

<b>Meeting</b>	Hudson River Drinking Water Intermunicipal Council
<b>Date</b>	Thursday, November 18, 2021 Quorum: 5:30pm Adjourn: 6:20 (no quorum to vote at the end)
<b>Location</b>	Remote
<b>Chairperson</b>	Mayor Gary Bassett, Village of Rhinebeck
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Supervisor Jay Baisley, Town of Poughkeepsie
<b>Secretary</b>	Deputy Supervisor Neil Krupnick, Town of Hyde Park
<b>In Attendance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Gary Bassett, Mayor (VoR)</li> <li>● Elizabeth Spinzia, Supervisor (ToR)</li> <li>● Randy Alstadt (CoP)</li> <li>● Neil Krupnick, Deputy Supervisor (ToHP)</li> <li>● Shannon Harris (ToE)</li> <li>● Nicholas Butler (TOE)</li> <li>● Brad Barclay, Dutchess County Representative</li> <li>● Europa McGovern, Ulster County Representative</li> <li>● Rebecca Martin, Riverkeeper (Coordinator)</li> <li>● Dan Shapley, Riverkeeper</li> <li>● Grant Jiang, Department of Health</li> </ul>

Regular Business

1. Call To Order 5:30pm
2. Roll Call & Quorum Determination.
  - a. **Voting members: Gary Bassett (VoR), Neil Krupnick (ToHP), Randy Alstadt (CoP), Shannon Harris (ToE), Elizabeth Spinzia**  
**Five voting members. Quorum**
3. Approval of minutes
  - a. **Motion to approve 10/21/21 Bassett/Harris.**
4. No communications.
5. County representative report
  - a. Ulster County: Grant award announcement, Hudson River Estuary Program awarded the county’s proposal for the natural resource inventory (NRI) project for next year through 2023. Europa said that she believes Dutchess County will receive the same. This is relevant to the Hudson 7 as Ulster included the council as it pertains to water

resources mapping which is generally included in NRIs but Ulster sees this as an opportunity to ideally partner with Dutchess County as one of the first mapping projects to get the water resources source water protection mapping piece completed for the council.

- b. Dutchess County. Dutchess received the same NRI grant. Devin from county planning has taken the lead. Additionally, the funding for the Hudson 7 (coordinator) is still in the county budget as proposed for 2021/2022. Dutchess county municipalities should be looking at their planning departments for next year as the legislature added another \$3.5m in funding for a variety of grants for both municipal and NFP.
- c. No public comment.

### Reports and Actions on Old Business

#### 1. Hudson 7 Priorities for 2021-2022

- a. Discussion on which entity will employ the coordinator, and what IMA/MOA is needed. The hiring committee that includes Gary Bassett, Elizabeth Spinzia, Dan Shapley and Rebecca Martin (absent was Bill Carlos and Shannon Harris) and recommends to the council that Hudson 7 coordinator position. The recommendation is as follows, *“To proceed with the plan to hire a coordinator for the Hudson River Drinking Water Intermunicipal Council, details about hiring, management and administration of the employee will be clarified with an intermunicipal agreement that can be adopted by each municipality. The Town of Rhinebeck has offered to serve as fiscal sponsor/administrator of annual funds for the **Hudson River Source Water Protection Coordinator** position, and to amend its budget to accommodate the payroll, benefit and other expenses associated with the new Civil Service position. The Town of Rhinebeck is prepared to bring forward a resolution on Monday, November 22, to amend its budget to accept the coordinator revenue and to act as the administrator of the associated expenses.”* ES said that she felt it was important that the coordinator receive benefits and pension, like any municipal employee through civil service. She also offered the services of the ToR’s attorney to draft the IMA if the council would like (Warren Replansky). His services would be paid for through escrow funding by the funds donated by the seven municipalities. She said that if another municipality wishes to do it, that’s fine by ToR.

SH and NK thanked Elizabeth for her generous contributions. Discussion on housing the coordinator position. Randy offered the PWTF as an office for the new coordinator position. He will get approval from the City and Town, but doesn't see it as a problem. Dan asked if space included a phone line or computer, or should that be included in the budget? Randy can help to work that all out. Elizabeth asked about rent or admin fee for payroll. Randy suggested it be included in the IMA. Brad said that this approach was different from what was originally agreed to with Dutchess county. Warren Replansky will connect with the hiring committee to be brought up to speed on an IMA.

