

Rebecca Martin Consulting Report

May, 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;
- **Goal 1: Create a 501c3**
 - Reviewed Hudson 7 lawyer materials re: its organizational structure;
 - Coordinated organizational structure committee meetings;
 - Finalized the worksheet for the Hudson 7 organizational structure committee to compare the five options committee members have identified that include: Continue as a Joint Municipal Board pursuant to the intermunicipal agreement; Establish a separate Not-for-Profit Corporation and seek to establish 501(c)(3) tax exempt status; Establish a separate 501(c)(3) and maintain the existing; Work with a Fiscal Sponsor, or; work within the Joint Water Board (JWB) structure.
- **Goal 2: Establish Policies & Procedures with the Hudson 7 Executive team**
 - Ongoing organization of the Hudson 7 files and mapping document;
 - [Ongoing updates of the Hudson 7 motions document that tracks motions and approval from 2018 - 2024;](#)
 - Revised a draft Social Media Policy for the Hudson 7 to reflect disabling comments.
- **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, future 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 Water Treatment Plant (WTP) Committee meeting at the end of June at the Poughkeepsies’ Water Treatment Facility (PWTF) in the City of Poughkeepsie;
 - Compiled the results of a “Hudson 7: Water Treatment Plant Operator/Learning Opportunities” survey for discussion at the next WTP committee meeting;
 - 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;
 - Working with DCWWA to organize a tour of the Hyde Park drinking water plant in the fall, 2024.

- **Goal 5: Education**
 - Created a [series of blog posts](#) to spotlight drinking water plant operators from each of the five drinking water treatment plants in the Hudson 7 during the council's first annual Water Operators Appreciation week in May;
 - Organized a [tour of the Poughkeepsies' Water Treatment Facility \(PWTF\)](#) that resulted in 27 guests including water treatment plant operators from Esopus and Rhinebeck, NGOs, state agencies and the public;
 - Outreach to AWWA for future collaborations.
- **Goal 6: Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2)**
 - Provided a letter of support for the City of Kingston application to NYS EFC for a water infrastructure improvement grant for wastewater pump stations rehabilitation;
 - Reviewed Hudson 7 DWSP2 draft sections.
- **Goal 7: Salt Front Study**
 - No activity
- **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
 - Following the release of the EM&CP/19B, built files with all related EM&CP/19B documents to allow easy access for Hudson 7 municipalities;
 - Worked with Hudson 7 technical advisors to [submit Hudson 7 Comments on CHPE's EM&CP for Segment 19-B](#);
 - Shared all relevant comment responses, including from TDI, with Hudson 7 technical advisors that were submitted to the Public Service Commission on May 31, 2024.
- **Goal 8b: Lower Esopus Creek Committee**
 - Coordinated with Hudson 7 Technical Advisor (Engineering) to develop any concerns regarding flooding and water quality impacts on behalf of the Hudson 7.
- **Goal 8c: Anchorages Committee**
 - No activity in May

Notable Next Steps

1. CHPE EM&CP/19B: Keep track of next steps on EM&CP segment 19A and B
2. Keep track of the upcoming Hudson River PCB draft third FYR public comment process;
3. Continue to coordinate and/or provide support for all Hudson 7 committee meetings;
4. Ongoing work on Hudson 7 "book";
5. Assist technical advisors in their project work and advocacy;
6. Review Ecode materials for a future repository system for the council's documentation;
7. Create a Hudson 7 Facebook account.