

Meeting	Hudson River Drinking Water Intermunicipal Council
Date	Thursday, April 15, 2021 Quorum: 5:30pm Adjourn: 6:33pm
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"> • Neil Krupnick, Deputy Supervisor (ToHP) • Bill Carlos, Town Board (ToP) • Russell Gilmore (ToL) • Elizabeth Spinzia, Town Supervisor (ToR) • Randy Alstadt, WWTP Operator/Technical Advisor (CoP) • Marc Nelson, Town Administrator (CoP) • Paul Malmrose (Technical Advisor, Engineering) • Emily Svenson (Technical Advisor, Land Use) • Brad Barclay, Dutchess County Representative • Europa McGovern, Ulster County Representative • Rebecca Martin, Riverkeeper (Coordinator) • Dan Shapley, Riverkeeper

Regular Business

1. Call To Order 5:30pm - 6:33pm
2. Roll Call & Quorum Determination.
 - a. Voting members: Neil Krupnick (ToHP), Bill Carlos (ToP), Russell Gilmore (ToL), Elizabeth Spinzia (ToR), Randy Alstadt (CoP)

Five voting members (quorum)
3. Approval of minutes
 - a. Motion to approve 3/18/21 **Bassett/Spinzia. Motion carries, Bassett abstains**
 - b. Motion to approve amended minutes 2/18/21 **Basset/Spinzia. Motion carries**

4. Communications

- a. Stuart Findlay, Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies: Request for letter of support from Hudson 7 re: blue-green algae sensors to HRECOS.
 - i. **RA: Provided a support letter from Poughkeepsie.**
Blue-green algae is less likely in moving water like a river, but as temperatures change that could change too.
 - ii. Motion to create a letter for Stuart **Carlos/Krupnick. Motion carried. Randy will send the letter from the Hudson 7.**
- b. Daily Freeman: Town of Esopus wants state to determine range of muddy water in Hudson River
- c. The River: Mud in the Water: The Fight Over Turbidity in Esopus Creek w/ Paul Malmrose quote
- d. Hudson 7 approves Emily Svenson to apply to the HREMAC committee on its behalf
- e. From John Lipscomb: Kristin Poling anchored off Port Ewen overnight - 1800 on 3/1/2021 until 0615 on 3/2/2021
- f. From John Lipscomb: NY-NJ ACP - revised 2016 - "Worst Case Discharge Scenario"
- g. Hudson River Safety, Navigation and Operations Committee letter submitted by Randy Alstadt for comments regarding recent mooring in the vicinity of the Inbocht Bay Jetty and the Germantown launch ramp to temporarily moore loaded and unloaded barges/2021
Moorings letter: **RA: Set up a floating anchorage to improve the loading and discharging near Catskill. Sent to 30 different communities, concerned that at Tappan Zee bridge someone hit one because they hadn't seen it. The safety committee approved it.**
- h. Jon Bowermaster's Green Radio Hour re: Hudson 7's concern about CHPE. A future segment (about 15 minutes) to record during the week to air on Sunday.
 - i. **Follow-up with Jon Bowermaster**
- i. Port of New York/ New Jersey and Port of Albany Area Committee Members at Large Area Committee April 2021 Members at Large Meeting on April 20 at 10am
- j. From Libby Zemaitis of the DEC: This fall, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation's Hudson River Estuary

Program will collaborate with Cornell University to bring the Climate-adaptive Design (CaD) Studio to a Hudson Riverfront community. Letter of interest deadline is May 10. For more information, please contact Libby Zemaitis at libby.zemaitis@dec.ny.gov

- k. Letter from Hudson 7 to Erin Moore re:DWPS2 ongoing interest

i. Bassett/Carlos. Motion carried

5. County representative report

- a. Ulster County: The DWSP2 technical assistance grants will be released soon.
- b. Dutchess County: Spoke to one of the consultants, and the Hudson 7 was not chosen for his firm. One of the two was not on the list. Of course, they can't say anything until the press release.

6. Public Comment

Reports and Actions on Old Business

1. Hudson River Drinking Water Source Issues

a. Discussion and/or Decision items

i. Champlain Hudson Power Express (CHPE): Gary suggested that the Hudson 7 form a committee to discuss this issue to report back to the council on recommendations. Those serving include. Paul asked if TDI had sent a model to Dr. Chant. Randy said they had (second time) and he has passed it along to Dr. Chant (Professor, Rutgers University. Knowledgeable on water modeling). Bill said that it was Dr. Chant who provided advice on the Central Hudson dredging project. The river is alive and it flows two ways. It's not 'we're going to dig and pass by'. That's not happening. Dan said he was happy to be appointed, but because Riverkeeper signed an agreement with TDI, he is limited to what advocacy he can do. He may have to exit if the committee goes in a direction that he can't go in.

