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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  
August 6, 2024, 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 (of record):**

2    **WATER PLANNING COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:**

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

4            **ERIC McPHEE (DPH)**

5            **MARTIN HEFT (OPM)**

6            **GRAHAM STEVENS (DEEP)**

7  
8    **ALSO PRESENT (on record):**

9            **ALICEA CHARAMUT**

10           **VIRGINIA de LIMA**

11           **DENISE SAVAGEAU**

12           **KATHY CZEPIEL**

13           **DAN LAWRENCE**

14  
15    **Staff:**

16           **ALYSON AYOTTE**

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

2  
3 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Good afternoon everyone. Welcome  
4 to the Water Planning Council meeting for August  
5 6th. I'm Jack Betkoski, Chair of the Water  
6 Planning Council.

7 The first order of business will be the  
8 approval of the July 2, 2024 transcript.

9 MARTIN HEFT: So moved.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Made. Second, Eric?

11 ERIC MCPHEE: Second.

12 THE CHAIRMAN: Any questions on the motion?

13  
14 (No response.)

15  
16 THE CHAIRMAN: If not, all those in favor signify by  
17 saying aye.

18 THE COUNCIL: Aye.

19 THE CHAIRMAN: The transcript is approved.

20 Public comment on the agenda -- as you can  
21 see we're going to be having the election of  
22 chairman. I think some of you have probably heard  
23 that the beginning of next year I will be retiring  
24 from state service, but I'll be around for the  
25 next several months. And I look forward to saying

1 formal goodbyes later on this year.

2 But with that, we still -- let me say, are  
3 there any other public comments before we go to  
4 the first agenda item?

5 We did not elect a chair and we have to do  
6 that pursuant to Statute 25-330.

7 But is there any public comment on any other  
8 agenda items?

9  
10 (No response.)

11  
12 **THE CHAIRMAN:** If not, we'll move on to the first order  
13 of business, which is the election of a chairman  
14 pursuant to Statute 25-330. Do I hear a motion?

15 **MARTIN HEFT:** Mr. Chair, I would like to move that we  
16 appoint yourself, Jack Betkoski, as Chairman  
17 pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section  
18 25-330 for this upcoming year that effectively  
19 began in July of this year.

20 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Thank you very much.

21 Second?

22 **ERIC MCPHEE:** Second.

23 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Any questions on motion?

24  
25 (No response.)

1 THE CHAIRMAN: If not, all those in favor signify by  
2 saying aye.

3 THE COUNCIL: Aye.

4 THE CHAIRMAN: The motion is approved. Thank you very  
5 much, and I look forward to serving the next  
6 several months, and we'll more than likely have an  
7 election in December to elect a successor.

8 Moving right along on to workgroup reports,  
9 advisor group. Alicea and Dan?

10 ALICEA CHARAMUT: So can someone -- can I share here?

11 Oh, I can share. Somebody has already given  
12 permission. Okay.

13 I apologize for being off camera, but I'm  
14 feeling under the weather today, so I don't want  
15 to look at myself looking like this. It's going  
16 to make me feel worse.

17 THE CHAIRMAN: That's quite right.

18 We appreciate you being with us, Alicea.

19 ALICEA CHARAMUT: Let's see. I'm trying to get --  
20 okay.

21 So -- oh, I don't know how to get rid of the  
22 notes. You'll just have to look at it this way.  
23 I apologize.

24 So we were asked by the Water Planning  
25 Council -- by the way, all of these are pieces of

1 the report that I sent to you guys this afternoon  
2 so that everybody can see what was sent out.

3 So we were asked by you guys to take a look  
4 at the existing workgroups to review them and make  
5 recommendations to the Water Planning Council as  
6 to the relevance/relevancy of the existing groups  
7 and their reporting structures.

8 So just a little bit of background. This is  
9 the language that established the Water Planning  
10 Council, which is Section 25a-330. And also, I  
11 included a reference to our own guidelines and  
12 operating procedures, and how our workgroups are  
13 established.

14 So at our July 16th meeting, we discussed the  
15 relevance category and reporting structure for our  
16 workgroups and we're making the following  
17 recommendations.

