

MINUTES  
HOUSATONIC WUCC MEETING

MAY 14, 2012

In attendance:

Russ Posthauer:	Candlewood Springs, WUCC Co-Chair
Erik Bernard:	Aquarion Water Co., WUCC Co-Chair
Donna M. Culbert:	Town of Newtown, Director of Health
Marty Handshy	Consultant to Brookfield Board of Selectman
Terry Schnoor	Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP)
Steve Messer	Department of Public Health (DPH)
Casey Fleming	DPH
Drew Swanson	Member of the Public
Margaret Miner	Member of the Public, Rivers Alliance

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.
2. Opportunity for Public Participation – No public comments were given at this time. However, public comment was requested and allowed during discussion of item # 7 (see below).
3. Approval of Minutes - Motion to approve minutes from the June 12, 2012 meeting made by Marty Handshy and seconded by Russell Posthauer. Approved unanimously with no changes.
4. Department of Public Health Statewide Planning Update – Steve Messer provided an update regarding statewide planning. It is still a goal to convene and approve WUCC plans from all regions and to develop one statewide coordinated plan. A meeting of the WUCC Chairs will be convened soon to discuss broad WUCC goals and initiatives. A discussion then ensued regarding towns in the Housatonic WUCC region with unassigned Exclusive Service Areas (ESA's). It was agreed that it is appropriate in some instances to have unassigned ESA areas and that these regions will likely “fill-in” over time.
5. Request of Aquarion Water Company (AWC) – A motion was made to “Combine AWC’s contiguous ESA’s in New Milford, Brookfield, Bridgewater, Bethel and Newtown into one (1) ESA as shown on map titled Aquarion Water Company contiguous Exclusive Service Area in New Milford, Brookfield, Bethel and Newtown dated May 14, 2013”. Motion by Marty Handshy and seconded by Russell Posthauer. Discussion: Russell Posthauer asked if the ESA for the entire Town of Bethel could or should be granted at this time. This action was deferred because the Town of Bethel’s ESA is not contiguous with AWC’s Bethel ESA and no mapping was available for review. The original motion passed unanimously. However, an updated map was requested to include Bridgewater in the ESA area.
6. Request of AWC – A motion was made to “Amend the ESA map to reflect the acquisition of the Dunham Pond Water system and other acquired water supply systems in the town of New Fairfield in compliance with PURA Docket 12-02-03 as shown on map titled Aquarion Water Company New Fairfield Exclusive Service Areas dated May 14, 2013”. Motion by Russell Posthauer

and seconded by Marty Handshy. Motion unanimously approved.

7. Request of AWC – The following motion was made, “WUCC Chairs can recommend the consolidation of contiguous ESA’s owned by the same entity without the need for a WUCC meeting and recommendation will become approved as long as recommendation is posted on the DPH website for a period of 15-days and no request to convene a WUCC meeting is received”. Motion by Marty Handshy and seconded by Russell Posthauer. Discussion: Margaret Miner from Rivers Alliance indicated that consolidation of ESA’s raises red flags in terms of Diversion Permitting. WUCC members indicated that consolidating contiguous ESA’s improves customer service and Diversion Permits would still be required for new sources or increases in existing sources in accordance with State requirements. Motion unanimously approved.

8. Old Business/New Business – Steve Messer brought up the issue of WUCC voting membership and the desire to add town CEO’s and/or health officials. It was agreed that changes like this need to be consistent across all WUCCs and that this issue is best discussed during the upcoming WUCC Chairs meeting.

9. Adjournment – Motion by Marty Handshy and seconded by Erik Bernard. Motion unanimously approved.

Respectively Submitted

Russell Posthauer  
Acting Secretary