

Rebecca Martin Consulting Report

June, 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 Mayor Gary Bassett, Chair of the Hudson 7;
 - Organized and prepared all materials for monthly Hudson 7 meetings;
 - Provided letters of support for the City of Kingston (to conduct a study of the City of Kingston's 18 wastewater pump stations) and Town of Poughkeepsie (upgrades to generators, safety equipment, butterfly valves, and related work that will improve flow and prepare us for replacement of the Spackenkill storage tanks) for their NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC)'s Water Infrastructure Improvement Act grant applications.
- **Goal 1: Create a 501c3**
 - Coordinated organizational structure task force meetings;
 - Prepared a memorandum to share out the results of the organizational structure task force re: "Hudson 7 organizational structure process work: 3/2023 - present and outcome" to present during the full council meeting in July.
- **Goal 2: Establish Policies & Procedures with the Hudson 7 Executive team**
 - Ongoing organization of the Hudson 7 files and mapping document;
 - [Maintained the Hudson 7 motions document that tracks motions from 2018 - 2024.](#)
- **Goal 3: Develop a strategy for maintaining sustainable funding streams for operation and development expenses**
 - Ongoing work to create a Hudson 7 "book" that outlines the council's efforts on numerous issues, to be used for outreach, monetary support and grantmaking. A draft will be presented to the council by the end of 2024.
- **Goal 4: Become an important resource for Hudson 7 drinking water operators**
 - Organized and facilitated a Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Committee meeting in June at the Poughkeepsies' Water Treatment Facility (PWTF) in the City of Poughkeepsie;
 - Created a one-sheet onboarding document and reshared the "Hudson 7: Water Treatment Plant Operator/Learning Opportunities" survey to more Hudson 7 water treatment plant staff for input;
 - Maintained the Hudson 7's shared services files that includes a sample shared services agreement and an Available Equipment and Resources living document for all Hudson 7 municipalities;
- **Goal 5: Education**
 - Set up social media sites for the Hudson 7;
 - Outreach to AWWA for future collaborations.

- **Goal 6: Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2)**
 - Provided a letter of support for Riverkeeper’s application to NYSDEC water quality monitoring project for Hudson 7 communities.
- **Goal 7: Salt Front Study**
 - Requested an update on the Salt Front Study from Hudson 7 technical advisor Paul Malmrose from the NYSDEC.
- **Goal 8: Maintain watchdog role on key issues threatening water quality**
 - Shared ongoing communications regarding the delays for the Hudson River PCB draft third five-year-review process.
- **Goal 8a: CHPE Committee**
 - EM&CP/19B
 - Updated the Hudson 7 CHPE memo that includes the outcome of the Public Service Commission approval for the EM&CP 19B and amendment petition and next steps;
 - Coordinated with Hudson 7 Technical Advisor (Engineering) on suggestions for water operators to request pre- and -post sampling during CHPE construction.
- **Goal 8b: Lower Esopus Creek Committee**
 - Coordinated with Hudson 7 Technical Advisor (Engineering) on a letter to the NYSDEC regarding flooding and the Lower Esopus Creek.
- **Goal 8c: Anchorages Committee**
 - No activity in May

Notable Next Steps

1. Continue to coordinate and/or provide support for all Hudson 7 committee meetings;
2. Support Hudson 7 in supporting its organizational structure needs;
3. Ongoing work/design of Hudson 7 campaign “book”;
4. Set up a tour in the fall of the Hyde Park drinking water plant;
5. Set up tours of each of the five drinking water plants for water operators to meet regularly in 2025;
6. Resubmit the educational survey to collect more Hudson 7 drinking water staff participation. New deadline is mid-August;
7. Follow up with AWWA to identify opportunities to partner;
8. Post on Hudson 7’s new social media accounts to build interest in the Hudson 7;
9. Support Riverkeeper NYSDEC water sampling grant application;
10. Keep track of the upcoming Hudson River PCB draft third FYR public comment process;
11. Complete suggestions for CHPE construction sampling for water treatment plants and look out for notice for matting;
12. Assist technical advisors in their project work and advocacy;