

Meeting	REMOTE Hudson River Drinking Water Intermunicipal Council
Date	Thursday, August 20, 2020 Quorum: 5:32pm Adjourn: 6:31pm
Location	Remote
Chairperson	Mayor Gary Bassett, Village of Rhinebeck
Vice Chair	Supervisor Jay Baisley, Town of Poughkeepsie
Secretary	Deputy Supervisor Neil Krupnick, Town of Hyde Park
In Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mayor Gary Bassett, VoR ● Deputy Supervisor Neil Krupnick, ToHP ● Board Member Bill Carlos, ToP ● Randy Alstadt, CoP ● City Administrator Marc Nelson CoP ● Supervisor Shannon Harris ToE ● Supervisor Elizabeth Spinzia ToR ● Paul Malmrose (Technical Advisor, Engineering) ● Europa McGovern Ulster County Representative ● Rebecca Martin, Riverkeeper (coordinator) ● Dan Shapley, Riverkeeper (presenter)

Regular Business

1. Call To Order 5:34
2. Roll Call & Quorum Determination.
 - a. Voting members: Neil Krupnick (ToHP), Bill Carlos (ToR), Randy Alstadt (CoP/ToP and Technical Advisor), Gary Bassett (VoR), Shannon Harris (ToE), Elizabeth Spinzia (ToR). Non-voting members: Marc Nelson (CoP), Dan Shapley (Riverkeeper), Rebecca Martin (Riverkeeper), Paul Malmrose (Technical Advisor), Europa McGovern (Ulster County Department of the Environment)

Six voting members (quorum)
3. Approval of 7/16/20 meeting
 - a. **Bassett/Spinzia. Motion carried to approve minutes**

4. Communications

- a. Paul Malmrose is working with the churches in Northern Dutchess on 'Walk for Water' for the Hudson Water on September 19.
- b. Sebastian Grimm, MS Climate Science and Policy Candidate from Bard College discussed his project asking to collaborate with a municipality, community and public water supply facility operation team in the Hudson Valley and is interested in re-imagining and advancing their local drinking water or wastewater treatment plant. His thesis would culminate in a grant proposal allowing an opportunity to pursue an actionable project over the long term. As a research fellow with the National Hydropower Association (NHA) and wrote a report on the potential for conduit hydropower development in NY. As a outcome of doing this research, he felt inspired to orient his thesis toward working to ally with a community who is dependent on a water supply facility with inadequate/un-updated treatment systems, and interested in developing a linked clean water and energy resilience strategy to revitalize that infrastructure.
 - i. **RA:** asked if the project dealt with water going downhill? Might be best to work with the city of Kingston. In Poughkeepsie, water is pumped in. **SG:** A strategy used in the past (specifically in the facility he cites that California is using) integrating turbines with flow control valves. **SH:** Our water treatment plant is also at a low point. What qualities and characteristics are you looking for/would make a good study for this project? **SG:** What translates into the electricity that can be generated renewable is the amount of flow per year or per day, 1 million gallons of water. 3-8 million gallons per day make the short term costs worth while. Main characteristic is the amount of flow. **PM:** He looked at this when working on a project in Connecticut (about 10 years ago). One area he can think of is Rhinebeck that delivers water to Rhinecliff. The flow may not be significant, but the drop is tremendous. **GB:** The issue we have in Rhinecliff is a pressure issue. **SG:** An elevation drop

would be a perfect application, but it would depend on flow of water. He has used modeling software (the California Energy Commission put together in the spring). **GB:** Just completed an engineering study with DCWWA. The timing is good to talk to them. Sebastian has connected with them a week prior.

