

Minutes of the November 10, 2020 Meeting
Small Water Systems Technical Assistance Center (TAC)
Advisory Board

A virtual, regular meeting of the TAC Board was called to order by Chairperson Serena DiMagno at approximately 9:08 AM. The purpose of the meeting was to receive updates from the subcommittee reviewing the TAC Bylaws and from the Safe Drinking Water Program and to discuss a pre-draft technical guidance document.

The following Board members were present:

Amy Batdorf, Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association (PMAA)
Doug Crawshaw, American Water Works Association (AWWA)
Serena DiMagno, Water Works Operators Association of Pennsylvania (WWOAP)
Roger Hadsall, Pennsylvania Rural Water Association (PRWA)
Clint McKinley, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC)
Mary Roland, State Board for Certification of Sewage Treatment Plant & Waterworks Operators (SBCSTPWWO)
Sukhwindar Singh, RCAP Solutions
James Steele, Pennsylvania Builders Association (PBA)

The following Alternate members were present:

Jennifer Case, Pennsylvania Municipal Authorities Association (PMAA)
Christine Caldara Piatos, Center for Rural Pennsylvania (CRP)
Lisa Daniels, Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP)
Sharon Fillmann, American Water Works Association (AWWA)
Mary Gaiski, Pennsylvania Manufactured Housing Association (PMHA)
Matt Lamb, Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC)
Tesra Schlupp, Pennsylvania Infrastructure Investment Authority (PIIA)

The following Organizations were not represented:

County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP)
Department Community and Economic Development (DCED)
League of Women Voters, Pennsylvania (LWVPa)
Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA)
Pennsylvania Association of Conservation Districts, Inc. (PACD)
Pennsylvania Association of Realtors (PAR)
Pennsylvania State Association of Township Supervisors (PSATS)
Rural Utilities Service (RUS)

Members/alternates from 12 organizations were present; therefore, a quorum was achieved.

The following Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff were present:

Jeff Allgyer, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
Sabrina Haydt, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
Dawn Hissner, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water

Jason Minnich, Bureau of Safe Drinking Water
Brian Chalfant, Policy Office
Robert Reiley, Bureau of Regulatory Counsel

Non-Members present at the meeting:

Jeff Bickel, Aqua PA
Carolyn Hathaway, Aqua PA
Christine Swailes, Suez

Alison Aminco, Philadelphia Water Department (PWD)
R. Brendan, Philadelphia Water Department (PWD)
Rita Kopansky, Philadelphia Water Department (PWD)
Dennis O'Connor, Philadelphia Water Department (PWD)

General Advisory Board business:

Three items of general business were discussed:

- The draft minutes from the July 23, 2020 TAC Board meeting were presented for discussion. One edit was requested: Matt Lamb from PUC was in attendance. Mary Roland (SBCSTPWWO) made a motion to approve the July 23, 2020 minutes with the correction added; Jim Steele (PBA) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a unanimous vote.
- Selection of 2021 Meeting Dates:
 - Meetings in 2021 will continue to be virtual. The length of each meeting will be dependent on the number of agenda items.
 - The last Thursday of the first month of each quarter was selected as the dates for the regular meetings. Specifically, January 28, April 29, July 29, and October 28.
- Report from Subcommittee on revising TAC Board Bylaws
 - The first meeting of the group was on October 10, 2020. Several ideas were presented and discussed but no final decisions/recommendations made during this meeting. A second meeting of the group is scheduled for Nov 10, 2020.
 - The group hopes to present their recommendations for revisions to the Bylaws to the full board at the January 2021 meeting.

Discussion - TGD 1, *Laboratory Reporting Instructions for Radiological Contaminants in Drinking Water*

- These are the updates made to this document:
 - Updated laboratory responsibilities in Section 2
 - Added/updated Electronic Assistance Tools (DWELR & DWRS) in Section 3
 - Added water supplier responsibilities in Section 4
 - Rearranged/combined sections from old reporting instructions: natural and man-made radiological sections now have monitoring and reporting requirements subsections
 - Updated DWELR screenshots and method codes
 - Deleted information referring to submitting data on paper forms and added instructions for submitting corrections

- Additional information regarding DWRLR updates: EPA has created a compliance monitoring data portal (CMDP) that is similar to, but completely separate from DWELR. EPA has also been trying to update the federal SDW data management system (SDWIS) but has had several setbacks. PA does not use the CMDP, and PA's data system (PADWIS) is independent from SDWIS. Labs and water suppliers should continue to use DWELR for reporting data on PA water systems. PA will evaluate whether to switch to the revised EPA data system once it is complete and capable of performing the same functions as DWELR and PADWIS.
- TAC had no comments or questions on this document or these revisions. This document will also be presented to the Laboratory Accreditation Advisory Committee in December before being published as a draft for public comment.

Safe Drinking Water Program Updates

- PFAS Update
 - Sampling was paused in March because of business closures & travel restrictions, but sampling resumed in August under an approved Health & Safety Plan.
 - DEP hopes to complete sample collection by end of 2020.
 - DEP is now using 2 labs (DEP lab & a contract lab) for analysis. Both labs are accredited for EPA Method 537.1 for 18 PFAS compounds, so to ensure consistency for all results, DEP is now resampling all sites sampled in 2019 where only 6 PFAS compounds tested/reported.
 - DEP will post the first round of data from samples collected in 2020 once the QA/QC review is completed.
 - Toxicology contract with Drexel is progressing; Drexel is reviewing other states' data & is on track to submit report to DEP by end of 2020 that includes a recommendation for MCLGs for the 6 PFAS that were in UCMR3.
 - A final regulatory determination (on whether or not certain PFAS should be regulated) is expected from EPA in 2021.
- Lead & Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR): states are still waiting for final regulation to be published; DEP will have workgroup to incorporate LCRR changes into PA regulations.
- UCMR: the federal UCMR provisions require that every 5 years, water systems conduct monitoring for up to 30 parameters. Monitoring is spread out over a 3-year period based on system type and population.
 - The current round of monitoring (UCMR4) that included HABs, Mn, and DBPs will be completed in 2020. The UCMRs are implemented directly by EPA, so EPA (not DEP) tracks and releases the results.
 - UCMR5: changes made to the AWIA expands which water systems are required to monitor (all systems serving a population > 3,300), but EPA must still cover the costs for systems serving a population of 3,301-10,000, so these new requirements are dependent on funding allocations.
- EPA has requested states submit data sets for the next 6-year review. This review will include the microbial & D/DBP rules. EPA has already begun the process to gather stakeholder input through a series of public meetings. Any proposed revisions to the current federal regulations are not expected until 2024.
- DEP Inspections
 - DEP continues to do priority work, including Sanitary Surveys, partial inspections and FPPEs.

- DEP staff should be arranging conference calls both prior to, and after, the scheduled site visit to virtually gather and evaluate as much information as possible and limit the time spent at the water system. Some DEP and water system staff may also be virtually involved during the site visit to limit the number of staff physically present during the site visit.
- The federal Office of Compliance & Enforcement (OECA) has determined that Sanitary Surveys may NOT be conducted solely as a virtual inspection.
- Operator Certification
 - In March, DEP sent a survey to all certified operators regarding whether they would be available to assist other operators/water systems should there be a need. To date, there has not been a request from any water system for assistance.
 - DEP is considering resending this survey to get an updated list of operators that would potentially be available to assist other systems.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Adjourn

Mary Gaiski made a motion to adjourn. The motion passed by a unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.

DRAFT