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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
September 3, 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 **CAROL HASKINS**

11 **VIRGINIA de LIMA**

12 **DENISE SAVAGEAU**

13 **KATHY CZEPIEL**

14
15
16 **Staff:**

17 **LAURA LUPOLI**

18 **ALYSON AYOTTE**

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

2
3 THE CHAIRMAN: All right. Good afternoon, everyone,
4 and welcome to the Water Planning Council meeting
5 for September 3, 2024. I'm Chairman Jack
6 Betkoski, joined by my colleagues on the Water
7 Planning Council.

8 I hope everyone had a wonderful July -- July?
9 I wish it was July -- Labor Day weekend. And with
10 that, we'll call the meeting to order.

11 Approval of the August 6th transcript?

12 MARTIN HEFT: So moved.

13 GRAHAM STEVENS: Second.

14 THE CHAIRMAN: So moved and seconded that the August 6,
15 2024, transcript be approved.

16 Any questions on motion?

17
18 (No response.)

19
20 THE CHAIRMAN: If not, all those in favor signify by
21 saying aye.

22 THE COUNCIL: Aye.

23 THE CHAIRMAN: Opposed?

24
25 (No response.)

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Motion carried.

2 Any public comment on the agenda items today?
3 Any public comment?

4
5 (No response.)

6
7 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. We'll move on to action item
8 number four, appointments to the advisory work
9 group. I believe that would be coming from Alicia
10 and Dan.

11 GRAHAM STEVENS: Right -- and Jack, Mr. Chairman, if I
12 may? I don't believe we've got any
13 recommendations in for it, but we wanted to make
14 sure it was on the agenda because there are
15 vacancies.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay.

17 MARTIN HEFT: Just so we have it as a standing item on
18 the agenda, but I don't believe we've received any
19 recommendations in to fill any of the vacancy
20 spots.

21 THE CHAIRMAN: Excellent.

22 Okay. Alicia and Dan -- or Dan?

23 ALICEA CHARAMUT: Hi. Dan is a lucky guy. He's on
24 vacation in Maine. So it's just me today.

25 Yes, we will, before next --

1 THE CHAIRMAN: Good afternoon, Alicea.

2 ALICEA CHARAMUT: Hi. How are you?

3 THE CHAIRMAN: Good.

4 ALICEA CHARAMUT: Good afternoon, everyone. It's a
5 beautiful day.

6 So we will have a slate for you next month,
7 now that all the other ducks are in a row. We had
8 a very brief meeting on our last meeting because
9 it was the Tuesday after the storms in Southbury
10 and Oxford, and there are a lot of folks that had
11 fires to put out, so to speak, and some very
12 urgent things to deal with. So, we kept our
13 meeting very short.

14 And other than the reports that you will be
15 hearing from, one of the questions we got was --
16 and there was discussion about the precipitation
17 data at the USGS stream gauges, which brought up,
18 you know, some questions about whether when
19 we're -- some of these are being discontinued -- I
20 almost said dislocated -- discontinued. Is this
21 due to redundancy? Because there were a lot of
22 folks -- or there were some folks that had seen
23 that these were being discontinued and had some
24 concerns.

25 So I think it might be good to have a better

1 understanding of that, both for the advisory group
2 and the Water Planning Council. So other than
3 that, like I said, it was a very brief meeting,
4 other than the reports you'll be hearing.

5 And also Denise had shared with us a link to
6 emergency assistance, assistance available from
7 the Department of Ag. So she provided that to the
8 advisory group as well.

9 And that's all I have.

10 THE CHAIRMAN: Annual report?

11 MARTIN HEFT: So again, Mr. Chair, the agenda, just so
12 everyone understands, lists all of the
13 committees -- or it may not be reports of those
14 committees at this point, but it's just kind of --

15 THE CHAIRMAN: A standing --

16 MARTIN HEFT: -- moving forward. We're just making
17 sure all the committees that we have that are
18 active are listed. They may not have a report,
19 but it keeps everyone in focus that we do have an
20 annual report due January 1st.

21 THE CHAIRMAN: Yeah.

22 MARTIN HEFT: So we should obviously ask our advisory
23 work group to, you know.

24 THE CHAIRMAN: Keep that.

25 MARTIN HEFT: Start working on that and just keeping it

1 in the mind for that.

2 **THE CHAIRMAN:** No, I think it's good to have those on
3 as consistent agenda items.

4 And the same would be with the nominating
5 committee. Right?

6 Yes, Alecia?

7 **ALICEA CHARAMUT:** Carol, is there anything that you
8 have other than --

9 **CAROL HASKINS:** No, I don't have anything. Currently,
10 the nominating committee hasn't met since we made
11 the appointments for the new calendar year,
12 whenever we made those last.

13 And I think we were still trying to get some
14 clarity on, do we want to fill vacancies as they
15 come up? Or do we want to wait until an annual
16 cycle on them?

17 **MARTIN HEFT:** Well, vacancies should be filled once we
18 have people, because otherwise they remain vacant
19 for the entire period -- and we don't want that to
20 happen.

21 **CAROL HASKINS:** Okay.

22 **MARTIN HEFT:** So we know that there's vacancies for the
23 alternates. I believe there's only one vacancy as
24 the full member, if you will, which I believe is
25 under the electricity, maybe, group. I'm not sure

1 which -- if that's right. Or I know there's one
2 vacancy as a full member. And the rest, I think,
3 are all, you know, alternates.

4 CAROL HASKINS: It would be two then, because we --
5 because Margaret is still vacant.

6 We haven't made that formal yet.

7 THE CHAIRMAN: Yeah. I mean, I think that's correct.
8 We had a vacancy and wanted to fill it ASAP.

9 CAROL HASKINS: Okay. We will get that nominating
10 committee together then.

11 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Carol.

12 Appreciate your work on that.

13 CAROL HASKINS: Yeah.

14 THE CHAIRMAN: Denise Savageau sent us something hot
15 off the press a little bit before, and she's got a
16 report for the outreach and education.

17 DENISE SAVAGEAU: Hi, everyone. Good afternoon.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Good afternoon.

19 DENISE SAVAGEAU: The outreach and education workgroup
20 is busy getting into our schedule for the fall.

21 First, thank you for the quick approval of
22 the save the date that did go out. As you know,
23 we've got two workshops coming up, one on
24 September 24th. And that will be focusing on
25 emerging contaminants and also a celebration of

1 the Safe Drinking Water Act. And then the second
2 workshop is in October. And that is Imagine a Day
3 Without Water. We're looking at doing that on
4 flash drought.

