

Janet T. Mills
Governor

Jeanne M. Lambrew, Ph.D.
Commissioner



Maine Department of Health and Human Services
Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention
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Maine Public Drinking Water Commission

MEETING #161

November 1, 2023 at 09:00 AM
286 Water Street (DHHS/CDC offices)
Augusta, Maine
and via Zoom

Agenda

1. Discussion of Chair and Vice-Chair
2. Approval of Minutes, Meeting #160, May 24, 2023
3. Financial Reports - *D. Welch*
 - a. SFY 2024 AFM Fee Collection Status
 - b. DWP Financial Report
4. DWP Updates - *A. Lachance*
 - a. Program Updates (DWSRF, Staffing, PFAS, Lead)
 - b. Legislation and Rulemaking Update
5. Review Cadmus Report on Staffing at DWP - *A. Lachance*
 - a. Rule-making proposal to allow for future fee increases.
6. 2023 Public Drinking Water Commission Annual Report – *A. Lachance/C. White*
7. DWC Membership Update – *J. Willis /C. White*
 - a. Current appointments & terms; vacant seats
 - b. Potential candidates to fill vacant seats.
8. Public Water System Items for Discussion – Public Comment
9. Set 2024 Meeting Dates.
10. Suggested Topics for Next Meeting

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Minutes of Meeting #161

Nov 1, 2023

The Maine Public Drinking Water Commission (DWC) held its 161 Meeting on Nov 1, 2023, via Zoom and in person meeting in Augusta.

Present Were:

Members: Brian Tarbuck, Jeff LaCasse, Carol White, Matt Reynolds, Amy Lachance (DWP Director), and Jim Willis (Commission Clerk).

Non-members: David Welch, DWP, and Eric Gagnon

Members Not Present Were: Rebecca Laliberte, and Lee Worcester

Time: Carol called the meeting to order at 9:06 AM.

A. RECURRING BUSINESS:

- Approval of Minutes, Meeting #160, May 24, 2023
 - Minutes from the May 24, 2023, meeting was approved as written.
- SFY 2023 AFM Fee Collection Status – D. Welch
 - David Welch from the Drinking Water Program (DWP) updated the Commission on the collection status of the Alternate Funding Mechanism (AFM). To date, the DWP collection rate is on par with previous years.
 - David stated that in January will look at placing systems who are three years or owe \$500 or more in enforcement to collect overdue AFM.
 - David also stated that we are making progress getting paid from state agencies.
- DWP Financial Report – D. Welch
 - David presented current financial information showing that spending is on target according to budget. David did state that we will have to look at increasing AFM fees in the future.
- DWP General Updates (DWSRF, Staffing, PFAS, Lead Testing in Schools)
 - Current staffing and hiring challenges were discussed.

- Amy gave update on PFAS, Lead sampling, and new regulations in the future.
 - There was discussion on looking into how other states get funding. Commission members were going to research and report back at a future meeting.
 - Amy gave an update on DWSRF projects.
- Legislation and Rulemaking Update
 - Amy gave an update on PFAS rule making and Legislation.
 - Amy discussed we will need to put in writing requests to increase AFM fees in the future, as any fee increase needs to go through rule making. Amy is looking for input from the DWC and looking to discuss next meeting.
- Review Cadmus Report on Staffing at DWP
 - Amy discussed the results from the Cadmus Report regarding staffing levels needed at the DWP to complete required work.
- 2023 Public Drinking Water Commission Annual Report
 - There was discussion on how going forward if the DWC should have more of a role in creating this report or create this report.
- DWC Membership Update
 - Discussion of current membership and vacant positions.
 - Carol will look for someone interested in seat two. Eric Gagnon has expressed interest being on the DWC. Jim will send Eric the application to submit to Governor's office.
- Public Water System Items for Discussion-Public Comment
 - None
- Set Meeting Dates for 2024
 - February 7, 2024- Augusta/Zoom
 - May 1, 2024- Augusta/Zoom
 - November 6, 2024- Augusta/Zoom