18 Definitions, you know, we felt like we needed  
19 to define. And as far as standing committees or  
20 workgroups go, obviously, these are our ongoing  
21 workgroups that either provide some sort of  
22 administrative support or an ongoing water  
23 resource issue, or an ongoing activity such as the  
24 outreach and education workgroup.

25 And so the standing groups that we had

1 identified are the water planning group, the Water  
2 Planning Council advisory group --

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Alicea, excuse me.

4 ALICEA CHARAMUT: Yeah.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: Ali, it appears that Graham is having  
6 some difficulty getting into the meeting.

7 Could you check in on him?

8 MS. AYOTTE: Yeah, it says he's joining. So, yeah.

9 ALICEA CHARAMUT: Oh, poor Graham. He's had really,  
10 really challenging technical issues today.

11 THE CHAIRMAN: Is he joining?

12 GRAHAM STEVENS: He's joining. My apologies.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Oh, there he is. Okay, Graham.

14 GRAHAM STEVENS: I was on the wrong link. And I'm  
15 like, what is going on?

16 My apologies, folks. Sorry.

17 THE CHAIRMAN: No worries. I'm glad to have you.

18 ALICEA CHARAMUT: This is not your day, Graham.

19 GRAHAM STEVENS: No, no. Yes, I've been having  
20 technical difficulties all day, as Alicea well  
21 knows.

22 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Alicea, please continue.

23 Thank you.

24 ALICEA CHARAMUT: So these are the current standing  
25 committees or workgroups, which is the WPCAG

1 nominating committee; the annual report workgroup,  
2 which we almost forgot about because they're only  
3 utilized once a year; the watershed lands group  
4 and the outreach and education committee.

5 Topical workgroups we defined as groups that  
6 are formed to research and report on very specific  
7 topics that exist for a finite period of time.  
8 And the current topical workgroups are the source  
9 water protection white paper workgroup and the  
10 conservation pricing and recovery analysis  
11 workgroup.

12 So we talked about the relevancy of all of  
13 the existing groups that are currently -- or  
14 current existing groups, and it was a consensus of  
15 the water planning advisory group that all current  
16 standing and topical workgroups are valuable and  
17 necessary. And there was also a desire to also  
18 explore other topics that are relevant and that  
19 are priorities.

20 So I created this sort of little flow chart  
21 here. So we -- the annual report workgroup, we  
22 saw as an administrative function of the Water  
23 Planning Council. Right? Because they exist to  
24 help meet the statutory requirement to report to  
25 the Legislature.



1           And also the outreach and education workgroup  
2 is also an arm of the Water Planning Council in  
3 that they, you know, support the work of the Water  
4 Planning Council and water planning in general in  
5 doing that outreach and education, but are tightly  
6 connected with the Water Planning Council advisory  
7 group because the water planning advisory group  
8 provides the broad stakeholder resources and  
9 feedback that is valuable in the work that they  
10 both do. And of course, the annual report  
11 workgroup reports on the activities of those  
12 groups. So they do have a link.

13           And then the nominating committee, the  
14 topical workgroups, and the watershed lands group  
15 fall under the Water Planning Council advisory.

16           Does anybody have any questions about that?

17  
18                               (No response.)

19  
20 **ALICEA CHARAMUT:** All right. We also talked a little  
21 bit about the importance of transparency and  
22 document retention. You know, when these groups  
23 are formed, you know, we often have to sort of go  
24 back and say, well, you know, what was our  
25 purpose? And what's our scope again, you know,

1 after you've been working for a few months, kind  
2 of, doing your reality checks?

3 And the topical workgroups have been  
4 submitting proposals to the Water Planning Council  
5 that get approved by the Water Planning Council,  
6 and those are sort of like a founding document for  
7 these groups. And the work that the folks that  
8 are doing on the website is going to help a lot  
9 with that transparency and document retention.

10 Because for the longest time -- at least, you  
11 know, who knows what it was like before, you know,  
12 even, you know, electronic documents were the  
13 standard, you know? But now there's too many  
14 reports and documents and other things that live  
15 on people's hard drives. And if they go away or  
16 retire, we never see them again, and sometimes  
17 those things go with them.