5 Interestingly enough, the Office of Policy
6 and Management is having a first kickoff for
7 Sustainable and Resiliency Week, September 22nd
8 through the 29th. And so our program falls on
9 that week, the September 24th lunch and learn, and
10 they will be publicizing that.

11 And then as a wrap up, they will also be
12 putting a final press release together with things
13 that are happening after sustainability week, and
14 the second workshop will be listed there as well.
15 So we're working with them on that.

16 The registration link is now on the website,
17 but our registration flyer, we're still working on
18 that. We had some folks who do a lot of the work.
19 Kelsey Sudol does a lot of our graphics for us and
20 she's away this week, but we knew that we wanted
21 to get that out after Labor Day.

22 And we'll be getting out the flyer with the
23 more detailed agenda. We'll be sending that to
24 you for your confirmation, and then we'll get that
25 out. But the registration link itself is already

1 on the outreach and education website, so we're
2 set that way.

3 The other thing on our agenda, as I mentioned
4 at last time was that we're looking at our theme
5 and what we're going to be working on for 2025 in
6 terms of our lunch and learns, and ask if you guys
7 have any input. So, I will be asking that.

8 But let me first just share that we had our
9 meeting this morning. And Kim Czapla from DEEP
10 recommended that we adopt the theme that World
11 Water Day has adopted, and that's groundwater,
12 making the invisible visible. We thought it was a
13 great theme. So we're going to be looking at
14 that. We talked about that and how we could
15 possibly use that.

16 And one of the things that we're going to be
17 talking about in a second is the private well fact
18 sheet we've been working on, and that ties in with
19 the release of that fact sheet as well. So that's
20 one of the ideas we have.

21 We're open to other ideas, but as you know,
22 one of the things we've tried to do is kind of
23 piggyback on other programs that are happening,
24 either nationally or statewide. And obviously,
25 you know, so building on this World Water Day

1 event that usually happens on March 22nd, that's
2 one of the themes we're looking at.

3 But I'm going to open up the floor and see if
4 anyone has given any thought to this or if anybody
5 has any other thoughts. We don't have to make a
6 complete decision today. We'd like to have a
7 decision by October, but if you're comfortable
8 with what we've recommended here, we can start
9 developing that and bring you a full-blown kind of
10 work plan, as we do usually every year for you
11 guys to take a look at.

12 So any thoughts?

13 **THE CHAIRMAN:** You know -- interesting, as you know, in
14 my backyard here we have floods. And I'm
15 wondering, I mean, people talk about a thousand
16 years. I'm wondering if somehow the Water
17 Planning Council, your group, could do something
18 about talking about the whys and hows.

19 I mean, it was -- as you know from media
20 coverage, it's been devastating. It's billions,
21 billions of dollars in damage. And I'm wondering
22 that maybe we want to take a look at that. I
23 don't know how others feel, but it was quite -- it
24 was unbelievable.

25 I mean, as you all know, you read in the

1 paper. I was three when they had the '55 flood.
2 I don't remember it, but it was actually around
3 the same exact day that we had the '55 flood in
4 the Naugatuck Valley. And it did certainly as
5 much damage that that flood did to the area that
6 was hit.

7 So I don't know how people feel about that.

8 MARTIN HEFT: So, Mr. Chair, if I may? I think that's
9 a great topic as well. What I'd recommend is
10 people can, you know, get topics, whatever else,
11 to Denise's group, and we put it on as an action
12 item for our October meeting so we can review and
13 have an opportunity to, you know, talk with our
14 staffs and everyone else for potential, you know,
15 themes or things that we want to look at and come
16 back to the October meeting and have it as an
17 action item to vote for what that '25 theme, you
18 know, would be.

19 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay.

20 DENISE SAVAGEAU: And if anybody sends it to us ahead
21 of time, we can start looking at it and say, like,
22 well, how might we utilize that theme? So we'll
23 look at the groundwater one. We'll look at this
24 one of the idea of a thousand-year storm event.
25 What does that mean? So to think about how that

1 might play in.

2 We did do climate change before, but, you
3 know, sometimes when it's right in your face, it's
4 a good year to pick up on doing that. So we'll
5 take that into consideration as well. And then if
6 anyone has any others, you certainly can bring
7 other topics up.

8 But we can -- at our next meeting, we can
9 bring these up and see how we might work on those.

10 GRAHAM STEVENS: So, you know, I have my version of the
11 state water plan here, as I like to. During this
12 meeting I like to consult the document from time
13 to time. And I think that's a great idea,
14 Chairman.

15 The one thing I would say is, although the
16 state water plan is very, you know, broad in its
17 remit, I would say we should try to narrow that
18 topic to save Denise and her group to some extent,
19 to the extent that we can. So when we're thinking
20 about these ideas, try to think of it in context
21 of the state water plan.

22 Because that topic that you just brought
23 forward, Jack, is phenomenally important. It
24 covers many, many agencies of state government,
25 town government, private, and, you know,

1 quasi-private entities and, you know, deals with
2 what you do in your backyard. It deals with what
3 decisions state agencies and federal agencies and
4 towns make.

5 So I just want to try to focus it to the
6 point that we can, if possible, to really, you
7 know, tie it to the current version of the state
8 water plan.

9 THE CHAIRMAN: That makes a lot of sense.

10 DENISE SAVAGEAU: Thanks, Graham. And we usually do
11 that. And that actually gets in -- oh, Eric. I
12 see Eric has his hand up.

13 ERIC MCPHEE: You can finish your thought before I
14 speak. Go ahead, Denise.

15 DENISE SAVAGEAU: No, it's going to get into the next
16 topic. So go ahead.

17 ERIC MCPHEE: Okay. I was just going to add that there
18 were two topics out there that might be relevant
19 to sort of see how accurate and applicable they
20 were as a result of this storm. And that is, you
21 know, the Governor's GC3 report and then also the
22 drinking water vulnerability study, which was done
23 with UConn/CIRCA our agency as a result of
24 Superstorm Sandy.

25 And just to see how those documents stand up

1 against, you know, what we saw with these storms
2 and how accurate and applicable they are, you
3 know, reading them after the fact and seeing, you
4 know, the recommendations and findings of those
5 two, you know, if they need to be adapted or how
6 they fit into what we've seen recently.

7 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Very good.

