lori, it's
25 frustrating, because these are those meetings, so

1 we happen to discuss it.

2 So I hear what everybody is saying. I think
3 there's ways we can work around it and make
4 everybody feel inclusive.

5 So Graham, did you want to say anything?

6 GRAHAM STEVENS: No, I think I just -- not to be
7 repetitive, but echo what Lori said. I
8 certainly -- I'm getting a lot out of the meetings
9 thanks to Martin's reorganization of the schedule.
10 And I think it sounds like there's some
11 prerogative.

12 And certainly if I as a councilor feel that
13 someone could add something to the conversation
14 which would help me, not being the expert and not
15 having been in the room, then I'll certainly ask
16 Jack for you to entertain someone's thoughts.

17 And I think this, this is an interesting
18 world that we live in -- right? With the Zoom
19 Zoom-ites, and I think we're growing and learning.

20 And I for one love a Zoom meeting. I can be
21 well prepared, have my documents up on all my
22 windows -- but I don't know everything. So
23 certainly I'm calling on folks who are the experts
24 and have put so much time and energy into things;
25 I'm open to that kind of going-forward basis in

1 the right instances. Thank you.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Martin.

3 Okay. Any other comments on this?

4 Any other public comment?

5 DENISE SAVAGEAU: Yeah, I have a comment not related to
6 this, Jack.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: Please.

8 DENISE SAVAGEAU: Just a couple of things, I wanted to
9 inform the Council about a few things that's going
10 on. The Connecticut Council on Soil and Water
11 Conservation, as some of you know, has been
12 working on a source water protection project that
13 was funded by USDA. So we're moving forward with
14 that. We've completed our watershed management
15 plan for the Farm River. There's one that's
16 almost completed on the Little River.

17 And importantly is we've been working on a
18 GIS mapping project for all of the public drinking
19 water supply watersheds and aquifer protection
20 areas in the state. That said, that GIS is going
21 to be rolling out shortly.

22 We've been working very closely with the
23 Department of Public Health on this. Eric McPhee
24 has been instrumental. As a matter of fact, part
25 of the grant we applied for with USDA was his

1 genius and some of the work that he was trying to
2 accomplish. And we're very fortunate that the
3 USDA funded that.

4 So to that end we're going to be rolling that
5 out sometime in December and January, but I wanted
6 to let you know that on October 20th, Imagine a
7 Day Without Water day, we're going to be holding a
8 workshop seminar going over those two watershed
9 plans I talked about. I'll just give you some
10 highlights on those as well as giving a quick
11 overview of what's going to be released on the
12 GIS. So look for that, and we'll be sending
13 information on that out shortly.

14 Also the Connecticut Council on Soil and
15 Water Conservation is part of a national agency,
16 the NASCA, which is the National Association of
17 State Conservation Agencies, as well as myself
18 with the National Association of Conservation
19 districts attended a One Water summit. And One
20 Water, as you know, I've been pushing this.

21 We talk about drinking water supplies. We
22 talk about storm water. We talk about wastewater,
23 and it's all in one breath oftentimes.

24 Although we take -- we also do it all in
25 silos and One Water is looking at that and I'm

1 relating this now to work that's happening, you
2 know, at the Governor's Council on Climate Change.

3 I'm sitting on the resilient infrastructure
4 and nature-based solutions, and these are all the
5 topics we're talking about and they're all the
6 topics that are covered in the state water plan.

7 So I wanted to let you be aware that One
8 Water is a movement that's happening across the
9 nation. We went out to Milwaukee and saw amazing
10 work happening across the country.

11 Interestingly enough, because so many public
12 water utilities that handle all phases of water
13 I'm talking about are handled at the -- there are
14 a lot of public utilities in other parts of the
15 country, and we have a lot of private utilities
16 here. And it's -- more right now it seems like
17 there's more public utilities engaged in the One
18 Water movement. But I think you're going to see
19 this movement start to travel east.

20 We had a great representative from our DEEP
21 counterpart in New Jersey who basically said this
22 is the way we need to go, and when we're talking
23 about nature-based solutions; protecting forests,
24 protecting wetlands, doing watershed planning for
25 source water protection for stormwater management,

1 you're going to be hearing more and more about
2 this. So I just wanted to let you know we're
3 really looking at that.