18 So being able to utilize the website as a  
19 place, not only where the public can access a lot  
20 of these documents and historical information and  
21 data, it's also important for those of us that are  
22 working on it to be able to access those things.  
23 So that's going to be really helpful.

24 Because you know one of the things that was  
25 pointed out is, who has all of the workgroup

1 proposals? So you know, having those on the  
2 web/website are really helpful.

3 So those are our recommendations, and I  
4 can -- since this is sort of like the central  
5 visual, I'll leave it there.

6 And does anyone have any questions?

7 Feedback?

8 THE CHAIRMAN: I'd just like to say I think you did a  
9 great job outlining it and what we do, and what  
10 we're going to be doing in the future, and have  
11 come up with a great way to maintain the  
12 appropriate and accurate recordkeeping as we move  
13 on. So thank you very much for this.

14 Anyone else have any?

15 ERIC MCPHEE: I'm just wondering if, Alicea, is it  
16 valuable to sort of add some sort of symbol  
17 denoting whether something was, you know, driven  
18 by the Council, driven by statute, or driven by  
19 committee?

20 And you know, if there was a report that was  
21 drafted, if it's worthwhile, you know, from a  
22 recordkeeping perspective to sort of differentiate  
23 the different drivers of that?

24 ALICEA CHARAMUT: Well, those are usually within the --  
25 I mean, I guess I could do it here, but as far as

1 things like the workgroups that are established,  
2 those are usually within those workgroup  
3 proposals. There was a sort of a background on  
4 that as to how they were, what they were born out  
5 of, you know, what discretion.

6 As far as some of the standing groups --

7 DAN LAWRENCE: Alicia, it's Dan.

8 ALICEA CHARAMUT: Yeah, go ahead.

9 DAN LAWRENCE: I just had a question for Eric.

10 ALICEA CHARAMUT: Yeah?

11 DAN LAWRENCE: So, Eric, you're talking about in terms  
12 of reference purposes just so that if you're  
13 looking back and you wanted to figure out  
14 something quickly?

15 That was your question -- or is it?

16 ERIC McPHEE: I think just, yeah, from a matter of  
17 record perspective. You know, if we're going back  
18 a few years, we want to know --

19 DAN LAWRENCE: Right, where.

20 ERIC McPHEE: -- the recordkeeping perspective, what  
21 the driver was for anything that was, you know,  
22 any work that was produced, it would seem.

23 DAN LAWRENCE: So you could -- I think the easiest way  
24 to do it is create some sort of -- right? Excel  
25 file or some sort of table that you can track

1 everything -- right? With the name of it, who was  
2 in it, and, you know, who drove it and where it  
3 ended.

4 Alicea, what do you think of that?

5 ALICEA CHARAMUT: You know, I do -- thank you for  
6 bringing that up, because I think we talked about  
7 that at the advisory group meeting.

8 DAN LAWRENCE: Uh-huh.

9 ALICEA CHARAMUT: And it just didn't end up in my  
10 notes.

11 DAN LAWRENCE: Yeah.

12 ALICEA CHARAMUT: But yeah, someone did suggest some  
13 sort of, like, a table.

14 DAN LAWRENCE: Like a creeper for links on it, a table  
15 that makes up hyperlinks. Hyperlinks, yeah.

16 ALICEA CHARAMUT: Yeah, a table that shows just sort of  
17 the summary of all of them, or at least a link to  
18 the document that, you know, the establishing  
19 document.

20 ERIC MCPHEE: Right. And with all the digital  
21 recordkeeping now, all the metadata, you know they  
22 have different categories for how you can refer  
23 back to it.

24 ALICEA CHARAMUT: That's above my pay grade.

25 DAN LAWRENCE: Probably mine too, but we can get

1 someone to do that and help us. But yeah, so we  
2 can create a table, you know, that basically  
3 summarizes that for simplicity. Right? And bring  
4 that back for everyone to see and comment on.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: That sounds good.