- i. **Motion to accept the plan as presented by the Town of Rhinebeck (including ToR attorney drafting the IMA). Costs to be reimbursed by Hudson 7 municipalities. Bassett/Spinzia & Alstadt. Motion carried.**

- b. NYS Drinking Water Source Protection Program. GJ said that he hasn't yet made progress, as he's backed up by his other duties. Grant introduced Mike Forging who will be working on the drinking water source protection plan with Grant. Forging recently graduated from Penn State with a masters in hydrogeochemistry and now a new environmental analyst. He has been coming up to speed on source water issues in the mid-hudson region. Grant asked if they could start reaching out to the Source protection committee to get the wheels in motion. Grant asked about the changes due the election affecting things? Gary said that he expects that we'll move forward as planned. Dan asked if the Hudson 7 should send a letter to municipalities to appoint someone in January as part of their reorganization in the new year. Neil offered to help in Hyde Park. Grant will outreach to the committee at the end of December or early January. The Hudson 7 DWSP2 committee consists of Gary Bassett, Paul Malmrose and Dan Shapley. Elizabeth Spinzia is happy to lend a hand, too. Emily would be interested in becoming involved at some point. Grant will be in touch to schedule a meeting. A motion to establish Hudson 7 DWSP2 committee and include Ulster/Dutchess county reps occurred in October.

## 2. Hudson River Drinking Water Source Issues

a. Proposed transmission lines

i. Hudson 7 CHPE Committee updates

1. An update was read into the record received from Emily Svenson, chair of the CHPE Committee: “We met with representatives of NYSERDA a few weeks ago to express the Hudson 7’s concerns about the CHPE project’s impacts and to urge consideration of this issue in awarding Tier 4 credits. The NYSERDA folks were receptive but unable to share much about their own process. The Committee’s priority right now is to finalize our request for a testing and monitoring protocol for the CHPE project. We will be meeting this Friday at 2:00 by Zoom, and any Hudson 7 members who would like to join can contact me for the Zoom link.” Shannon asked about information on Tier 4 credits and how it benefits the Hudson 7? Dan explained the renewable energy credits, and the Hudson 7’s advocacy was to say “don't grant incentives with the CHPE proposal because of our concerns about it.” NYSERDA approved, but ultimately the PSC will have to approve NYSERDA’s recommendation. The PSC vote will be soon. Dan explained that the county IDA is also being asked to grant more tax relief through PILOT agreements. Shannon asked about who owns the river bottom in this case. Dan thought that it was both federal and local jurisdiction. Shannon suggested that the Hudson 7 strongly urge IDAs against approving these tax breaks. Brad reminded the Hudson 7 that they are an independent board (IDAs) appointed by those who are elected.

**a. Motion that the CHPE committee draft a letter to UCIDA of its concerns for CHPE’s PILOT request. Bassett/Krupnick. Motion carried.**

b. CSX/Blue Point

- i. A thank you letter was sent to Senator Schumer as well as an Action Plan to Prevent Spills at the CSX Railroad Bridge near Blue Point was submitted on 10/26.

- c. Esopus Creek Committee updates
  - i. Request for Membership in Ashokan Release Working Group submitted on 10/27. (Amanda LaValle from Ulster County wrote to update the Hudson 7 that Governance Committee members were supportive of having representation of the Hudson 7 at the ARWG. The committee is now creating a form for other requests which will lay out a process as well as information needed to review membership requests (e.g. all requests must be made in writing). They also all agreed to hammer out this process as expediently as possible. Since the ARWG meetings are only quarterly, the goal is to have any new members officially approved and able to attend the next meeting in December.

### **New Business**

- 1. Lead and copper rule
  - a. Paul Malmrose offered to provide a presentation in January. Nicholas Butler (Town of Esopus) said he'd speak to his foreman. He has asked the question regarding lead solder or lead in the lines. The answer he was given is that the ToE is not aware of any, but he will follow-up to be sure. Gary said to pay attention to galvanized pipes, as it's a part of the work too, and that he would like to make sure that an invitation is sent out to all of the water operators to attend Paul's presentation.
- 2. 2022 meetings
  - a. The group discussed keeping the same time/place. Shannon asked if the meetings could be moved to 5pm. Gary said that 5pm could become difficult if we meet in person. Shannon asked if the group could meet at 5pm (zoom) and at 5:30pm (in-person). For now, keep the time/date as is and discuss a time change then.
- 3. Infrastructure repairs
  - a. The VoR has submitted a \$6.5 million grant to the EFC to upgrade its water treatment plant. Gary asked if the Hudson 7 could help to draft a letter to help provide some leverage of that. Shannon asked if there would be a trickle down effect from the Washington DC infrastructure bill here in NYS, and if Hudson 7 members could be on the look-out for that, as the ToE would be looking to match their EFC grant for

water infrastructure improvements with federal if they can to avoid bonding. If water is covered, please let us know. Gary will draft a letter for the Hudson 7 to review.

**Adjournment:**

6:20pm (no quorum)