DRAFT Meeting Notes for the State Water Plan Implementation Workgroup
November 8, 2022; 1:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

**Members**: Virginia de Lima (Co-Chair), David Radka (Co-Chair), Chris Bellucci (DEEP), Dan Aubin (DPH), Bruce Wittchen (OPM), Ally Ayotte (PURA), Anne Hulick (Clean Water Action), Janice EhleMeyer (Lower CT River Valley Council of Governments), Tom Tyler (MDC)

**Note Taker(s):** Ali Hibbard (DEEP)

**Public:** Kim Czapla (DEEP)

**Meeting Started: 1:02 p.m.**

**Topics of Discussion**

**Changes to Agenda**

* No changes to the agenda

**Approval/Modification of notes from previous meeting**

* Notes from the previous meeting were approved

**Water Planning Council November 1st Meeting Recap**

* The logo was approved by the Water Planning Council (WPC). The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) is in the process of finalizing the logo and will coordinate with the Secretary of State to have the logo officially approved.
* The Water Utility Coordinating Committees are meeting on November 16th
* The Department of Public Health (DPH) expressed that there are concerns from local health departments about how the recent private well laws address confidentially.
* At the time of the last WPC Meeting on November 1st, all counties in Connecticut were in a Stage 2 drought. As of this meeting, all counties are in a Stage 1 drought.
* The WPC will most likely have a special meeting to approve the annual report when it is ready.

**Water Planning Council Annual Report**

* The annual report will address implementation actions since the State Water Plan (SWP) was adopted in 2019. The last WPC annual report was completed in 2017 (it was previously believed to be 2015, but reports for 2016 and 2017 were brought forward).
* If the report is distributed to the WPC before the end of December, the WPC can hold a special meeting in January to approve the report before the end of the month deadline.
* The primary focus of the group organizing this effort is to have the draft template approved for distribution. Discussion on the contents of the form took place:
	+ For group status, there are options including “Active” and “Ongoing”. Some clarification may be needed to explain that “Active” indicates a workgroup that has an end date, and “Ongoing” indicates that it is a workgroup that is continuing, and there is no end date in place (ex. Outreach and Education sub-workgroup)
	+ The list of workgroup accomplishments can be split into two separate questions – if a workgroup is completed, list the final recommendations, and if a workgroup is active, list the metrics of success
	+ Added a question asking for which stakeholders were invited or represented in the workgroup.
	+ Added a question asking for the time from beginning to end for completed workgroups/initiatives

**Outreach & Education topical sub-workgroup**

* At the last meeting, the workgroup discussed their 2023 workplan, which was shared with the WPC for comment. The theme for 2023 will be climate change. There was further discussion on the logo and branding.
* The IWG discussed whether the Outreach and Education sub-workgroup should be a topical sub-workgroup of this group, or if it should report directly to the WPC. The pro of reporting directly to the WPC would be a shorter approval time.
* Unless or until a water director is hired, one agency needs to manage the website. For the next WPC meeting, the IWG will request to forward the 2-page list of webpage recommendations to the WPC to formally approve.
* The next meeting for the Outreach and Education sub-workgroup is Tuesday, December 6th at 9:00 a.m.

**USGS Data Collection topical sub-workgroup**

* The first meeting will be on Wednesday, November 9th from 3:00-4:00 p.m. over Microsoft Teams. There are 27 people that expressed interest in the group. Chris Bellucci has been communicating with Denise Argue of USGS to put together data for the workgroup to react to.

**WPCAG**

* No updated provided

**Public Comment**

* No public comment

**Meeting Adjourned: 2:15 p.m.**

**Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 13th 2022 at 1:00 p.m.**