6 Any other comment or suggestions from the  
7 Council?

8 I see Virginia.

9 MARTIN HEFT: One second, Jack. Sorry.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: I'm sorry, Martin.

11 MARTIN HEFT: No, it's okay. No problem. I had to  
12 take a phone call. Apologies.

13 I just want to thank the committee. I know I  
14 attended the -- well, the first part of their  
15 meeting when they started discussing this just to  
16 kind of help do an overview. And I really  
17 appreciate just going through taking the time to  
18 analyze this and kind of coming up with this chart  
19 and everything else on this.

20 And I do agree, and I apologize if I repeat  
21 something that was said -- because as I said, I  
22 had to jump off on a call -- that I think having  
23 that structure, as you said, it's like when the  
24 proposal is there also, like, following up, you  
25 know, when that topical group is ended, that

1           there's a closeout procedure and everything else.  
2           So you kind of have it from start to end, and that  
3           there's some sort of tracking there -- that that  
4           happens.

5                     And we know we've done that. You know we  
6           kind of have that proposal set up that we've done,  
7           you know, previously for, you know, a new topical  
8           workgroup with the elements that, you know, we've  
9           asked for it to be in there.

10                    And then just kind of a followup saying, you  
11           know, whether it's, here's the final report; this  
12           topical workgroup is now done, or whatever else  
13           that, you know, we just have that from, you know,  
14           A to Z on there.

15                    So I think that's an important piece, too.  
16           So I just want to thank the committee with that.

17                    And I like the little flow chart here. I  
18           think that's very good and helpful for us for  
19           moving forward.

20                    Thanks, Jack.

21 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Thank you very much.

22                    Any other questions or comments from  
23           councilmembers? Virginia?

24 **ERIC McPHEE:** I guess this just -- oh, I'm sorry.

25 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Oh, I'm sorry.

1 ERIC MCPHEE: No, no.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Go ahead, Eric.

3 ERIC MCPHEE: Go ahead, Virginia.

4 VIRGINIA de LIMA: I just have a few comments. One of  
5 the things that came up in this discussion was  
6 talking about the website and having a repository  
7 for documents and things like that.

8 And it occurred to me that we have -- the  
9 website group started out as part of the education  
10 and outreach group. And currently, my  
11 understanding is it's mostly agency folks. I  
12 don't know if that's what people -- how people  
13 want to keep it, but it might be something that  
14 would be appropriately on this flow chart with the  
15 annual report workgroup as a standing committee  
16 that was reporting directly to the Water Planning  
17 Council, because it was -- it is sort of an  
18 administrative function.

19 So I was -- I had several points, but that  
20 was one of them that I don't know how you would  
21 like to see that handled.

22 MARTIN HEFT: Yeah. Personally, I don't think it's  
23 needed. We have agency staff that handle the  
24 website. They're the ones who are authorized that  
25 way. And as long as, you know, and that's part of



1 we have agency staff that are on all of the  
2 workgroups and everything to make sure that things  
3 are updated in that way.

4 So I think we're covered in that. I don't  
5 believe it needs a separate workgroup or, you  
6 know, anything in that nature.

7 VIRGINIA de LIMA: Okay. Thank you for that.

8 A couple of other comments. In terms of the  
9 closeout procedures that Martin mentioned, I think  
10 that's essential that we have those kinds of  
11 closeout procedures. And that actually fits very  
12 nicely into a summary that would be part of the  
13 annual report.

14 You also mentioned having a following up on  
15 Eric's comment. You mentioned having sort of a  
16 conglomeration, a table, if you will, of all the  
17 things historically that happened. I could  
18 envision that sort of being a mega annual report,  
19 wherein the annual reports for each of the years  
20 were eventually glommed together into a single  
21 place, a single table, a single report that  
22 included that historical stuff.

23 Again, that would be very simple to do just  
24 by, you know, cutting and pasting the historical  
25 stuff into the current document and having that be

1           your archive. So that's just another thing that  
2           that you might want to consider doing.

3   **THE CHAIRMAN:** Thank you, Virginia.

4   **VIRGINIA de LIMA:** And one more thing I just want to  
5           point out that with the annual report workgroup,  
6           that historically has had two flavors. There  
7           clearly is the administrative role that's  
8           indicated here of doing it every year to meet the  
9           requirements from the Legislature.

