

Rebecca Martin Consulting Report

December, 2023 - January 2024

The Hudson River Source Water Protection Coordinator (as consultant) will carry out the goals of the Hudson River Drinking Water Intermunicipal Council (Hudson 7).

Goals and Results

- **Organizational**
 - Scheduled weekly one-on-one meetings with Hudson 7 Chairman Mayor Gary Bassett;
 - Organized and prepared all materials for monthly Hudson 7 meetings;
 - [Developed a resolution for municipalities and counties for Hudson 7 two-year membership appointments](#) and help to organize yearly leadership posts for a council vote;;
 - Provided outreach and some limited onboarding materials to new Hudson 7 council members. With eight new members, this is our largest turnover yet;
 - Coordinated all external Hudson 7 communications for events, such as the Building Bridges Award that the Hudson 7 received from the Hudson Valley Regional Council (HVRC) in December.
- **Goal 1: Create a 501c3**
 - Coordinated communications with Hudson 7 lawyer re: its organizational structure;
 - Tracked all legal fees for payment through Dutchess County;
 - Coordinated organizational structure committee meetings;
 - Continued to research potential organizational models for the committee's ongoing 501c3 for discussion.
- **Goal 2: Establish Policies & Procedures with the Hudson 7 Executive team**
 - Continue the process of organizing the Hudson 7 files and mapping document;
 - Updated Hudson 7 contacts following the 2023 elections;
 - Created a Hudson 7 motions document that tracks motions and approval from 2018 - 2024.
- **Goal 3: Develop a strategy for maintaining sustainable funding streams for operation and development expenses**
 - Worked with the organizational structure committee to outline the Hudson 7's unique work in order to shore up its municipal and county grant funding sources in the future.
- **Goal 4: Become an important resource for Hudson 7 drinking water operators**
 - Advanced the creation of a Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Committee to discuss a Water Operators Appreciation Week in May, 2024 and to update existing shared services documents;
 - Coordinated an update with technical advisors on timely information re: 3M / DuPont PFAS Settlement;
 - Coordinated an update with technical advisors on timely information re: Cyber Security Alert - Exploitation of Unitronics PLCs;
 - Provided timely information re: webinar information on Cybersecurity and Drinking Water / Wastewater Plants;
 - Coordinated a guidance document for Hudson 7 Water Treatment Plants re: Lead and Copper Rule/Improvements Finalized on 11/30/23.

- **Goal 5: Education**
 - Created a new presentation “[Meet the Hudson 7](#)” for Mayor Gary Bassett to present in February to highlight the Hudson 7’s drinking water intermunicipal council, leadership team and priorities;
 - Launched Hudson 7 blog “[Hudson 7 Highlights](#)” with a first report on the council’s highlights in 2023;
 - Advanced Hudson 7 FAQs to provide a history on all of its project work.
- **Goal 6: Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2)**
 - Attended DWSP2 committee meetings.
- **Goal 7: Salt Front Study**
 - Coordinated and submitted comment letter by Hudson 7 technical advisors to the NYSDEC on “Salt Front Hydraulic Model Scope for Stakeholder Vetting”.
- **Goal 8: Maintain watchdog role on key issues threatening water quality**
 - Assisted technical advisors in sharing out an update on Central Hudson’s Manufactured Gas Plant (“MGP”) clean-up;
 - [Coordinated Hudson 7 municipalities to sign-on to the Hudson River PCB municipal letter](#) urging EPA Regional Administrator Lisa Garcia to render a determination in the third FYR that the remedy is not-protective of human health and the environment.
- **Goal 8a: CHPE Committee**
 - Continued to support water plant operators to prepare any individual comments on behalf of their municipalities during the upcoming public comment period for the Environmental Management and Construction Plan (EM&CP) for segment 19D.
- **Goal 8b: Lower Esopus Creek Committee**
 - Attended Riverkeeper’s debrief call to discuss matters of the Ashokan Release Work Group (ARWG).
- **Goal 8c: Anchorages Committee**
 - Met with NYSDEC HREP’s Heather Gierloff to discuss Anchorages;
 - Facilitated meetings with Hudson 7 Anchorage committee to discuss next steps in filing an RNA;
 - Set up a meeting with Heather Gierloff of the NYSDEC HREP in December to discuss the Anchorage Rule Change and other related Hudson 7 matters.

Notable Timely Next Steps

1. Anticipate the CHPE EM&CP/Segment 19B Public Comment period in March (TBA);
2. Ongoing Hudson 7 organizational structure committee meetings;
3. Support the Hudson 7 DWSP2 committee in their efforts to create a source water protection map for the Hudson 7 drinking watershed;
4. Complete a Hudson 7 FAQ on its project history;
5. Assist technical advisors in their project work and advocacy;
6. Meet with the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Committee to discuss a Water Operators Appreciation Week in May, 2024 and update existing shared services documents.