DRAFT Meeting Notes for the State Water Plan Implementation Workgroup
May 9, 2023; 1:00 PM

Zoom Meeting

**Members**: Virginia de Lima (Chair), Dan Aubin (DPH), Chris Bellucci (DEEP), David Murphy (CIRCA), Denise Savageau (CT Association of Conservation Districts), Ally Ayotte (PURA), Rebecca Dahl (OPM alternate)

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

**Public:** Iris Herz Kaminski (City of New Haven), Kim Czapla (DEEP)

**Meeting Started: 1:00 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 April 4th Meeting Recap**

* A July WUCC meeting will be held in person. Contact Lori Mathieu if interested in participating.
* A private well database is in development, and more information will come.
* The Department of Public Health (DPH) is backfilling some empty positions.
* The Interagency Drought Workgroup is monitoring current conditions, although the recent rains between the last Water Planning Council (WPC) meeting and this meeting may have helped.
* The Water Planning Council Advisory Group (WPCAG) will be evaluating PFAS as it relates to artificial turf. The WPCAG also discussed not being able to provide input to a Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) Request for Proposals on renewable energy projects.
* The Conservation Pricing and Rate Analysis workgroup within the WPCAG has started and is in the early stages. Contact Alicea Charamut if interested in participating.

**Implementation Workgroup Membership**

* Mike Dietz expressed a willingness to be the co-chair of this workgroup. There was a motion to appoint Mike Dietz as a co-chair. The motion was accepted.
* Each member is encouraged to identify an alternate and should contact Virginia with the name of their alternate.
* This workgroup is still in need of a WPCAG designated member. There was a suggestion that the language in the Organizational Plan (dated July 21, 2020) for this group can be changed to state that two members are appointed by the WPCAG, and don’t necessarily need to be members of the WPCAG.
* The WPC approved the membership slate for this workgroup at their April 4, 2023 meeting. This slate included Dan Aubin, who will now be stepping away as a member. Lori Mathieu will start attending in his place as early as next month.
* Members are encouraged to consider other times that they would be available to meet monthly and should be prepared to discuss this topic at the next meeting on June 13th.

**Outreach & Education topical sub-workgroup**

* There was a lunchtime webinar planned for Tuesday, May 23rd, which was dependent on certain speakers. May has been a busy month for the forestry sector, so the webinar will be pushed to the fall, date to be determined.
* If state agencies have policies on the use of agency logos, please share with the Outreach and Education sub-workgroup. They are working on developing logo guidelines for the WPC/State Water Plan (SWP) logo.
* A SWP Website Workgroup proposal will be brought forward at the next IWG meeting.
* The sub-workgroup is continuing to have discussions with Sue Quincy of DEEP on climate change education, and will also be revisiting promoting the water job pipeline again.

**USGS Data Collection topical sub-workgroup**

* The USGS Data Collection sub-workgroup is continuing to meet monthly. At the April 24th meeting, the USGS gave an overview of the water quality monitoring network. Denise Argue was the main presenter. In March, DEEP presented on their monitoring. DEEP focuses largely on biological monitoring and USGS focuses on water chemistry. Over the last two meetings, the sub-workgroup differentiated the two.
* The next meeting will be on the groundwater monitoring network on May 22nd at 10:30-12 over Microsoft Teams.
* The plan for wrapping up this information is to write a report summarizing the information discussed at the sub-workgroup meetings and distribute the report to the group for comments. The sub-workgroup will use the tracking and reporting report as a template.

**Tracking & Reporting – Phase 2 Sub-workgroup**

* The focus of the Phase 2 workgroup will be on advancing the SWP annual reporting process to make it smoother and exploring how to simplify the process. Whatever process is developed should capture work that state agencies and NGOs are doing related to the SWP. An email invite for this sub-workgroup has not gone out yet. A sub-workgroup chair needs to be identified.

**WPCAG**

* The WPCAG met on April 18th. The group discussed various pieces of legislation that are impacting waters.
* Watershed lands workgroup is looking at the conveyance process.
* The Source Water Protection workgroup is moving forward. First meeting on May 16th and will be virtual.

**Public Comment**

* No public comment

**Meeting Adjourned: 1:43 p.m.**

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