10                   We also had originally thought of it as a  
11           group that explored the various options of how to  
12           do a more fully electronic annual report so that  
13           in the ideal, it would come down to pushing a  
14           button and it would create itself automatically.  
15           And there was some initial work done of how other  
16           organizations have handled putting together such a  
17           document. I believe one of the nicest versions  
18           was something that the EPA Long Island Sound study  
19           was doing, and I don't know if that's something  
20           that we want.

21                   I would not like to lose that effort to keep  
22           in touch with keeping with -- to keep on top of  
23           what the electronics available and useful it might  
24           be, and whether that's appropriately left to the  
25           administrative, the more administrative group

1 that's doing it every year, or whether that's  
2 something that might in the future warrant a  
3 special look.

4 GRAHAM STEVENS: Thanks, Virginia. We certainly, you  
5 know, share your desire to utilize technology to  
6 make everyone's life better and hopefully not more  
7 complicated, like it sometimes can do --  
8 particularly when you can't get onto a Zoom  
9 meeting because you have the wrong Zoom link.

10 Some days are better than others, but yeah, I  
11 totally see the value in not forgetting a lot of  
12 the great works that many of you do throughout the  
13 year so that that's adequately captured, and  
14 easily captured in the annual report.

15 Thank you.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: Any other comments?

17 Martin, Eric?

18  
19 (No response.)

20  
21 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Virginia.

22 Alicea, are we all set? Any other comments?

23 Nice job.

24 Or David, Dan, any other comments?

25 DAN LAWRENCE: No, I'm good right now. Thank you.

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Alicea, all set?

2 ALICEA CHARAMUT: Yeah. Sorry. Something froze up on  
3 my computer, so I had to stop sharing, but  
4 apparently that wasn't a problem, so.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. All right, we are moving on  
6 to Denise Savageau. Good afternoon.

7 DENISE SAVAGEAU: Hi, good afternoon.

8 So, the Outreach and Education Committee  
9 continues to do its work. As we reported last  
10 time, we are looking in the fall of having two  
11 workshops continuing with our 2024 theme of source  
12 water protection and the celebration of the Safe  
13 Drinking Water Act, as well as the aquifer  
14 protection regulations.

15 I'm just going to quickly share my screen,  
16 hopefully. Shortly, the save the date will be  
17 going out, and the save the date is for September  
18 24th, from twelve to one. We'll be talking about  
19 the Safe Drinking Water Act.

20 Kira Jacobs with EPA, the Drinking Water  
21 Division, Region 1, will be just doing a quick  
22 overview of that. And then Pat Bisacky from the  
23 Department of Public Health will be talking about  
24 PFAS. And then we've got Iris Kaminski from Yale  
25 will be talking about 1,4-dioxane. So, we'll be

1 getting into those emerging contaminants.

2 We now have that agenda set. So I gave you  
3 the names, which isn't in the save the date, but  
4 we will be getting out the registration  
5 information right after Labor Day. The save the  
6 date will be going out in the next day or so.

7 And then we also are looking to do on October  
8 17th, it's Imagine a Day Without Water. And we've  
9 been participating in that annually, as most  
10 people remember. And it's actually the 10th  
11 anniversary of the Imagine a Day Without Water  
12 Program, and we're going to be focusing on flash  
13 drought.

14 And we've been talking to Eric Lindquist at  
15 the Department of Public Health about that. We  
16 haven't confirmed all the speakers yet, but we'll,  
17 again, we'll probably -- by September 24th, we'll  
18 also then have the registration materials out for  
19 the Imagine a Day Without Water information.

20 So, I'll stop sharing that.

21 And just as a followup -- so that that's  
22 going to be wrapping up our programs for this  
23 year. And -- but we're starting to think about  
24 what our theme is for 2025. So if anybody has a  
25 theme for 2025, you can share that with us. I

1 know last time, you know, it was brought up that  
2 it was the 50th anniversary of the Safe Drinking  
3 Water Act. So certainly, we piggybacked on that.