1. ACTION: Gary and Sebastian to have a side conversation. Rebecca to gather his information to send to the group.

5. Public Comment

a. Europa McGovern, Ulster County (UC) Department of the Environment. Europa has consulted with her colleagues re: Water Source Protection mapping that the Hudson 7 will be pursuing. The UC Department of the Environment can take on the mapping on the Ulster County side, whether the group secures the DWSP2 (Drinking Water Source Protection Program) grant from the state or not. She will reach out to the Hudson 7 Dutchess County counterpart in planning to discuss. Additionally, Ulster County has a Water Quality coordinating committee and reported out on the Hudson 7's progress. Public meeting on October 19 for that committee.

i. **GB:** Brad in Dutchess county planning reach out. **EMc:** Will Dan coordinate? **DS:** Happy to help to see it through. Europa is familiar with the framework so it will be just a matter of the counties collaborating and following the path created by the state.

1. ACTION: Europa to reach out to Brad Barclay in Dutchess County.

Reports and Actions on Old Business

1. Hudson River Source Water Protection initiatives

a. Update on Central Hudson MGP site

i. July 22 project status and call update

1. RA: Setting up a plan for dredging this year. Central Hudson will be in the river at the end of September beginning of October, in an area that is not contaminated.

Testing the dredging technology, that is a syphon (hydro/suction). Not a clamshell. Concerned about how they will do it. They will need to treat the solids, build a water treatment plant and sludge processing plant solids processing plant on the river and in barges. End of Oct early Nov, they will get into the contaminated areas. CH will put together another report (next Wednesday) will have more info and answer questions. DOH and DEC are active, but the majority of the people on the call is from the Health Department. **DS:** Do you know if the report coming out on Wednesday has any formal process for public comment, or from experts? **RA:** They will have it out on Wednesday, to have comments by the following Friday. **PM:** They weren't soliciting public comment were they? **RA:** The public could get involved by submitting comments to Central Hudson, but there won't be any formal public hearings. **PM:** Any possibility that they could meet with the Hudson 7 to give an informal presentation to the Hudson 7. **DS:** Make sure to include the DOH and DEC to make sure that state agencies who are overseeing the project are in concurrence with the Central Hudson plan.

a. ACTION: Rebecca to f/u with Randy to get a copy of the report when it is available. Randy will reach out to Mark at Central Hudson to attend the September meeting. Dan Suggests including the DOH and DEC

b. Letter to Douglas MacNeal (DEC) re: document on process and implementation of coal tar site

1. **GB:** Has not received a response back. He could follow up if the council feels it's necessary. No action at this time.

c. Champlain Hudson Power Express delayed

- i. **RA:** Delayed another year. **GB:** Discussed in the past, is there another chance for municipalities to engage in the process before it's complete? **RA:** The Hudson Safety Committee is out there and would be willing to speak. He has contacts he can outreach to. **SH:** Are we entitled to a FOIL request? Request a map or plan to know where it will go in order to determine if we will be impacted? **RA:** He hasn't seen a map, he knows there are different locations they are looking at to avoid water hazards rather than water utilities). They will locate our intakes. **RM:** Where would the FOIL go? **RA:** The coast guard that has regulation over this line? **DS:** Riverkeeper has been following this for a long time. We could follow-up with John Lipscomb who would know who to FOIL. **GB:** Should we ask them to come to see us at a future meeting? **SH:** Yes, and check with the Public Service Commission. They've had hearings on the initial route and alternate route. Public and private comment should all be filed/available there.

1. ACTION: Rebecca to follow-up with John Lipscomb. Potentially invite the Hudson Safety Committee to a Hudson 7 meeting.

- d. Hudson 7 presentation and NYS American Water Works Association
- i. **PM:** He was to give a presentation but is not able to do so this month. Options to review 45 minute presentation: regularly scheduled meeting time in September, extend September meeting time or subcommittee (committee) meeting to join Paul for special meeting. Presentation needs to be an hour long, 8-10 minutes will include the short film on drinking water made by the City of Poughkeepsie. **GB:** Since we're pushing this out to September, suggest that we wait for the presentation to discuss. **DS:** Clarifying that Paul wants feedback before going to the NYSAWWA. Are there members who would be willing to review the video in advance? **RM:** Randy, Bill and Dan raised their hand. **PM:** Neil provided a site for Paul to upload the presentation for a zoom or team meeting.