**1. Motion to form the CHPE committee Bassett, Carlos, Svenson, Alstadt, Malmrose, Shapley.
Bassett/Krupnick. Motion carried.**

ii. Esopus Creek turbid discharges

1. Hudson 7 committee meeting today at 2:30pm. The role we would play is to protect our drinking water. Create an impact statement of the impacts to our drinking water and culminate to a cost for our treatment plants. Use that as part of our baseline assumptions, and to argue that the current permit does not cover drinking water and it should be opened up to do so. We will meet again to get the impact statement, cost statement and figure out how to propose more political pressure. Emily asked if the Hudson 7 should approve a committee for this group as well.

- a. **Motion to form the Esopus Creek committee:**
Bassett, Harris, Shapley, Martin, Malmrose, Alstadt. Emily will not be involved with this issue as part of the Hudson 7 as she is a legal rep for Catskill Mountainkeeper **Bassett/Spinzia.**

Motion carried

2. FOIL requests. Town of Esopus had FOIL'd and was told that she couldn't get that information until following the June 16 public comment period. Can County Executives help the Hudson 7 communities to receive that information? Emily recalled that Shannon wanted to know the dates of the releases? Paul said that this was the work that Paul, Randy and Ulster County have been working on. All turbidites from Esopus, Poughkeepsie, Rhinebeck. Waiting on data from Lloyd and Dutchess County. We have data from late December 2020 - April 9. Dan suggests that we kick this back to the committee to discuss. Gary asked if Europa could give us a hand. Europa said that she could bring that back, but her department is the Department of the Environment and they are engaged with Paul. But she will bring it back. Brad said that if we send him a copy of the FOIL he can pass that on.

- a. **ACTION:** Send Brad Barclay a copy of the FOIL for turbidity releases over the past 10 years.

3. Hudson 7 will pass a memorializing resolution next on the turbidity and the drinking water and add in more specific facts to make it stronger. Include all seven municipalities having signed a MR.
 - iii. Risk and Resilience Assessments for community water systems, due June 30.
 1. Paul sent information out to drinking water operators. Randy shared the PWTF's RRA with everyone which he thinks was helpful. ToE has finished there. DCWWA has not called back. Dan said that John Lipscomb's communication, "From John Lipscomb: NY-NJ ACP - revised 2016 - "Worst Case Discharge Scenario" references back down to this item and that water operators can apply in any way that is appropriate.
 - a. ACTION: Hudson 7 to come together to have a plan to support each other in the future.
- b. Updates on ongoing issues
- i. NYS Drinking Water Source Protection Program
 1. Gary sent out a letter to share the Hudson 7's ongoing interest in this opportunity.
 - ii. Central Hudson MGP remediation
 1. Poughkeepsie NWS (C314070) Hydraulic Dredging Pilot Test. Draft report submitted to DEC and suggests hydraulic dredging is not implementable on a scale and time frame that is acceptable. Bill said one of the lumps of coal tar is 70 feet down and 70 feet thick. They are going to be here for a long time, which means the risk will be here for a long time.
 - a. ACTION: Share this information with TDI, specifically that they thought they'd be coming down the river when Central Hudson was through. Now Hudson 7 knows that they will not be done by the time CHPE plans to put in the cable.
 - iii. Municipal code review
 1. Emily will follow-up.
 - iv. Water and Wastewater Infrastructure

1. \$48 M state investments announced April 8, no Hudson 7 projects. Last year, there weren't any announcements made due to Covid.
 - v. Vessels anchoring near intakes. There was a meeting with John Lipscomb and ToE that they made a form that will be able to be used to report any vessels. They are to be sent to John to confirm and outreach
 - vi. PCB's
 1. Response to EPA re: pathways for further clean-up. The state's lawsuit was unsuccessful against the EPA to do further clean-up. The Hudson 7 could collaborate with the county executive's and call on the EPA to take the next step that they can take which is to do an investigation of the remaining 150 miles (NY - Troy)
2. Organizational Items
 - a. Preparing for May 31 annual reorganization meeting
 - i. Establish a committee to make recommendations pertaining to Hudson 7 Milestones and Priorities, 2020 and 2021, Role of Water Operators (*educational series*), succession planning and clarity of roles: advisors and non-voting members.
 1. Motion for Shapley, Elizabeth, Russell to provide road map for reorganization meeting. **Bassett/Krupnick. Motion carried.**
 - b. Coordination
 - i. HREP Grant Application due June 2 (VoR as sponsor?) Alternate funding options? The categories are different this year, and there isn't one that matches up with a need for a coordinator. Alternative funding options to be added to the reorganization committee to make recommendations. If everyone who drinks water from this water source gives \$1 per year, you have \$100k to work with. It could be more creative and equitable than that, but it would be mostly affordable for everyone. Item tabled.

New Business

1. Salt-front in light of climate change. With climate change the water is going to rise, and salt will come up. It would be helpful for a future powerpoint presentation although it is not clear how far the state has gotten with this. Lloyd and Esopus.
2. Cybersecurity in light of hackers who tried to poison the water supply of Florida Town by changing readings on a chemical feed pump. Luckily an operator recognized it quickly. Keep it on the agenda. Randy will share resources that he has on this.

Adjournment: 6:33pm

Bassett/Carlos. Motion carried