

LONG ISLAND COMMISSION FOR AQUIFER PROTECTION

PUBLIC HEARING

MINUTES

JANUARY 7, 2021

7PM

THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIRTUALLY DUE TO THE COVID-19 VIRUS

ATTENDEE

REPRESENTING

Paul Granger	Chairman, Representative for the Long Island Water Conference
Jeffrey W. Szabo	Representative and CEO for the Suffolk County Water Authority
Walter Dawydiak	Representative for the Suffolk County Department of Health
Dorian Dale	Representative for the Suffolk County Executive Appointee/Dept. of Economic Development & Planning
Don Irwin	Representative for the Nassau County Department of Health
Brian Schneider	Nassau County Executive
David Gamin	Representative for the Nassau County Soil & Water Conservation District
Brian Culhane	Representative for the Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Christina DeLisi	Presiding Officer Suffolk County Legislature
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NON-VOTING MEMBERS

Legislator Krupski	Suffolk County Legislature
Mike LiPetri	New York State Assembly
Stephen Terracciano	USGS
Seth Wallach	SCWA
Tim Motz	SCWA
John Milazzo	SCWA
Kerim Odekon	Department of Medicine, Stony Brook University
Glynis Berry	Peconic Green Growth
Andy Bader	Commissioner, Plainview Water District
Margo Myles	Town of Huntington
Legislator DeRiggi-Whitton	Nassau County Legislator
Elizabeth Bailey	Water for Long Island
Melissa Schimel	Former member of NY Assembly
Rob Carpenter	Long Island Farm Bureau
Camille Byrne	Glen Cove CDA
Maureen Murphy	Citizens Campaign for the Environment
Adrienne Esposito	Citizens Campaign for the Environment
Ed Olmstead	Water for Long Island
Doug Paquette	Brookhaven National Lab
Steven Colabufo	Citizen
Ron Busciolano	USGS

This meeting was open to the public and was also attended by Representatives of the Town of Southold.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No Comments.

Mr. Granger opened the meeting and introduced the members of the Board. He thanked the staff that worked to complete the LICAP State of the Aquifer Report (hereafter 'Report') that was to be reviewed.

Mr. Granger then announced that the forum for the evening would focus on the health and sustainability updates of the sole source aquifer that provides drinking water to Long Island. Mr. Granger stated that the discussion would be on recurring topics including annual water pumpage, threats to water quality, streamflows, precipitation levels, and groundwater monitoring initiatives.

Mr. Granger discussed the updates to the Report; including the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on water suppliers, as well as the need to develop innovative strategies to protect workers. He stated that the updates include a comprehensive study of Long Island's groundwater resources currently being conducted by USGS, in conjunction with the NYSDEC.

Mr. Granger then introduced Mr. Ron Busciolano (USGS) who presented on the hydrologic conditions in Nassau and Suffolk County. Mr. Busciolano provided updates regarding precipitation, groundwater levels, wells located at Brookhaven Lab and Ronkonkoma, as well as Streamflows at Massapequa Creek and Peconic River. A question was received from the public regarding Massapequa Creek. Mr. John Milazzo (SCWA), and Counsel to the Commission explained that all questions would be submitted to Mr. Tim Motz (SCWA) for review and response at a later time. All questions and comments are due to Mr. Motz by email (Tim.Motz@SCWA.com) Thursday, January 21st.

Mr. Granger highlighted the 'Groundwater Pumpage' section of the Report and described changes to groundwater pumped in both Nassau and Suffolk County. Mr. Granger then elaborated on the 'Water Quality' section of the Report, and the status of emerging contaminants (PFOS, PFOA) as well as measures enacted by the Suffolk

County Department of Health Services and other agencies to combat these contaminants. This portion of the report also includes a timeline of State regulations on 1, 4-dioxane, PFOS and PFOA by the New York State Drinking Water Council.

Mr. Granger then illustrated the 'Groundwater Monitoring' section of the Report to monitor resources for contaminants, including pesticides, nitrogen, PFOS and PFOA. Mr. Granger described the details of the 'Water Conservation' section of the Report and touched upon the efforts made by water districts to enact change.

Mr. Granger then discussed LICAP's various achievements throughout the year, including the rollout of the Groundwater Resource Management Plan (GRMP) and introducing a new, dynamic website. Additional achievements include the ban by SCWA of the use of public water supply for open loop geothermal heating and cooling systems, which has led other municipalities to enact similar changes.

Mr. Granger then concluded with an explanation of the 'Looking Forward' section of the Report. He explained that the upcoming year will focus on the new state regulations on 1,4-dioxane, PFOS and PFOA.

Mr. Granger opened the floor for public comment.

Ms. Maureen Murphy (Citizens Campaign for the Environment) then offered her comments on the Report. Ms. Murphy requested more information in the 'Groundwater Monitoring' section to include the source, the number of infected wells, and a map of the infected wells. Ms. Murphy also requested that the Private Wells be updated to include data from Nassau County. With regard to Water Conservation, Ms. Murphy requested the document be updated to include pumpage data. In the 'Looking Forward' section, Ms. Murphy requested an update on the state of the aquifer at this present moment.

Mr. Granger then introduced Glynis Berry (Peconic Green Growth) who proceeded with her notes regarding the Report. Ms. Berry requested more specific guidance for the next steps after USGS completes its modeling. Ms. Berry continued by asking for each well to be metered. Ms. Berry also inquired as to the specifics of conservation efforts, including reductions, as well as what percentage of customers are utilizing more than average usage.

Mr. Granger then introduced Legislator Krupski, who expressed gratitude for the members of LICAP, for their continued work in conjunction with USGS.

As there was no further business to be considered, on motion made by Mr. Dale, duly seconded by Mr. Schneider, the meeting was adjourned.