

Meeting	Hudson River Drinking Water Intermunicipal Council
Date	Wednesday, February 23, 2022 Quorum: 5:30pm Adjourn: 6:43pm
Location	Remote
Chairperson	Mayor Gary Bassett, Village of Rhinebeck
Vice Chair	Supervisor Jay Baisley, Town of Poughkeepsie
Secretary	Shannon Harris, Town of Esopus
In Attendance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gary Bassett, Mayor (VoR) ● Jay Baisley, Supervisor (ToP) ● Randy Alstadt, Water Plant Administrator (CoP) ● Nicholas Butler, Water Superintendent (ToE) ● Lynn Ruggiero, Town Board member (ToHP) ● Shannon Harris, Alternate (ToE) ● Russ Gilmore (ToL) ● Paul Malmrose, Hudson 7 Technical Advisor (Engineering) ● Emily Svenson, Hudson 7 Technical Advisor (Land Use) ● Brad Barclay, Dutchess County Representative ● Europa McGovern, Ulster County Representative ● Rebecca Martin, Riverkeeper (Coordinator) ● Dan Shapley, Riverkeeper ● Grant Jiang, Department of Health ● Michael Forgang (“forging”), Department of Health

Regular Business

1. Call To Order: 5:30pm
2. Roll Call & Quorum Determination.
 - a. **Voting members: Gary Bassett (VoR), Jay Baisley (ToR), Russ Gilmore (ToL), Shannon Harris (ToE) Lynn Ruggiero (ToHP) Randy Alstadt (CoP) Six voting members. Quorum**
3. Approval of minutes and adjournment
 - a. **Motion to approve 1/20/22 Bassett/Baisley Motion approved**
4. Communications listed in the agenda

- a. Daily Freeman reported the CHPE developers to conduct tests on drinking water systems
 - b. FOIL and Appeal by Jon Rossi
 - c. Dutchess County Legislature submitted comments on the Tier 4 credits denying CHPE proposal.
5. County representative report
- a. Ulster County: Out.
 - b. Dutchess County: meeting with Ulster County to discuss NRI. Hoping that Grant or Mike has any ideas on what type of data or layers we are looking for as part of the water protection plans that both counties can help during these initiatives. Can be sent to either Brad Barclay or Europa McGovern.
6. Public Comment
- a. Lou Sebesta, former DEC Region 3. Member of the Rensselaer Environmental Coalition. Joined the fight against the dump in Rensselaer. Pulverized waste from seven states. Leachate is coming out of the landfill, three tributaries to the Hudson River. Particularly of interest to the Hudson 7. PFAS levels of serious concern. When the DEC found this out, they said that we were ‘fear mongering’ working with Kyla Bennett (PEERS) and said the levels that we found were of concern. The landfill 100 tractor trailer goes in and out, and is next to a K-12 with over 1100 teachers and staff. www.stopdunn.org. Dunn’s permit approval deadline is in July
 - b. Lee Gough, Town of Esopus

Reports and Actions on Old Business

1. Hudson 7 Priorities for 2021-2022

- a. Hudson 7 membership
 - i. Secretary position vacant. Hudson 7 could have a nominating committee, or a member could contact Gary directly who is interested. **RM:** The secretary plays the role of FOIL officer, and much of the admin duties are handled by the coordinator. Shannon Harris offered to be secretary.

1. **Motion to nominate Shannon Harris Bassett/Baisley** **Motion approved**

- ii. Russ Gilmore, ToL representative. In January, the Town Board voted Russ as a representative on the Hudson 7 for Lloyd.

b. Hudson 7 coordinator position

- i. The Hudson 7 Coordinator subcommittee (Gary, Elizabeth, Dan and Rebecca) formed to address how this position can be put forward. Discussing how the Hudson 7 can proceed and they learned the Hudson 7 can make its own hires. The easiest way to do that now, is to hire the position as a consultant. RA: has an office ready for the Hudson 7 coordinator. GB: we can hire and control the position.