4 So we're looking to see if there are any  
5 other celebrations or anything we need to be  
6 looking at, but we will be taking that into  
7 consideration in our September meeting, and then  
8 bringing recommendations forward for programming  
9 to you, like we usually do in October, for the  
10 2025 year. So that's kind of the outreach piece  
11 of it -- or I should say the education piece.

12 A couple of things we're also working on and  
13 we reported last time is that we're looking at the  
14 state water plan and seeing how we can start  
15 making sure that we're capturing everybody who's  
16 working on the state water plan.

17 It's not, you know, just the agencies that  
18 are working on it. The water utilities are  
19 working on it. Municipalities are working on it.  
20 There's a whole lot of folks, you know, NGOs are  
21 working on it. There's a whole lot of people that  
22 work on all of the tasks that need to be done, and  
23 we're looking at identifying those.

24 So we have a team led by Kim Czapla who's  
25 looking at how to collect data on who's doing

1 what, and with a survey. And then we're also  
2 looking at developing this, as we had mentioned  
3 before, a state water plan's, you know, steward.  
4 You know, who are the stewards of our state water  
5 plan besides the, you know, the agencies? And so  
6 we're looking at developing that. So we have a  
7 team.

8 So we're really excited about this, and stay  
9 tuned as we develop that, and we'll be presenting  
10 more information on that.

11 Just quickly, the last couple of items is the  
12 website. We always talk about the website. And  
13 the website, I have to say kudos -- this is one of  
14 the reasons I wanted to bring it up to Allie  
15 Hibbard, because she now has all of the workshops  
16 that we had done previously up on the website.

17 So all the workshops that we have done to  
18 date as part of this outreach and education  
19 workgroup are now up on the website. So you can  
20 see all those presentations, really a good amount  
21 of presentations.

22 And we're looking to see if we can get these  
23 into some kind of playlist and we're trying to  
24 figure that out, but right now, they're all up on  
25 the outreach and education website. So we

1 continue to see what we need happening with the  
2 website.

3 And as was alluded to previously, obviously,  
4 that's an internal with the folks who are doing  
5 the actual physical work, but we have opened that  
6 up. That if there's a need for us to do more  
7 assessment or to give more input on that, you  
8 know, that it's one of the things the outreach and  
9 education group kind of keeps an eye on with the  
10 folks who are doing this.

11 Is there stuff we can help you with? Is  
12 there stuff you want us to assess? Do you want us  
13 to give you feedback on that? So we continue to  
14 look at that, because it's an important piece of  
15 what we do from an education and outreach  
16 perspective.

17 And then just the last thing is our next  
18 meeting is normally September 3rd. That's the  
19 first Tuesday of the month. We're not sure if  
20 we're going to change that yet, so stay tuned. We  
21 may be moving that to September 10th.

22 We did have some conflicts with some members,  
23 but we're trying to get a feel for who can attend  
24 the 3rd or who can attend the 10th, and we will  
25 let you know, you know, as soon as we have that



1 date set when the date of our next meeting is.

2 And that, that's our report for today.

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Great report, as usual, Denise.

4 Any questions or comments for Denise?

5 Lots of great activities coming up.

6 MARTIN HEFT: Yeah, Jack, I do.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: Yes?

8 MARTIN HEFT: Denise, thank you for all of that.

9 A couple of things just as, you know, we do  
10 this as a reminder, you know, that you know -- and  
11 I appreciate all the work and everything that's  
12 being done here and everything, but a flyer and  
13 everything shouldn't, you know, be -- I know it  
14 hasn't probably been sent out yet, everything, but  
15 it should get approved by the Water Planning  
16 Council before we send stuff out as if we're the  
17 sponsor of this.

18 You know this is through the Water Planning  
19 Council, and the state water plan is that, you  
20 know, flyer, save the dates, all of that stuff  
21 should be approved by the Council before they are  
22 sent out. So I'd appreciate that, you know,  
23 moving forward on that.

24 And then the second item is -- as I've asked  
25 in the past, and haven't gotten any feedback or

1 anything on it -- on the October 17th regarding  
2 the drought and everything. I know as Chair of  
3 the interagency drought workgroup, you know, we  
4 haven't been reached out to yet for that.