8 Any other comments before we move on?

9 **GRAHAM STEVENS:** Just to Denise's earlier point. Yeah,
10 I totally know that you would take that in context
11 of the state water plan. I'm trying to help a
12 little bit with the scope of the ideas that people
13 will be showering upon you.

14 So thank you, Denise, for everything you do.

15 **DENISE SAVAGEAU:** Thanks. So I'm going to share my
16 screen just quickly because this kind of leads
17 into the discussion. And Graham, I want to thank
18 you for bringing up the State Water Plan.

19 So the outreach and education group
20 originally was with the state water plan
21 implementation team. So a lot of what we were
22 branding was to make sure that people understood
23 the State Water Plan and that we don't want to
24 lose focus on that.

25 That said, obviously, it's the Water Planning

1 Council as well, and we can use one logo or both
2 logos, or kind of intersperse them.

3 And you don't -- we can fix this as we're
4 going forward so you can have a discussion, but
5 looking to see, do we use the state water plan
6 logo here? Do we want to tie the fact sheets that
7 our organization is bringing out and continually
8 make it so that people understand that the
9 emphasis here, again, is that we're trying to
10 narrow down and say, you know, this is about the
11 state water plan and this is the work we're doing
12 with the state water plan.

13 So I'm just putting that out there. We can
14 obviously change this logo out. We had done this
15 when we were first developing it. We were using
16 this particular logo because that's the committee
17 we were under, but now that committee no longer
18 exists, the implementation -- state water plan
19 implementation team. So I wanted to think about
20 that, how -- how we utilize that.

21 So I don't want to get into the content of
22 this. You can look at this. We don't need your
23 comments back until, you know, September 20th.
24 You'll have plenty of time to take a look at the
25 full document, but I really just wanted to kind of

1 show you the logo right now, and then we'll change
2 this.

3 Well, I guess I'm looking at guidance. And
4 again, you can talk about it today, but if you
5 want to think about it more, that's fine also.

6 The state water -- we had been saying the
7 state plan is an initiative of the Connecticut
8 Water Planning Council, and that this fact sheet
9 was created by the State Water Planning Council
10 outreach and education workgroup, but obviously we
11 don't have a program changing that.

12 But I wanted to know if you still --
13 (unintelligible). The State Water Plan is an
14 initiative of the Water Planning Council. And we
15 would just say the fact sheet was created by the
16 Water Planning Council outreach and education
17 committee. So we'll definitely change that last
18 sentence.

19 But I wanted -- this is where I'm looking for
20 your guidance on, do you want to keep referring to
21 the initiative of the State Water Plan? This is
22 how we were handling it. And do we want to make
23 sure we --

24
25 (Connection lost: 1:50:33 p.m. to 1:50:44 p.m.)

1 -- anything I needed input with you on today.
2 So I'll stop sharing. And, you know, looking for
3 your guidance on that.

4 **THE CHAIRMAN:** I mean, my feeling is that they're
5 synonymous. I mean, the state water plan really
6 is the Water Planning Council. It's the driving
7 force behind the Water Planning Council.

8 I don't know how we -- you might want to use,
9 you say -- you used the word "initiative," but it
10 was -- I'm doing wordsmanship here. It was an
11 initiative, but we have written a water plan. So
12 it's something that we're monitoring on an ongoing
13 basis.

14 **MARTIN HEFT:** Jack?

15 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Yeah.

16 **MARTIN HEFT:** So thanks, Denise, for your committee's
17 work on this. So, you know, I can, you know,
18 obviously go through this because I think there's
19 some, you know, positive stuff in here and the
20 information is great.

21 And I think I don't like the word
22 "initiative" because the state water plan -- it's
23 actually a state statute. It's not an initiative.
24 It's a requirement. It's not, you know, so I
25 think that's a wordsmithing thing, you know, on

1 it.

2 You know, the state water plan was developed
3 by the Water Planning Council, but it was actually
4 approved by the Legislature. So it's a
5 legislative approved State Water Plan. It is the
6 state water plan. So I think we can wordsmith,
7 you know, to come up with the right language, you
8 know, for that on there.

9 One thought just real quick could be, you
10 know, in that top logo. On the right-hand side,
11 you have the logo that says, state water plan.
12 Well, what about on the left-hand side, you put
13 Water Planning Council logo, and it balances the
14 logo out on the top?

15 That way you've got both logos on there that
16 highlight the Water Planning Council as well as
17 the state water plan, because I think both are
18 important and we're going to talk about that later
19 under business. I think it's important
20 highlighting both, you know, in there.

21 And then I think we can work through -- I
22 know there's some suggestions, everything else,
23 you know, for helping, you know, wordsmith and,
24 you know, setting up, you know, the fire document
25 here, too, which I would still like to get before

1 the interagency drought committee, you know,
2 workgroup as well, you know, to review this as
3 well, since it does deal with, you know, drought
4 in Connecticut, so.

5 THE CHAIRMAN: Okay. Eric, Graham?

6 GRAHAM STEVENS: No, that sounds great on that.

7 Thank you.

8 DENISE SAVAGEAU: So again, we're looking for comments
9 by the 20th. That said, you know, the idea was
10 that then we would be able to have -- be able to
11 incorporate comments and bring it back to you for
12 final review.

13 So obviously, it's not ready until you guys
14 are ready, but I think at least if we can get
15 initial comments so we can start seeing if
16 anybody, you know, are there major flaws? Are we
17 in the right direction? Is it really just
18 wordsmithing? We just need to have feedback.

19 It's also out to the Water Planning Council
20 advisory group. So like I said, we're asking for
21 comments by that, but we're hoping that we will
22 have this, you know, ready before the end of the
23 year, you know, for final adoption, that you guys
24 will approve this.

25 It's been in the works for a long time, but,

1 you know, we really want to get it out the door.
2 So any feedback is much appreciated.

3 And I think that's it for -- unless anybody
4 has any other questions about our work?

5 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Thank you to you and your group for all
6 the work that you do. We appreciate it.

7 Watershed lands workgroup?

8 **KATHY CZEPIEL:** Yeah, the watershed lands workgroup
9 meets next Friday, September 13th. So we don't
10 have any report today. Thank you.

11 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Thank you, Kathy.

12 Now we're going to go to Alecia's favorite
13 subject, the conservation pricing rate recovery
14 analysis workshop.

15 **ALICEA CHARAMUT:** No report at this time.