- 1. Motion to work out mechanics and hire a consultant working with Ulster/Dutchess county to fulfill that position. Bassett/Gilmore **Motion approved****

- a. On the question - **SH:** how far into the future is the position funded into the future by both counties?
BB: Right now, we are going to have to write contracts to do this. There is money in this year's budget. Think it's more than a single year, though the budget is from year to year. **JB:** Discuss all the details to understand what is expected by the municipalities and counties. **BB:** recommends a written document to have a discussion. With the IMA it allows the hiring, but it could be more clearly spelled out. The IMA changes could be what we are specifically working on. **GB:** Funding for legal fees to change the IMA. **SH:** Leap of faith is appropriate in this situation. We do have a job description and have demonstrated our value as a council. We have commitment from both counties and a forward agenda to keep this person busy. **ES:** amendment to the IMA re: the money, with everyone being willing to contribute and how it's going to be handled. **DS:** The Hudson 7's request could include revising the IMA, and provide that kind of legal help? **BB:** Suggest that you'd include that in the job description and steps to take to move forward. The way this funding works, we will need a contract.

ii. NYS Drinking Water Source Protection Program

1. Grant Jiang and Mike J had a discussion with the DWSP2 Hudson 7 committee. Scope of what this plan to look like re: issues and geographical scope. Discussed potential issues in the river and compiled them into a google form. Operators and municipal officials are asked to fill it out before the next Hudson 7 meeting. **BB:** Concerned that PFAS is not on this list. **PM:** Thinks the items should be rated. Rebecca will amend it before shipping it out.

2. Hudson River Drinking Water Source Issues

a. Proposed transmission lines

i. Hudson 7 CHPE Committee updates

1. The CHPE electric cable from Canada to NYC will run by all five of the Hudson 7's drinking water intakes. Concern is churning up the bottom of the river in the process of jetplowing to lay this cable 7 feet down. It wasn't properly analyzed initially about 10 years ago. The Hudson 7 is raising this issue. NYSERDA condition in the tax credits that the company has to coordinate with the Hudson 7. Getting some traction. Big effort we're working on right now. Paul developed a testing and monitoring protocol which put on paper what we'd like TDI to do. Their initial offer wasn't sufficient. TMP includes initial sampling in the areas where the cable would be nearest to drinking water intakes to see what is the area, pilot testing where the developer would do some jet plowing in a small area near the Rhinebeck intakes in a controlled setting to see what the results would be. The results would help develop monitoring plan in real time. Working group with TDI, County and State Health Department. New president of TDI had a cooperative attitude. We expect to get some cooperation from them to develop a plan to protect our drinking water supplies. Reach out to Emily if you are interested in being involved for future meetings. To be clear, there is still

hope that the project won't happen at all. The projects have their main permits, but they are still seeking tax credits. We wrote a letter opposing that in Ulster County. We are working under the assumption that it will in order to protect the water in that situation.

2. **SH:** Rebecca and I have been tackling the PILOT and been proactive in working with the UCL to bring forward a resolution opposing any PILOT they bring forward.

NB: Asked for the map of the CHPE Project. **BB:** Now that they know about the coal deposits, they are going to have to go away from Poughkeepsie and towards Lloyd. Thanks to Paul Malmrose for his work on the protocol

b. Esopus Creek Committee updates

- i. **PM:** Two big wins. Hudson 7 will not be a member of the ARWG. On February 9, DEC said that NYC will have to do a supplemental environmental impact statement. Water quality for the Hudson River was included. The Hudson 7 should be proud. **SH:** Incredible. I don't think any of this would have been transpired without the Hudson 7 **GB:** How long will it take the DEP to reply? They could drag it on forever. **BB:** Have releases been occurring this year like last year? **PM:** Different kind of year, because the Ashokan is shut-down. They are releasing clear water right now. Operating differently now than they would in the future. **GB:** Shutting down the Delaware aqueduct this fall. **RA:** We have acquired a drone. If there is anything we can do to get great videos in the future, we'd be happy to do that. **PM:** We need to force NYC to come up with a temporary solution. We can't wait 10 years for their final solution.

New Business

1. Hudson 7 letters
 - a. NYS Fiscal Year 2023 Budget letter to Speak of the Assembly
 - i. Vote to accept the letter as written. **Bassett/Alstadt Motion approved**
 - ii. Amendments that were submitted by Paul Malmrose
2. Approval of Salt Front Testimony

- a. **SH:** An action plan and analysis, geared towards change and progress and action.
 - i. Motion to accept testimony as is, but includes an adjustment for it to be used as an action plan. **Bassett/Ruggiero Motion approved**

Presentation:

Advancement of the Salt Front in the Hudson River due to Climate Change

[VIDEO](#) [POWERPOINT](#)

Adjournment: 6:43pm

Bassett/Gilmore Motion approved