

**Representative Policy Board
Consumer Affairs Committee
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District
Via Remote Access****

AGENDA

Regular Meeting of Monday, September 20, 2021 at 5:30 pm

1. Safety Moment
2. Lead and Copper Rule Updated: T. Barger
3. Approval of Minutes – August 16, 2021 meeting
4. Consumer Affairs Committee report of OCA – J. Donofrio
5. Approval of OCA invoice for August 2021 for \$2,240.00
6. Volunteer to attend Authority meeting on September 23, 2021 – T. Rescigno
7. Next meeting of Consumer Affairs Committee – October 18, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.
8. New Business
9. Adjourn

**** Members of the public may attend the meeting via conference call. For information on attending the meeting and to view meeting documents, please visit <https://www.rwater.com/about-us/our-boards/board-meetings-minutes?year=2021&category=1435&meettype=&page=>. For questions, contact the board office at 203-401-2515.**

Topic: RPB Consumer Affairs Committee Meeting

Time: Sep 20, 2021 05:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Meeting *(via conference call)*

Dial by your location

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Meeting ID: 841 8123 0702

Passcode: 691891

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kz7sDJEuU>

SAFETY MOMENT

COMPOSTING SAFETY TIPS:

Composting is an accumulation of degrading food scraps, plants and other nutrient-rich organic matter. It is an easy and environmentally responsible way to dispose of biodegradable kitchen waste, which can then be returned to the soil as fertilizer for vegetable and flower gardens.

The benefits of the practice are generally well-known, but few people are actually aware of the potential hazards and dangers composting can pose:

- Diseases contracted from handling compost include aspergillosis, Farmer's Lung, Histoplasmosis, Legionnaire's Disease, Paronychia and Tetanus.

How to Avoid Hazards of Composting:

- Always wear dry, breathable gloves to avoid direct contact with skin
- Wear protective footwear that covers your skin adequately
- Always wear nose and mouth guards or dust mask to avoid inhaling airborne spores
- Avoid tilling on windy days
- Do not store in fully closed or airtight containers
- Wash hands after dealing with compost

Service – Teamwork – Accountability – Respect – Safety

TapInto
Safety



Regional Water Authority



Presentation to the Regional Water Authority Consumer Affairs Committee

September 20, 2021

Update on Lead & Copper Rule



Tom Barger,
Manager, Water Quality

Update on Issue of Lead

- Lead Service Lines – Expanding Definition
- Contract signed with CDM Smith
 - Development of a Service Line Inventory (2021-22)
 - Develop a service line replacement plan by 2025
 - Review existing Corrosion Control Treatment
- Changes to sampling; distribution of filters
- Keep CTDPH advised

CTDPH Info Request

- Complete Materials Evaluation
 - Initial - November 2019
 - Annual requirement
- 2021 - Inventory estimates:
 - approx. 12.5K utility-side unknowns
 - approx. 30K private-side unknowns
- Private side data limited

Lead Service Line Definition

- Expansion to include galvanized iron services if downstream of a lead service line *currently or at any time in the past*
- Anticipated that gooseneck connectors will also be included
 - All goosenecks vs. specific ones based on composition.
 - If gooseneck and galvanized: Approximately 4,500
 - Anticipating an EPA ruling by the end of September 2021

Anticipated Regulatory Changes

- Changes to current corrosion control
- A return to a 2x/year monitoring schedule
- Utility responsibility for lead testing
- Addition of a lead 'Trigger Level'

Current Actions - RWA

- Identification and development of partnerships
 - Municipal, Environmental, Faith-based, LWV
- Identify and apply for funding assistance
- Consider impacts to the PipeSafe protection program
- Developing customer messaging/public education

Current Actions – RWA/CDM

- Validation of Inventory data
- Identify unknown service types
 - dependent on CTDPH verification
- Development of service line replacement plan
 - Initial Plan due 2025
- Ensure availability of anticipated components – service lines & fittings, filters

Near Future Steps

- Ensure our partnering agencies are aware of this effort and are clear on our expectations of them – We will not succeed without them
- Prioritization of where work will initiate and how it will progress – clear and concise, based on what the data tells us
- Begin implementation of regulatory requirements early – will entail a live pilot program to work out all the bugs

**Representative Policy Board
South Central Connecticut Regional Water District
Consumer Affairs Committee**

Minutes of the August 16, 2021 Meeting

A meeting of the Consumer Affairs Committee (“CAC”) of the Representative Policy Board of the South Central Connecticut Regional Water District (“RPB”) took place on Monday, August 16, 2021, via remote access. Committee members present were: N. Campbell, M. Levine, S. Mongillo, F. Pepe, R. Smith and T. Rescigno.

RWA members present: L. Bingaman, R. Kowalski, P. Singh, and L. Gonzalez

FMA member present: C. LaMarr

Office of Consumer Affairs: Lou Dagostine, Esq. (“OCA”)

RPB staff: J. Slubowski

Chairman Mongillo called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. He reviewed the Safety Moment distributed to members.

On motion made by Ms. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Pepe, and unanimously carried, the committee voted to approve the minutes of its July 19, 2021 meeting, as presented.

Mr. Singh, the RWA’s Chief Information Digital Officer and Vice President of Customer Care, provided an update of the Regional Water Authority’s (“RWA”) PipeSafe benefits. He reviewed a letter that will be mailed from the RWA to district municipalities to reintroduce and emphasize the benefits of the existing PipeSafe program. The notification is intended to clear up confusion related to recent solicitations from other companies offering similar services. The letter also states that the PipeSafe program helps its customers by offsetting water rates, creating jobs and promoting the overall economy and health of the RWA district.

Discussion took place regarding purpose, interested parties and notifications to RPB members.

Mr. Singh reviewed proposed changes to RWA’s Rules and Regulations for Water Service and Rules, Regulations and Rates Governing the Extension of Water Mains (“Rules and Regulations”), which was last revised in 2017. He reported that changes were mostly minor and provided needed updates and clarification. The Rules and Regulations will correspond with the launch of the RWA’s monthly billing program. If approved, the Rules and Regulations updates will correspond with the potential effective date of the proposed rate application. Updates and changes to the RWA Rules and Regulations were reviewed by the Consumer Affairs Committee and approved for recommendation to the RPB with minor comments.

Committee members discussed fire service payment changes and meter charges.

Attorney Dagostine, Office of Consumer Affairs (“OCA”), stated that there are currently no active consumer complaints. He reported that Atty. Donofrio, has completed his review of the Authority’s Rate Application and has issued the first set of interrogatories.

On motion made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Pepe, and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the OCA’s July 2021 billing (\$962.50).

CAC member attendance at the Authority’s August and September meetings was confirmed.

There was no new business to report.

Chair Mongillo reported that the Committee's next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 20, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

At 6:03 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Rescigno, seconded by Mr. Pepe, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned.

Stephen Mongillo, Chairman