16 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Okay. And the source water protection
17 workgroup? I think we're back to --

18 **DENISE SAVAGEAU:** Yeah, that's me. So we are moving
19 forward. We've been juggling schedules. We were
20 hoping to get a draft out to the Water Planning
21 Council advisory group for comments at the end of
22 August. But we had a couple of members with
23 either conferences, or including myself,
24 conferences, and/or vacation, or both. And --

25 **THE CHAIRMAN:** It's a tough time of the year.

1 DENISE SAVAGEAU: It was a tough time of year to get
2 everything. That said, we're meeting this week;
3 we should have that out. So we will be forwarding
4 it to the Water Planning Council advisory group as
5 well as the Water Planning Council.

6 And again, this is a first draft. So we're
7 looking for comments. This, you know, we're
8 hoping to finalize this by the end of the year,
9 but this will be -- right now we're just looking
10 for final comments -- you know, for initial
11 comments on the white paper and where we need to
12 go.

13 THE CHAIRMAN: Sounds good. Thank you, Denise.

14 Any questions, comments for Denise?

15
16 (No response.)
17

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Interagency drought work group. Martin?

19 MARTIN HEFT: So due to the status of our drought
20 indicators, we do not have a meeting this
21 Thursday, September 5th. We will meet again on
22 October 3rd, and do a summer recap of everything,
23 but conditions are all good. We've been
24 monitoring it with all of our agencies.

25 The team of our agencies have been working,

1 continue to work on the tabletop exercise and
2 working on that for down the road in the future.
3 And then I will add this drought in Connecticut
4 flyer to our agenda that date, too, for the FAR
5 group to review that.

6 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Martin.

7 Any questions?

8
9 (No response.)

10
11 THE CHAIRMAN: On to new business, business of DEEP
12 role with Colebrook River Reservoir. Graham, are
13 you going to update us on that?

14 GRAHAM STEVENS: Yes, thanks, Jack.

15 So I'm not sure how many folks on the call
16 today are familiar with what happened last session
17 and what's going on now with flows in the
18 Farmington, but I did want to just take a moment
19 to update folks on DEEP's role and participation
20 in this process.

21 So for those of you who've been tracking this
22 issue, you'll have seen that Public Act 24-13, An
23 Act Concerning the Water Resources of the Upper
24 Farmington River Valley passed. That passed, you
25 know, unanimously in both the House and the

1 Senate. And you know that that bill essentially
2 changed the dynamic with respect to, you know, the
3 calls for, you know, flow augmentation releases
4 from the Colebrook River Lake Dam, which is an
5 Army Corps of Engineers flood control structure.

6 And that requires the DEEP Commissioner to
7 make releases and hold back requests to the Army
8 Corps of Engineers in consultation with the
9 Metropolitan District Commission. And those
10 releases, you know, are being called for to
11 achieve an optimum flow in the Farmington River
12 for fish and wildlife, recreation, river health,
13 flood risk reduction, tourism, hydropower and
14 safety. And you know, I will say that all of
15 those purposes are not, you know, directly related
16 to DEEP's mission.

17 And what we are doing at this point is
18 working with the Army Corps and the MDC. And our
19 fisheries staff are taking the lead and making
20 calls for releases during this augmentation
21 period, which typically runs from May to November.

22 And so for those of you who've, you know,
23 participated in angling or have taken a ride on
24 the tubes, or participated in some, you know,
25 nationally renowned white-water rafting, or fly

1 fishing, you'll have seen that the Farmington
2 River flows are higher than they have been over
3 the past several years. And so, you know, our
4 thanks to the MDC and to the Army Corps, and to
5 the proponents of this bill for, you know, pushing
6 this important issue.

7 You know the Farmington River, as we all
8 know, is, you know, one of our most cherished
9 resources. And one of the reasons why that river
10 and watercourse is so valuable is because of the
11 DEEP cold water releases that are afforded by the
12 Colebrook River Lake Dam. And, you know, this
13 public act doesn't change any of the existing
14 statutory requirements for releases that came
15 about through the Hogback Commission. So MDC --
16 MDC is still required to pass 50 cubic feet per
17 second from the Goodwin Dam.

18 For those of you who don't know, the Goodwin
19 Dam was the predecessor dam to the Colebrook River
20 Lake Dam. The Colebrook River Lake Dam was
21 constructed through the middle of MDC's
22 impoundment, made by the Goodwin Dam, so they're
23 very close in proximity. And so MDC shall pass 50
24 cubic feet per second from that dam at all times,
25 pursuant to state statute. MDC shall also pass

1 all natural flow, natural inflow up to 150 cubic
2 feet per second. And the MDC shall pass all
3 releases that are made by the Otis Reservoir Dam
4 in Massachusetts.

5 So, you know this -- this really is a great
6 example in Connecticut of a flow-managed river
7 that's able to support many different uses. And
8 like I said, that that's really, you know,
9 possible thanks to the cold water releases that
10 the Colebrook River Lake Dam is able to make.

11 But there is that need for balance and, you
12 know, understanding of the different needs and
13 flow dynamics within the river, particularly
14 taking into consideration the, you know, wild and
15 scenic status of the river.

16 And the one other thing I will just point out
17 is that the bill also requires the DEEP
18 Commissioner to report to the Environment
19 Committee on recommended ways to manage that
20 Colebrook River Lake, you know, with respect to
21 the releases that she's authorized to call for
22 with MDC's concurrence. And that's going to look
23 at, you know, all things from, you know, flows for
24 fish and wildlife, recreation, river health, flood
25 risk reduction, tourism, hydropower, and safety.

1 So a lot of different factors to consider.
2 DEEP is going to be working on that report and
3 seeking stakeholder input on that report, because
4 obviously there's a lot of different parties that
5 have a lot of interest in this, in this river and
6 how those flows are controlled.

7 So just to explain to folks, because the bill
8 talks about certain elevations of the impoundment.
9 Essentially, this bill provides additional
10 authority to DEEP for some 10 billion gallons of
11 water.

12 Currently, depending upon the seasonal flows,
13 you know, the DEEP Fisheries Unit already manages
14 two pools for fish, you know, protection purposes
15 during low-flow conditions, and that is a 1.7
16 billion gallon pool in the spring and a 1.7
17 billion gallon pool in the fall. And so this, you
18 know, ups the waters under control with MDC's
19 cooperation up to 13.2 billion gallons.

20 So when you do see our call for, you know,
21 feedback on this report, it would be really vital
22 for folks to express their, you know, comments and
23 explain their interests in these flows, you know,
24 under one or more of those categories that the
25 report requires an evaluation. And you know the

1 statute does require consultation with
2 stakeholders, which of course we will do anyway.