i. ACTION: Paul to contact ToL to get photos of their storage tank and treatment plant. Bill, Randy and Dan are all willing to review the presentation for any input.

e. Update on Municipal code review

i. Emily Svenson was not present at the meeting on 8/20. The item was tabled.

f. Update on NYS Drinking Water Source Protection Program

i. Update on grant application (DWSP2)

1. **DS:** Nothing to report.

i. Devin Rigolino, Senior GIS Project Coordinator of the Dutchess County Department of Planning & Development: update on GIS

1. **DS:** Same subject as Europa brought up at the top of the meeting. One of the first steps in source water planning is to do a new mapping to identify potential risks. Through Devin, Dutchess County through Devin expressed some interest but then some reservation to pressing forward. He hopes that Europa's outreach will be just the thing to get them moving.

2. Water Operators

a. Next steps for convening operators and/or providing assistance during COVID

i. **GB:** Has not had the opportunity to get the letter off to convene operators. The matter is tabled.

1. ACTION (carried over from July): Gary to write a letter to all municipalities as a formal request for cooperation in sharing equipment and information and request a response. Bassett/Carlos. Motion carried.

b. Equipment Share

i. **RA:** Put together an equipment share list for the Hudson 7 municipalities. **GB:** How would you like to coordinate the list?

RA: Typically in an emergency, there isn't much lead time. Contact the PWTF if you wish to pick-up or have the equipment delivered. **PM:** A reminder, that Hyde Park in Greenfield had a major failure at their sewer treatment plant. Building burned down and they lost a lot of their equipment and had a hard time meeting the effluent standards for wastewater. **SH:** Recall that she would check with Ulster county to ask them for their shared service agreement. With Europa on the zoom call, can she help to put her hands on the county agreement between highway departments. She would like the municipalities to have such an agreement in place to submit to insurance companies so that they are all protected. Shannon mentioned the PWTF camera to see intakes. **GB:** Just did ours as well as our storage tank (VoR). Went well overall. **RA:** We do ours every year. Gary asked if Randy thought they should do it annually. Randy said that they have found things that made it make sense for liability.

1. ACTION: Shannon and Europa to connect re: county equipment agreement between Ulster County highway departments. Check on one from Dutchess County.

3. Coordination

a. Dutchess County Representative

- i. Brad Barclay from the Dutchess County Planning Department will be the Dutchess County representative to Hudson 7.

b. Funding

- i. **DS:** Nothing new re: NYS Estuary program for funding. Some positive news that the Environmental Protection Fund will not be raided but doesn't mean the money in it gets dispersed. Unclear if there will be a grant program this year. He will meet with the Estuary Management Advisory Committee and will hopefully have more information after that..

c. Ongoing: Revised work plan (milestones and priorities)

- i. **DS:** the agenda is organized around them, so you are making progress on it all night.

New Business

1. Hudson 7 Bylaws

- a. Propose having Dutchess Planning and Ulster Department of Environment listed as "agencies that assist with source water protection actions" in the current definition, and so the council can designate a non-voting member from each. A revision to the bylaws might be usefully made to note that "agencies" can be granted standing seats that are designated by agency, not by individual.
- b. Amend 'amendments': 30 days with the exception of membership changes outlined in the document.
- c. *NOTE: To make amendments, the Council may from time to time adopt, amend, or repeal all or any of these operating procedures of the Council, by an affirmative vote of the majority of the total voting members, upon written notice at least thirty days prior to any meeting of the Council.*
 - i. **RM:** Read and explained the proposed changes. **GB** made a motion to adopt the proposed changes next month. **Gary/Bill.**
Motion carried to vote on bylaw changes in September

2. Town of Lloyd resolution for Russell Gilmore

- a. Town resolution was passed during the month to appoint Russell Gilmore

Adjournment: 6:31pm

Bassett/Spinzia. Motion carried