5 And I know it's still early, but I know if  
6 planning is going forward and everything on that,  
7 you know, appreciate that the interagency drought  
8 workgroup that, you know, is somewhat involved in  
9 that -- or at least review what's going on since  
10 that's our role.

11 Thank you.

12 DENISE SAVAGEAU: Okay. So just a couple of responses.

13 I'm more than happy to do that. Obviously,  
14 with all of the flyers over the past three years,  
15 we have not had to save the date because we have  
16 agency people on our committee.

17 But that said, if you want to start approving  
18 the flyers, we can certainly do that. It would --  
19 I would think it would, if this works for you, I'm  
20 hoping that we can send them to you and then give  
21 you a turnaround time on them. Because if we have  
22 to have them a whole month ahead on a save the  
23 date, we're not going to get them out soon enough.

24 But the folks who are on, you know, the  
25 committee, if you don't have somebody right now on

1 the committee, we'd love to have somebody on the  
2 outreach and education committee from every single  
3 one of the board members.

4 In terms of the drought, we have -- we  
5 actually had discussions, and Allie Hibbard was in  
6 communication with Becca. And Becca has -- so we  
7 were talking about making sure that Becca is in  
8 the loop on all the work we're doing. And so that  
9 will definitely happen.

10 So that's something that -- and she is, I  
11 think, on the list for the education and outreach.  
12 I'm not sure if she usually attends, but she is on  
13 our list right now. Of course, it was Eric  
14 Lindquist until he switched gears and went over to  
15 DPH, but we would love to again have somebody.

16 But the agency people who are helping develop  
17 all the materials, Kim Czapla, Allie Hibbard,  
18 Allie Ayotte, these are all people who have  
19 approved of this. So basically, the only, you  
20 know, the only person who's not on our committee  
21 right now is OPM. So we'd love to have OPM on  
22 that as well.

23 MARTIN HEFT: Well, just so you know, Becca is OPM.

24 DENISE SAVAGEAU: Yes, I know. But if she's not  
25 attending -- I'm just saying that's if she

1 attends --

2 MARTIN HEFT: No, but I know. But --

3 DENISE SAVAGEAU: -- then we would have that.

4 MARTIN HEFT: I appreciate that, Denise. I do, you  
5 know, I appreciate that. Even though we have  
6 agency reps on, they are not the voting members of  
7 the Water Planning Council.

8 And that's why I'm saying, you know, some of  
9 this, you know, where we have, you know, the flyer  
10 shows the state water plan logo. Should it also  
11 have the State Water Planning Council logo?

12 You know, minor things like that, you know,  
13 where it says, hosted by the State Water Plan  
14 outreach and education workgroup. Actually,  
15 you're the Water Planning Council's outreach --

16 DENISE SAVAGEAU: That's right. And we're --

17 MARTIN HEFT: -- and work on the Water Plan. So  
18 there's some little technical things like that,  
19 that, you know, another set of eyes for us to  
20 review and everything on that, that I would  
21 appreciate in the future.

22 DENISE SAVAGEAU: Yes, and I -- and you're absolutely  
23 correct. And that wasn't corrected because we  
24 weren't sure if you were going to accept the  
25 recommendations. That was the template we had

1           used when we were still the state water plan  
2           implementation group, and that that is something  
3           that we know that we needed to change after  
4           today's meeting.

5   **MARTIN HEFT:** No, greatly appreciate it. Thank you.

6   **DENISE SAVAGEAU:** Thank you.

7   **THE CHAIRMAN:** Okay. Denise, thank you very much.

8           Appreciate it, all of your work. You always do a  
9           great job.

10                  Conservation Pricing Rate Recovery Analysis  
11           workgroup. Alicea?

12   **ALICEA CHARAMUT:** I don't have an update.

13                  But one thing that is missing -- and since  
14           Denise was already up, the source water protection  
15           workgroup isn't not on the list.

16                  So if we want to add that, then I think they  
17           do have a report.

18   **THE CHAIRMAN:** Okay. Who's doing that report?

19   **DENISE SAVAGEAU:** That's me.

20   **THE CHAIRMAN:** All right. Denise?