3 So I just wanted to provide that brief update
4 to the Water Planning Council because it's an
5 issue that's come up here before, and I wanted to
6 thank the MDC and the Army Corps of Engineers.

7 I'd also like to thank Representative
8 Anderson, who was the, you know, primary driving
9 force, along with Senator Seminara for their early
10 efforts to, you know, push the State and push the
11 federal government and push the MDC in a direction
12 that is for the betterment of the environment and
13 for the people of Connecticut.

14 So we're happy with how things are working
15 thus far, and we look forward to, you know,
16 continued input and more formalization of the
17 process that is currently occurring on an interim
18 basis.

19 And I think I've shared --

20 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Graham, what's your secret? What's your
21 secret to have the Army Corps of Engineers, MDC,
22 and DEEP all working cooperatively together?
23 Because I know Army Corps of Engineers takes their
24 own sweet time with things, MDC does their own
25 thing -- and of course DEEP's a wonderful agency.

1 So I wonder how's that working out, and
2 what's making it work like that?

3 **GRAHAM STEVENS:** Well, I think it's everyone's
4 commitment to the environment and to, you know,
5 the quality of life in Connecticut. And I think
6 also that our legislative leadership chose not to
7 take no for an answer from any party.

8 I won't say who said no at any one point,
9 but, you know, that there was certainly a desire
10 from the legislative leaders. Everyone wanted to
11 see a better outcome than what we were
12 experiencing over the last few years. And I
13 appreciate the, you know, there's many of you on
14 the call here who I think also played a role in
15 ensuring that this happened. So, you know, thank
16 you to those who did that.

17 And, you know, I think we all have our
18 experiences and stories with the Farmington River.
19 You know, one of the things that I grew up doing
20 was being shipped off to my uncle's, you know,
21 farm, and he used the Farmington River for
22 irrigation purposes for his nursery, all within
23 the appropriate diversion registration rules and
24 requirements. You know, and that was our
25 recreational resource at the end of a hard day's

1 work.

2 So, I mean, everybody has, from a certain
3 part of the state, has those stories. And so it's
4 something that's cherished and should be cared
5 for. And I think everybody, MDC, Army Corps,
6 DEEP, legislative leaders, all came around the
7 table and just decided to, you know, put any
8 concerns aside and move forward.

9 I'd also like to point out that this really
10 wouldn't be possible either without DPH and OPM's
11 involvement as well -- and which I won't get into,
12 but into precursor discussions and procedures as
13 well, which got us to this point here today.

14 **THE CHAIRMAN:** I see an article or a panel or something
15 coming up about this success in the future in some
16 form, for sure. I mean, hats off to everybody.

17 **GRAHAM STEVENS:** Yes, absolutely.

18 **ERIC McPHEE:** Graham, the MDC will be responsible for
19 the control and maintenance of the flow rates
20 through both dams moving forward?

21 **GRAHAM STEVENS:** It's a little bit more nuanced than
22 that. There obviously -- kind of have full
23 control over the Goodwin Dam.

24 So what happens logistically is every Friday,
25 our fisheries unit, in coordination with MDC,

1 sends a release schedule and request to the Army
2 Corps. The MDC then concurs in writing. So every
3 week we're evaluating this based on, you know,
4 data that we have, information from the Army
5 Corps, information that's available, you know,
6 through our, you know, weather predicting services
7 as well to make the call for releases.

8 And it's working great. It's a lot of work,
9 but, you know, the agency and MDC and Army Corps
10 have all committed to making sure that that
11 happens. So it's not dissimilar from what
12 happened in the past with MDC's coordination with
13 the Army Corps. It's just that DEEP is the one
14 actually requesting the releases and MDC is
15 concurring.

16 ERIC McPHEE: Thank you.

17 GRAHAM STEVENS: You're welcome.

18 THE CHAIRMAN: Any other questions for Graham?

19 Thanks, Graham. That's a great explanation
20 of what was going on.

21
22 (No response.)

23
24 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you very much.

25 So we have on here overall council goals,

1 state water plan implementation and updates. And
2 I think that's another kind of a placeholder, is
3 it not?

4 MARTIN HEFT: Yeah. If I can, Mr. Chair, I'll go
5 through a couple things of why we're popping those
6 on the agenda?

7 So as we talk, this goes back to our
8 wonderful little summit we had down on Rocky Hill
9 or whatever we want to, you know, call it on that,
10 which was, you know, great. We keep referring
11 back to some of those things. So I want to just,
12 you know, pop it on the agenda because some of
13 those overall goals and the implementation updates
14 are, you know, kind of our guiding principles, if
15 you will. That's the way I see it moving forward.

16 Some of the things that we said there just to
17 remind people, you know, some of the overall goals
18 and some of which we've accomplished, which is
19 terrific, you know, since -- what was it? A
20 little over a year ago or whatever else. And we
21 did that -- but, you know, of combining the
22 advisory implementation groups, that's been done,
23 issuing the annual report, you know, and gotten
24 that back on track. You know we've done that.

25 Other things we said was about building a

1 concrete base to work from, you know, reviewing
2 the water plan. You know it's a five-year. You
3 know, do we look at interim and full, everything
4 else, looking about, you know, staffing, you know,
5 on that? I'm going to talk, you know, kind of the
6 two of these together, they go hand in hand.

7 One of the things we've said, you know, even
8 when we were looking at establishing a budget,
9 everything else was, you know, our legislators.
10 Our particular agencies don't always know. What
11 does the Water Planning Council do? Or what is
12 the state water plan.

13 I mean, it got adopted in, you know, 2019
14 after several years, you know, before the
15 legislature, you know, to get adopted. But they
16 still -- if you ask a legislator, they probably
17 don't know what the state water plan is, you know,
18 in all honesty.

19 And, you know, the outreach education stuff,
20 the workshops, I think all of that's good. We've
21 talked about doing, you know, kind of a meeting
22 with the legislators, which would be great to kind
23 of like present the annual report; come when they
24 come up in this upcoming session, kind of do a
25 little, you know, presentation, invite people.

1 Have it at the LOB, kind of maybe do that, you
2 know.

3 Because I think part of, you know, to get,
4 you know, money for a budget, to update a plan for
5 whatever, you've got to build a support for it.
6 And right now, the support is not there, because
7 they're not aware of it. It's not like, you know,
8 on it -- some of the people that were involved
9 with development of this and everything are no
10 longer in the legislature. So a lot of those
11 people may not be there.