4 And just finally I mention that I'm serving
5 on the resilient infrastructure nature-based
6 solution for GC3. I've also been asked to join
7 the environmental justice group, and I will be the
8 liaison between the resilient infrastructure and
9 nature-based solutions workgroup and the
10 environmental justice workgroup. And bringing the
11 work experience and a lot of the work we do here
12 at the Water Planning Council to that discussion.

13 And if anybody has any questions then about
14 what's happening at the GC3 on that level, I'd be
15 more than happy to, you know, fill people in as
16 appropriate. Thank you.

17 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

18 Any questions for Denise?

19 LORI MATHIEU: Jack, I have a question for Denise?

20 THE CHAIRMAN: Sure.

21 LORI MATHIEU: Or maybe just more of a statement as
22 well just thinking about the GC3 in general -- and
23 that Denise, you're on that infrastructure group.

24 But we have a new workgroup, the workgroup
25 that got teed up again under the GC3 structure for

1 public health and safety, and I'm part of the
2 leadership with that group with my deputy
3 Commissioner Heather Aaron and Commissioner
4 Bergeron from Emergency Management.

5 So it strikes me that -- I don't know if
6 there's anyone from this group that is
7 participating on the public health and safety
8 group, and I would welcome people's interest in
9 that group. If there is any, you can send me your
10 e-mail, or send -- (unintelligible) -- the e-mail
11 on your interests in joining the GC3 public health
12 and safety group. We talk about a variety of
13 items including water.

14 You know that the water recommendations, the
15 drinking water recommendations under the
16 Governor's report are very significant, and our
17 group will be working on those items in the
18 Governor's report.

19 So Denise, thank you for bringing up the GC3
20 and the good work that is moving forward.

21 Thank you.

22 DENISE SAVAGEAU: Yeah. Lori, and just one thing. I
23 think that the Water Planning Council is the
24 perfect place to make sure of that. In all of the
25 different workgroups at the GC3, water is a theme

1 across many of them including the two we just
2 mentioned.

3 And I just think it's really important that
4 we make sure that we're coordinating that effort,
5 because it's not a separate workgroup just on
6 water. So we're kind of ubiquitous throughout the
7 whole process, and I think it's important that we
8 then collaborate on that.

9 LORI MATHIEU: So it might be worth a standing report
10 out on the GC3 work that has to do with water
11 which crosses many of our agencies. Thank you.

12 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Denise. Thank you, Lori.

13 Any other questions for Denise?

14 Any other public comment? Any other public
15 comment?

16
17 (No response.)

18
19 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. There's no other public comment.
20 Our next meeting at this point is going to be held
21 November 1st. We may look at rescheduling that so
22 we can accommodate Martin's schedule. And I thank
23 everyone for their participation today very much.

24 A very good meeting. Most of our meetings
25 run almost two hours now. So we covered a lot of

1 ground and we've come a long way, and got a long
2 way to go. And thank you very much for your
3 participation.

4 And I will entertain a motion to adjourn?

5 MARTIN HEFT: So moved.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Second?

7 GRAHAM STEVENS: Second.

8 THE CHAIRMAN: All those in favor signify by saying
9 aye.

10 THE COUNCIL: Aye.

11 THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed?

12
13 (No response.)

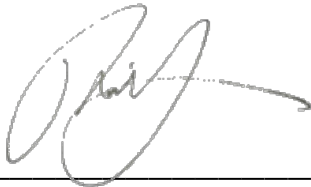
14
15 THE CHAIRMAN: The meeting was adjourned.

16 Thank you all very much. Be safe.

17
18 (End: 3:13 p.m.)

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 85 pages are a complete and accurate computer-aided transcription of my original verbatim notes taken of the Regular Meeting of the Water Planning Council, which was held before JOHN W. BETKOSKI, III, CHAIRMAN, and PURA VICE-CHAIRMAN, via teleconference, on October 4, 2022.



Robert G. Dixon, CVR-M #857

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 6/30/2025

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