

Water Planning Council Advisory Group

June 17, 2025, Meeting Minutes

A tele meeting of the Water Planning Council Advisory Group (WPCAG) was held by Zoom

Agenda: [Agenda June 17, 2025](#)

Video: [Mtg. Video Recording June 17, 2025](#)

Members Present by video or phone:

Aaron Budris	Naugatuck Valley Council of Governments
Josh Cansler	Southeastern CT Water Authority
Alicea Charamut	Fisheries Advisory Council
Patrick Kearney	New Britain Water Dept.
Martha Smith	New Haven West River Watershed Coalition
Kelsey Sudol	Lake Waramaug
Steve Vitko	South Central CT Regional Water Authority
Dan Lawrence	Aquarion Water Company

Other Participants:

Becca Dahl	CT Office of Policy & Management
Iris Kaminski	
Aimee Petras (alt.)	Farmington River Watershed Assoc.
Paul Aresta	CT Council on Environmental Quality
Kim Czapla	CT Dept. of Energy & Environmental Protection
Bruce Wittchen	CT Office of Policy & Management
ZZ Khalid	NWCD (Public)

Members Absent:

Kathy Czepiel	Save the Sound
Alison McHorney	CT Office of Consumer Counsel
Darryl Newman	CT Nursery & Landscape Assoc.
Steve Woltornist	Marmon Water Residential Filtration/Water Quality Assoc.
Nicole Deziel	Yale School of Public Health
Bonnie Burr	UConn College of Agriculture, Health and Natural Resources
Carol Haskins	Pomperaug River Watershed Coalition
Sean Hayden	Lake Waramaug Task Force
Len Greene	FirstLight (Electric Power)
Dan Lawrence	Aquarion
Sonia Brinckswirth	CT Association of Directors of Health
Denise Savageau	CT Association of Conservation Districts
Tom Tyler	MDC

Vacancies:

Recreation

Staff:

Sheena McElrath	CT Public Utility Regulatory Authority
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1. Call to Order

Co-chair Alicea Charamut began the meeting at 1:32pm welcoming Steve Vitko as Co-Chair and then introductions of everyone on the call.

2. No quorum. Minutes from 5/20/25 meeting will be approved at the July 15 meeting.

3. Old Business

a. WPC

- No Meeting this month. No update.
- [Outreach & Education Work Group](#)
 - Extreme Weather & Watershed Webinar Series was held last month and attended well.
 - WPCAG Outreach and Education Workgroup Webinar series continues in the Fall. September 30th for Source Water Protection Week - focus on flood and drinking water quality and October date TBD for Imagine a Day Without Water - drought and drinking water quality. Imagine a Day without Water focusing on droughts and the impact droughts have on water quality.
 - Asking all WPCAG Members to complete the [Outreach Survey](#) and send out as well. The survey is open until end of June.
 - Workgroup is always looking for members.
- Nominating Committee
 - No update
- Watershed Lands Workgroup
 - Met June 6. Guest speaker Eric McPhee from DPH spoke on the Interactive Land Quest Map. [Parcel Prioritization for Source Water Protection Mapping Tool](#)
 - Reviewing Workgroup title & purpose (mission)
 - Next meeting July 1
- Source Water Protection White Paper
 - No update.
- Review of State Water Plan Recommendations
 - State Water Plan Recommended Pathways and Frameworks, Section 5.3
 - Water Conservation
 - Regionalization's and Interconnections
 - Registered Water Diversions
 - Aging Infrastructure
 - Economic Impacts
 - Funding for Implementation
 - Future Class B Water for Non-Potable Uses
 - Statewide Drought Planning
 - Wastewater and Water Reuse

- Water Use Accounting
- Instream Flow: Ecological Flows and Stream Flow Standards and Regulations
- Overcoming Future Challenges

b. 2025 Legislative Session

- H.B. No [7174](#) AN ACT CONCERNING RIPARIAN AREAS passed as a working group.
- Inland Wetlands Training changed the standard for training from one person on Inland Wetlands Commissioner to all. Have to go through the DEEP online training. Started out as H.B. No [6830](#) AN ACT CONCERNING TRAINING FOR MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES OF INLAND WETLANDS AGENCIES. Was grouped in with a bigger bill now [6957](#) AN ACT ALLOWING A TOWN TO DESIGNATE ITSELF A CITY, ESTABLISHING A TASK FORCE TO STUDY THE REGULATION OF CORPORATE HOUSING ACQUISITIONS AND CONCERNING TRAINING FOR INLAND WETLANDS AGENCIES, CERTIFICATES OF CORRECTION FOR CERTAIN PROPERTY ASSESSED IN ERROR, THE SUBMISSION OF CERTAIN STUDIES AND EVALUATIONS, INCLUSIONARY ZONING, SOLAR INSTALLATIONS IN CERTAIN COMMON INTEREST OWNERSHIP COMMUNITIES, THE CAPITAL REGION AND THE MILLSTONE RIDGE TAX DISTRICT passed.
- [SB01351](#) Release based regulation bills Transfer Act passed.
- CEPA Bill did not go through.
- [HB06995](#) Act concerning the Charter of the Metropolitan District of Hartford County allows MDC to bring on member towns that are contiguous to existing member towns passed.
- 6977 Act concerning the DPH's recommendations regarding drinking water was amended to Bill 6978 and passed
- H.B. No. [7172](#) AN ACT CONCERNING THE SEWAGE RIGHT-TO-KNOW ACT. Did not pass.
- [SB00884](#) 1-4 Dioxane Bill did not pass
- Energy & Water Efficiency requirements for artificial intelligence data centers did not pass

c. Other old business

- Website changes
 - There was no update.
- WUCC update
 - In the next 2 years should be updating the WUCC plans.
- Interagency Drought Work Group
 - Met on June 5, 2025.
 - Removed all drought stages from the entire state. No longer in drought.
 - [Drought Data & Reports](#)
 - [IDW Homepage](#)

4. New Business

None

5. Public Comment

None

6. Adjourn

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 2:30pm.

Minutes prepared by Sheena McElrath, PURA