12 So kind of keeping in mind those type of
13 things, you know, I think, you know -- and it's
14 been talked about having that meeting with key
15 legislators, maybe it becomes a presentation of
16 the annual report we submitted. Here's what we go
17 on, the things that, you know, the outreach and
18 education committee is doing, I think is great.

19 Another thought might be that perhaps we do a
20 quarterly newsletter or a quarterly flyer e-mail
21 blast that says, here's updates on the state water
22 plan or what things are happening, you know, in
23 that sense, you know, as we move forward with all
24 that stuff.

25 So I want to just kind of have those on there

1 because to just refresh everyone's mind as we're
2 coming to, you know, the end of a calendar year
3 where we've got to do our annual report. Where
4 are we going forward in the next calendar year?
5 Those type of things. So that's kind of why
6 those, you know, two items were popped on the
7 agenda there.

8 THE CHAIRMAN: Which I think is excellent. I think if
9 you incorporate, the two kind of go hand in hand
10 as we do the annual report, and we can incorporate
11 our goals and then kind of do a dog-a-pony show
12 with particularly the legislative leadership of
13 the Public Health Committee and Planning and
14 Development and Environment Committee. I think
15 that's a great idea and something that we should
16 absolutely do.

17 And you're right. I mean, as much as we try
18 with outreach and our forums, and what Denise does
19 with her group, there's still a lot to be done.
20 And you know, water -- I've said this and I've
21 been doing this for a long time -- it's the
22 stepchild of utility. I mean, when you don't have
23 it, people think about it -- but people just take
24 it for granted.

25 So Eric, Graham, any followup with that?

1 ERIC MCPHEE: No.

2 GRAHAM STEVENS: Nothing on there, John. Thank you.

3 THE CHAIRMAN: And I think -- if you remember way back
4 when, we actually did have the Water Planning
5 Council, when we were rolling out the plan, we
6 actually went up and we had a forum with the
7 committees of cognizance and we had an afternoon
8 session with them so they could do some Q and A
9 and that kind of thing. So I think that's
10 something to look forward to in the next
11 legislative session.

12 Any public comment on any of the items on the
13 agenda today? Oh, there's Virginia. I didn't
14 think Virginia was with us.

15 And Alicia, did I see your hand up?

16 Where did Alicea go?

17 ALICEA CHARAMUT: I'm still here, but Virginia is going
18 first, I think. Or was she?

19 THE CHAIRMAN: Is she?

20 VIRGINIA de LIMA: Yes. I couldn't -- my raise-my-hand
21 thing wasn't visible.

22 I just want to make a quick comment. If you
23 do decide to go with the issue of floating climate
24 change for one of your topics for next year, I
25 think a good thing to -- whether it's

1 explaining -- this depends on the audience --
2 explaining or trying to change the mindset away
3 from talking about these storms as a hundred-year
4 storm.

5 Because when we have hundred-year storms two
6 or three years in a row, people are going, huh?
7 What's going on here? I know 10, 15 years ago,
8 USGS was trying to change the lingo to calling it
9 a storm that has the potential of 1 percent
10 probability of happening in any year.

11 So if that happens two years in a row, well,
12 there was a 1 percent chance this year. There's a
13 1 percent chance next year. That's more
14 understandable to people than calling it a
15 hundred-year storm. So I think if we explain
16 that, if we were to do it as a theme, if we
17 explain that and start ourselves using the lingo
18 of a 1 percent probability of happening, it might
19 clarify some of the public's feelings.

20 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Great point.

21 Alicia?

22 **ALICEA CHARAMUT:** So thank you, Eric, for bringing up
23 the GC3 in terms of what we should be doing for --
24 what changes we should be making on the ground
25 when it comes to water issues, and especially when

1 we're looking at the storm of August 18th.

2 The working in natural lands group made a lot
3 of very specific recommendations that were, I
4 thought, very clear across the board between the
5 forest, the wetlands, ag, and the rivers group on
6 how we can improve our water management in the
7 face of climate change. And a lot of that in the
8 first round report got whittled down, and a lot of
9 it was lost.

10 And so in terms of looking at the GC3 and
11 recommendations to our water resources, I think
12 it's really important to look at the specific
13 recommendations within those reports and not just
14 what was sort of filtered out and diluted in that
15 first year report, because we lose a lot and we
16 lose a lot of nature-based solutions if we do
17 that.

18 So just throwing my two cents in there.

19 THE CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Alicia.

20 Denise?

21 DENISE SAVAGEAU: Thanks, Jack.

22 And I have to say I agree with Alicia. The
23 working lands reports on the GC3 are just
24 critical. And when they started taking some
25 priorities out for implementation, a lot of that

1 work didn't get put in there as a first round
2 priority, but that doesn't mean all that work
3 should be lost. And we really do need to look at
4 it.

5 I do want to touch base quickly on setting
6 goals and particularly the, you know, for the
7 state water plan and the budgeting process. I
8 think if we wait for all of the legislators to be
9 educated on the state water plan before we ask for
10 money, we're never going to be able to ask for
11 money.

12 The Legislature changes every two years. We
13 need to ask for money during the long session.
14 They're not going to give us it very easily during
15 the short session. So although I agree that
16 education is important, I think we need to make
17 the ask as we're educating people about that. If
18 we're not asking for the money, we're not going to
19 get it.

20 And so I would really encourage this Council
21 and the agencies that support you that make up
22 this Council to take a look at this, because one
23 of the things that I'm seeing is inaction. And
24 basically, you know, the inaction is basically
25 because of the silos.

1 The Department of Public Health doesn't want
2 to be the one who puts the money in. OPM doesn't
3 want to put the money in. Nobody wants to make it
4 a priority for their Council. And therefore, the
5 water planning work is not getting done because
6 nobody is making it a priority. So who's going to
7 make this a priority with the State Legislature?

8 And I think we need to -- and asking for the
9 money and putting it in the budget, it starts the
10 discussion, even if that takes two years. But if
11 you don't ask for it, what's going to happen is
12 they're going to say, well, why did you ask for it
13 now? You didn't ask for it two years ago. We
14 don't want to have that argument.

15 We want to be asking for it and say, we've
16 been asking for it for ten years. So this is what
17 we need, and we should be asking for it now.
18 That's the way the Legislature goes.

19 I do agree with Martin. There's a whole lot
20 of legislators who don't know what we do, but one
21 of the things I will tell you is that, just like a
22 lot of municipalities that we're working with,
23 they're looking that the State -- they just think
24 that this is already being handled. So that the
25 state agencies and the water utilities are

1 handling this.