21   **DENISE SAVAGEAU:** Yeah. So the source water protection  
22           workgroup is moving forward. We had some  
23           challenges with some changes of staff earlier in  
24           the year, but we are getting close to getting a  
25           draft that's going to go out to the full Water

1 Planning Council advisory group, which will  
2 include the Water Planning Council. And we're  
3 hoping to have a draft for the Water Planning  
4 Council in October.

5 So that's our goal right now, is to have  
6 that, something that you guys can look at by then.  
7 But you'll be seeing it sooner than that. That's  
8 when we will officially, but we want to get  
9 feedback from the Water Planning Council advisory  
10 group. So we'll be sending that to them this  
11 month.

12 And our next meeting is on, I think, August  
13 20th, if that's the Tuesday, and we continue to  
14 work on this. So we're making good progress. And  
15 hopefully we'll have this wrapped up this fall.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: Great, thank you so much.

17 Any questions for Denise?

18 Eric had his hand up.

19 ERIC MCPHEE: Just to catch me up and get me up to  
20 speed for the conservation pricing rate recovery  
21 analysis Workgroup, is there a defined goal or  
22 deliverable? Or is this just having a  
23 conversation on the topic?

24 ALICEA CHARAMUT: There is, and I will send you the  
25 proposal.

1 ERIC MCPHEE: Thank you, Alicea.

2 THE CHAIRMAN: Yeah, we've been working on that for a  
3 while. We actually had a workshop on it a while  
4 back, and we want to come up with some  
5 recommendations moving forward, so.

6 ALICEA CHARAMUT: Yeah, it's stalled mostly because of  
7 me. I need to get back to finding a better day  
8 for the regular meetings.

9 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Alicea.

10 Watershed Lands Workgroup.

11 ALICEA CHARAMUT: I don't see --

12 KATHY CZEPIEL: I am.

13 ALICEA CHARAMUT: Oh, Kathy, you're here.

14 KATHY CZEPIEL: Yeah, I am here.

15 We actually have not met since the last Water  
16 Planning Council meeting. So we have nothing to  
17 report, but our next meeting is on Friday,  
18 September 13th.

19 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you.

20 Interagency drought workgroup -- I don't  
21 think we have a drought. Do we, Martin?

22 MARTIN HEFT: No. No, we do not. Things are good. We  
23 did have a meeting last month and reviewed  
24 everything. The meeting for this Thursday is  
25 canceled.

1 I know the agencies will be working on the  
2 side, continuing just to do overviews and working  
3 on our tabletop exercise, but we do not have a  
4 meeting this month.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you. Any questions for Martin?

6  
7 (No response.)

8  
9 THE CHAIRMAN: Any public -- I should have mentioned at  
10 the beginning that my successor at the PURA will  
11 be a former state representative, David Arconti  
12 from Danbury. He started yesterday.

13 I didn't invite him to this meeting, but I  
14 will invite him next month. I'm not sure if he  
15 will be my successor on the Council, but he  
16 certainly wants a -- I talked to him a little bit  
17 about the Water Planning Council, and I certainly  
18 update him.

19 So he, like I said, he started yesterday.

20 Any other public comment? Any other public  
21 comment?

22  
23 (No response.)

24  
25 THE CHAIRMAN: If not, our next meeting will be



1           September 3rd, the day after Labor Day. I wish  
2           everyone a happy, happy rest of August and happy  
3           Labor Day.

4                     And with that, I entertain a motion to  
5           adjourn.

6   MARTIN HEFT:   So moved.

7   THE CHAIRMAN:   Second?

8   ERIC McPHEE:    Second.

9   THE CHAIRMAN:   All those in favor?

10   THE COUNCIL:    Aye.

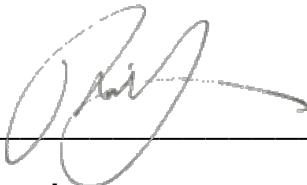
11   THE CHAIRMAN:   Thank you all. Have a great day,  
12                     everyone.

13   MARTIN HEFT:    Thanks all.

14  
15                                     (End: 2:06 p.m.)  
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CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 33 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 August 6, 2024.



Robert G. Dixon, CVR-M #857

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 6/30/2025

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