

485 Ware Road Belchertown MA 01007 (413) 213-0454 fax: (413) 213-0537 email: info@wscac.org

WSCAC Executive Committee Meeting

Thursday December 15, 2016 - 10:00 A.M. Location: MWRA Facilities in Southborough

Members in Bold Present:

Whitney Beals, WSCAC Chair, NE Forestry Gerald Eves, Trout Unlimited Michael Baram, BU & CLF Andrea Donlon, CRWC Kurt Tramposch, Wayland Wells Paul Lauenstein, NepRWA

Non -Members in Attendance:

Lexi Dewey, WSCAC staff

I. Interbasin Transfer Act Regulations Revisions

Proposed Major Changes by the Water Resources Commission

- 1. Separated the Applicability and Insignificance Procedures
- 2. Tailored the data required and criteria for Insignificance to different types of transfers
- 3. Added option under the Insignificance Review for smaller transfers
 - Exercise precautionary principle to not relax existing procedures
 - Committee voted NO
- 4. Added Regional Water Supply Approval Process (313 CMR 4.10)
 - Global Warming Solutions Act
 - i. Necessity of reducing our energy use
 - ii. Every sector of the economy needs to contribute to this cause the best that it can
 - iii. Proposed action is inconsistent with Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court holding regarding the Act
 - Process as it stands is not a hardship or undue burden
 - WSCAC believes the streamlining process in this context is a reduction in vigilance with respect to conservation and climate change
 - Committee voted NO
- 5. Eliminated the requirement for a Local Water Resources Management Plan
 - Proposal is unclear and contradictory a plan is needed
 - Maintain existing requirement for a Local Water Resources Management Plan
 - Committee voted NO
- 6. Specified analyses and other requirements for wastewater transfers

II. Drought Management Plan Revisions

WSCAC discussed the committee's recommendations regarding the Massachusetts Drought Management Plan. Topics discussed included creating a template for each town to have a drought management plan, non-essential outdoor water use, and adequate funding for developing community-based action plans.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 P.M.