2 They don't understand the role that they can
3 play. They don't understand the role of the state
4 water plan, but there was a reason the state water
5 plan was legislated. And we don't want to have
6 those problems come back and haunt us again
7 because we didn't work collectively with all of
8 the four agencies as well as all the nonprofits
9 and the water utilities and everybody who's around
10 this table.

11 Because right now, we're not prepared the way
12 we should be for water, whether it be intense
13 rainfall and the water quality, or drought. And
14 we need to be having a better plan in place so
15 that we don't -- so that we are more sustainable.
16 So I'm looking at that.

17 And, you know, I know I'm pushing it with the
18 legislators I talked to, and I do talk with a lot
19 of them. And I think it's imperative for this
20 group to do that. Thank you.

21 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Thank you, Denise. And it's something
22 that has been going -- I mean, this is going on
23 for almost a quarter of a century. And I look at
24 what we've done piecemeal approach. Like in the
25 2000s, we had a situation where all the agencies

1 pitched in some money, and we actually had Sharon
2 Mann working for us a little bit at that point.

3 So we have to kind of get that, that ball
4 rolling. Of course, councilmembers, we have a lot
5 of experience and background in the Legislature.
6 So I think that we have to figure out the best
7 approach to getting that done. And we can
8 incorporate that into our annual report with
9 recommendations moving forward for the '25/'26
10 fiscal year.

11 And Graham, Martin?

12 Okay. Anyone else have public comment today?

13 Anyone else?

14 Oh, I'm sorry, Carol.

15 CAROL HASKINS: I can't find the raise-hand function.

16 THE CHAIRMAN: That's okay. I saw you raise your hand,
17 Carol.

18 CAROL HASKINS: So a couple of things; I would like to
19 underscore or echo what Virginia said about the
20 using the language around the flooding
21 probability. You know, for the Pomperaug River we
22 have seen several storms in the past two years
23 that have exceeded, you know, more than minor
24 flooding.

25 And this past storm really, I mean, even what

1 you see on the news, it just -- it makes my
2 stomach hurt to drive around my watershed and see,
3 see the damage. It's, like, beyond comprehension
4 in some ways.

5 And I just want to share comments that, you
6 know, the response in Southbury and Oxford in
7 particular -- those are two communities I'm most
8 familiar with -- have really been phenomenal. And
9 those town leaders really should be applauded for
10 their responsiveness, as well as the State.

11 Governor Lamont, Katie Dykes have been out
12 here surveying the damage firsthand. The DOT has
13 been out, they've been putting Band-Aids upon
14 Band-Aids on things, which is, you know, much
15 appreciated in terms of the transportation and
16 accessibility, but when it comes to looking at
17 things like what's in GC3, what's in the state
18 water plan, what's in even this well water
19 resiliency plan, I was just kind of glazing
20 through quickly here during the meeting.

21 These Band-Aids are not addressing the
22 resiliency in the infrastructure. We're putting
23 like-size pipes right back in, patching things up,
24 and I have my doubts if things are going to
25 actually be upsized. And with the frequency

1 increasing the way it is, and these storm volumes
2 increasing the way they are, it's quite
3 concerning.

4 And seeing some streams that have relocated
5 and taken out an entire road, a state roadway, and
6 the stream being put exactly back where it was,
7 when that's not where it wants to go, is really
8 disheartening, but I also understand the mercy to
9 get people out from their homes that have been
10 fully disconnected.

11 So, you know it's a constant balance between,
12 you know, the human element of the natural world
13 and, you know, balancing the infrastructure and
14 the nature needs. And, you know, we know to do it
15 right takes time, and hope that there will be some
16 forward-looking plans to mitigate and try and
17 rebalance some of those Band-Aids.

18 And, you know, I know we're trying to stop
19 the hemorrhage here, but let's look at the real
20 root of what these problems are.

21 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Well said, Carol. Thank you.

22 Graham?

23 **GRAHAM STEVENS:** Yeah, just to respond to that. You
24 know, Carol, you know, we have been out and in the
25 field and looking at these situations where, you

1 know, our staff are working side by side with DOT.
2 In some of those decisions, we know that not in
3 every instance are there decisions being made that
4 are, you know, that are changing the dynamics in a
5 way that is going to greatly improve resilience.

6 I'd also say -- and this is something that,
7 you know, not for you necessarily, but, you know,
8 it's important to remember that, you know, bigger
9 is not always better. And that's something that
10 we've heard and are trying to work with towns on
11 as well, where, you know, sometimes people just
12 want to put in the biggest culvert possible,
13 whereas a culvert may not even be the right
14 approach.

15 So, you know, one thing that, you know, DEEP
16 is doing that the folks should know about -- and
17 really it's just kicked off last week, is, you
18 know, we've launched an initiative known as
19 rebuilding with resilience, where we're trying to
20 provide in-kind resources to municipalities
21 affected by the 8/18 storm to, you know, look at
22 both, you know, immediate repairs that will end up
23 being the permanent repairs and trying to add
24 resilience where feasible there. And also, you
25 know, working with the communities who've been

1 impacted and do temporary repairs, but intend to
2 come back and do a more permanent repair to work
3 on sitting with them on the planning and working
4 on the alt-type design features that bring
5 resilience to provide that, you know, service to
6 them to try to eliminate some of the challenges
7 that towns are, you know, faced with when trying
8 to make these decisions about public safety.

9 Right?

10 We need the fire department to be able to
11 rescue people if their home catches on fire. We
12 need to be able to collect trash. We need to be
13 able to deliver mail. People need areas of rescue
14 assistance should there be another storm. Right?
15 All very critical and important decisions.

16 But we also want to say, you know, what are
17 the nature-based solutions that we can add to this
18 project? It may be a project scope increase,
19 footprint increase, impact increase, but is there
20 a net positive at the end of the day? Are there
21 different design features that should be brought
22 in for the permanent? And also ensuring that our
23 contractors can provide some advice with respect
24 to hazard mitigation and the changing rules at
25 FEMA which come into effect on 9/9 to ensure that,

1 you know, people are getting their due
2 reimbursement; that they didn't miss an
3 opportunity to meet a new federal standard for
4 hazard mitigation, or that they don't leave on the
5 table an opportunity to seek greater federal
6 reimbursement for an expanded project. Right?

