

Water System Advisory Minutes
Monthly Water System Advisory Council Meeting
September 21, 2021

Call to Order

Monthly Water System Advisory Council Meeting was held on 9/21/21, through virtual setting utilizing Zoom Communications Software. It began at 5:30pm and was presided over by Dr. Benjamin Pauli, Water System Advisory Council Vice-Chair.

Attendees

Voting Members in attendance: Jamie Gaskin, E. Yvonne Lewis, Dr. Ben Pauli, Gina Smith, Dr. Lawrence Reynolds

Member Location:

Flint, MI: E. Yvonne Lewis, Secretary, Dr. Ben Pauli, Vice-Chair, Gina Smith
Fenton, MI: Jamie Gaskin

Members not in attendance: Sheryl Thompson, Jaron Houston

Agenda Items

Water System Advisory Council Vice Chair Dr. Ben Pauli opens the meeting.

Four out of seven voting members of the council are present.

WSAC Vice Chair asks for a motion to approve agenda items for September 21, 2021, meeting. WSAC member Jamie Gaskin makes motion to approve agenda. WSAC member Gina Smith seconds the motion. Vice Chair opens the floor for discussion regarding the resolution.

WSAC votes for agenda approval for September 21, 2021. Approval support is as follows:

Approve: Dr. Lawrence Reynolds, Jamie Gaskin, Yvonne Lewis, Gina Smith, Dr. Ben Pauli
Object:

WSAC Vice Chair transitions to minute approval for last two WSAC meetings on August 24 and September 7 and provides members time to look over the documents before submitting a motion. WSAC member Dr. Lawrence Reynolds motions for the minutes to be approved.

WSAC Secretary E. Yvonne Lewis has corrections for 8/24 minutes by stating that the Call to Order should state monthly Water System Advisory Council Meetings rather than weekly. WSAC Secretary also stated that her name ought to be spelled E. Yvonne rather than Yvonne and to make those corrections in all areas where her name is present.

WSAC Vice Chair asks members if there are any other corrections that need to be submitted for August 24 and September 7 WSAC minutes. No other members submit corrections for minutes. Vice Chair calls for a motion to approve the minutes as corrected.

WSAC member Dr. Lawrence Reynolds calls for a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. WSAC Secretary supports the motion.

Roll call vote to approve minutes for WSAC meetings on August 24, 2021, and September 7, 2021. Approval support is as follows:

Approve: Jamie Gaskin, Dr. Ben Pauli, Dr. Lawrence Reynolds, Gina Smith, E. Yvonne Lewis
Object:

All five WSAC members present support the approval of minutes for August 24, 2021, and September 7, 2021.

WSAC Vice Chair opens the floor for public comment. Chief Resilience Officer asks if there are any individuals on the line to provide public comment. Due to no response, the public comment portion closes.

WSAC Vice Chair discusses the progress being made to create Bylaws for the WSAC. Vice Chair declares that he will be working with WSAC member Gina Smith to complete a finalized draft by the next monthly meeting for the WSAC.

WSAC Vice Chair discusses MDHHS sampling which is being done to ensure that the water quality within the area is within state standards throughout the infrastructure transition. WSAC Vice Chair also asks if there is an update from MDHHS regarding their sampling efforts.

City of Flint Office of Public Health Manager, Qiana Towns Williams, responded to WSAC members by stating MDHHS is working to reach out to individuals for the sampling process and she has not received an update since last Thursday, September 16, 2021.

Gerald Tiernan from MDHHS DEH confirmed that MDHHS will be working with WSAC members. WSAC Vice Chair opened the floor for WSAC members to ask questions regarding MDHHS sampling. WSAC Secretary asked Gerald Tiernan if there is a specific contact person from MDHHS who will communicate with WSAC members. MDHHS responded by saying a representative from MDHHS will be in contact with members regarding sampling efforts.

WSAC Vice Chair asks if there were any other MDHHS members on the call and if the guests on the call would introduce themselves. All guests on the call from MDHHS introduced themselves and described their titles. WSAC Vice Chair thanked all the guests for attending the meeting and asked if MDHHS would communicate with WSAC members about any updates. Gerald Tiernan provided an update on current sampling efforts to the council, communication and action plans

and stated that they will be providing WSAC members with materials as soon as possible. MDHHS provided all updates and will be in contact with the WSAC moving forward.

WSAC Vice Chair asks if there are new updates on the infrastructure transition for the City of Flint while pipe repairs and lead service line replacements are being completed. Mike Brown from the City of Flint states that work is steadily progressing. A summary of the plan and how the Office of Public Health and the Water Department work together to obtain lead samples to ensure water quality is being maintained was presented to the council.

WSAC Vice Chair opens the conversation with WSAC members and guests about educating and communicating with residents about how the mission of the council will move forward. WSAC members discuss how to improve Flint Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR) and present them to the residents within the area. DPW Director Mike Brown explains the process of developing the CCR, who is involved with these reports, and how it is presented to the community.

WSAC Vice Chair opens the conversation to members and guests to discuss methods the WSAC could suggest to improve Emergency Communication to residents regarding their water, such as water main breaks. WSAC members and guests discuss how to effectively communicate with residents when these issues occur. DPW Director Mike Brown offers insight in utilities communication with residents and how the process is handled by the City of Flint.

DPW Director Mike Brown offers resources to residents and members. The first is for water emergencies line, (810) 766-7202, which is manned 24/7. The second line for sewer emergencies is (810) 766-7079. If WSAC members or residents have any questions pertaining to water and sewer related issues, they should email water@cityofflint.com . For all questions, the DPW will answer as soon as they can.

WSAC member Jamie Gaskin motioned to adjourn the meeting.

WSAC Secretary E. Yvonne Lewis supports.

Roll call vote for the motion to adjourn the meeting. The results are as follows:

Approve: Jamie Gaskin, Dr. Ben Pauli, Gina Smith, E. Yvonne Lewis, Dr. Lawrence Reynolds

Objection: None

Meeting Adjourned: 7:00 pm

Minutes Submitted by: Maeko McGovern

Minutes Approved by: E. Yvonne Lewis