7 So there's the issue with FEMA -- is, you
8 know, are you building back better? Are we
9 allowed to say that anymore?

10 CAROL HASKINS: (Unintelligible.)

11 GRAHAM STEVENS: Are we building back resilient? And
12 then FEMA is going to say, no, we can't reimburse
13 you for that? Or are they building back like it
14 was, and then FEMA is saying, no, you don't meet
15 our resilient standard for hazard mitigation
16 reimbursement.

17 So it's a very complicated, as everyone on
18 this call probably knows, process that towns are
19 going to have to thread that needle on. And so,
20 you know, we basically put an e-mail out to them
21 and through DEMHS and through the NVCOG to say,
22 hey. You know, is anybody interested, first off?
23 Right? Are there any takers?

24 And I know that first selectmen and mayors
25 have a lot on their plates right now, but we're

1 going to continue to ask in hopes that we can
2 deploy those resources to help them make as wise
3 decisions as possible.

4 Because I know I've heard from, you know,
5 first select people that they want to avoid the
6 problems that they experienced. Right? You may
7 not be able to design for a thousand-year storm,
8 but what can you design for. Right? And what can
9 you account for?

10 So it's very fast moving. This is very much
11 in its nascent stage. We just launched it last
12 Tuesday at 8 a.m. on a call, and got it out to
13 municipalities on Thursday, looking for their
14 feedback, you know, but we're hopeful that this is
15 the kind of work that we can do in this space on a
16 going-forward basis.

17 You know, this Council should also know that
18 DEEP is going to launch its next round of DEEP
19 climate resilience funding through an RFI, a
20 request for information, on an expanded scope for
21 our climate resilience funding, which in 2023, you
22 know, provided 21 grants, totaling some \$8.8
23 million for planning and project advancement. And
24 we're looking at planning and project advancement,
25 and in a bit of a modified way, but also funding

1 what we are calling deployment.

2 For those like Pat in the clean water world,
3 you know, Pat knows all about the priority list.
4 We're trying to kind of conceive of an idea where
5 deployment is going to be awarded on, like, on a
6 ranked basis. And then those, those parties can
7 go seek federal or private, or other funding with
8 the knowledge and comfort that if they get that
9 money, if they move forward with that project, if
10 they fund it themselves, you know, DEEP is going
11 to be there to give an X percent contribution
12 towards that project, another barrier we see in
13 the resilience world.

14 So I just launched an Office of Planning and
15 Resilience at DEEP. I'll be working in
16 partnership with the Office of Climate Planning
17 that conceived and launched the first DEEP climate
18 resilience fund and is working with me to launch
19 the second round RFI.

20 So please do look for that next RFI, which
21 should be coming this week or next. We will see.
22 And, you know, also, you know, as you're having
23 conversations with folks, know that there is some
24 more potential funding that the State can bring to
25 help folks make better decisions as we adapt to

1 the impacts from climate change.

2 CAROL HASKINS: Thanks, Graham. That's really -- it's
3 very reassuring, and fully agree bigger is not
4 always better, you know -- but planning and
5 projections as they go in here, so.

6 GRAHAM STEVENS: I know what you mean, but I just want
7 to make sure of that.

8 CAROL HASKINS: Yeah. Floodplain reconnection is
9 definitely a big one for our watershed, and I'm
10 very pleased to hear what's, you know, in the
11 works and greatly appreciate that.

12 And I do know the flood, you know, FEMA is
13 very nuanced. And one of the things that we've
14 been hearing repeatedly from folks we've been
15 talking to out, you know, just in the field the
16 past few weeks is, you know, with that, with this
17 .1 percent probability storm, it's a, you know,
18 that these are folks impacted that are not in FEMA
19 designated flood zones.

20 And yet, so they can't get flood insurance.
21 And then because of that, they, their damage is
22 not being covered by a traditional storm event
23 either. And it's, you know, that's definitely a
24 big challenge that we're seeing for a lot of folks
25 is the insurance company is getting to have it

1 both ways, and the little guy is kind of getting
2 screwed here in the process, so.

3 **THE CHAIRMAN:** For sure. I mean the --

4 **CAROL HASKINS:** Lots of work to be done.

5 **THE CHAIRMAN:** A lot of work to be done. Everybody
6 familiar with the Klarides plaza in Seymour,
7 Connecticut, which is owned by Themis Klarides's
8 family, unbelievable the devastation in there.

9 I mean, wiping out the majority of the small
10 businesses there, package stores, greeting card
11 stores, Ocean Job Lot. I mean, just unbelievable
12 how high the water was in that place -- from a
13 little, they call it the Little River.
14 Ironically, it's the Little River that runs in the
15 back of all these places, and the Little River
16 became a raging river during this storm. So lots
17 to talk about. Lots of think about.

18 Anything else to come before us before we
19 adjourn? Lots to do between now and the end of
20 the year; the annual report, and we have seminars
21 and meetings coming up and other things. I hope
22 everybody participates.

23 And with that, is there anything else to come
24 before us?

25 **MARTIN HEFT:** I'll make a motion to adjourn to adjourn

1 at 2:34.

2 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Motion to adjourn. Second?

3 **GRAHAM STEVENS:** Second.

4 **THE CHAIRMAN:** I appreciate everybody's participation
5 today. It was a very good meeting.

6 All those in favor signify by saying aye.

7 **THE COUNCIL:** Aye.

8 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Opposed?

9
10 (No response.)

11
12 **THE CHAIRMAN:** Motion carried.

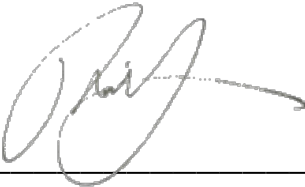
13 See you all October 1st.

14 **GRAHAM STEVENS:** Be well.

15
16 (End: 2:34 p.m.)

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 52 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 September 3, 2024.



Robert G. Dixon, CVR-M #857
Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 6/30/2025

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1 INDEX

2 VOTES TAKEN
3 (Unanimous Approval)

4 DESCRIPTION	5 PAGE
8/4/'24 Transcript approval	4
Adjournment	52

6
7
8 TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

9 DESCRIPTION	10 PAGE(s)
A. Charamut: Advisory group appointments USGS gauges	5-6
M. Heft: Annual report due Jan. 1st	6-7
D. Savageau: Outreach & Education workshops	8-9
2025 Theme: Groundwater	10-11
Council Discussion:	11-15
Branding	15-17
Council Discussion:	18-21
M. Heft: Colebrook River Reservoir	23-28
Council Discussion:	28-31
Plan implementation & updates	32-35
Council Discussion:	35-51