

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

AGENDA

Regular Meeting of Monday, July 18, 2022 at 5:30 pm

1. Safety Moment
2. Approval of Minutes – June 27, 2022 meeting
3. Legislative Update: L. Vitagliano
4. Consumer Affairs Committee report of OCA – J. Donofrio
5. Approval of OCA invoice for June 2022 for \$4,847.50
6. Volunteers to attend upcoming Authority meetings:
 - a. July 28 – M. Levine
 - b. August 25 – N. Campbell
 - c. September 22, 2022 – A. Rescigno
7. Elect Committee Chair 2022-2023
8. Next meeting of Consumer Affairs Committee – August 15, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.
9. New Business
10. Adjourn

****Members of the public may attend the meeting via remote access. For information on attending the meeting and to view meeting documents, please visit <https://tinyurl.com/43bzj4dk>. For questions, contact the board office at 203-401-2515 or email jslubowski@rwater.com.**

Representative Policy Board
Consumer Affairs Committee
Regular Meeting
Monday, July 18, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

Call in (*audio only*)

[+1 469-965-2517,,217165249#](tel:+14699652517,,217165249#) United States, Dallas

Phone Conference ID: 217 165 249#

For questions on attending the meeting please contact the board office at 203-401-2515 or by email at jslubowski@rwater.com

SAFETY MOMENT

KEEPING BUGS AT BAY

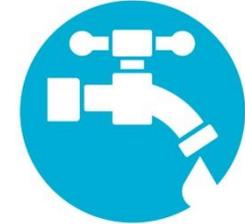
Mosquito bites are mostly an annoyance, but in rare cases mosquitoes may carry West Nile virus, encephalitis or other illnesses. Ticks, too, can be more than an annoyance. In rare cases ticks in this part of the country carry Rocky Mountain spotted fever.

PROTECT YOURSELF:

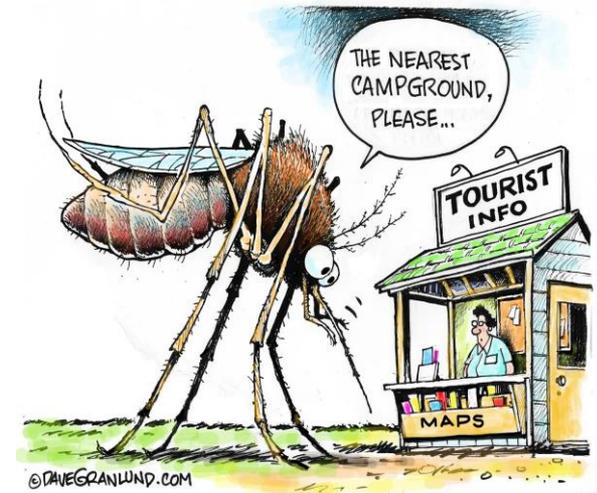
- Use insect repellent
- Wear protective clothing
- Use OTC cortisone creams for bites
- If experiencing a low grade fever after being bitten see a doctor

Service – Teamwork – Accountability – Respect – Safety

Tap Into
Safety



Regional Water Authority



Safety is a core company value at the Regional Water Authority .
It is our goal to reduce workplace injuries to zero.

Regional Water Authority

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

Minutes of the June 27, 2022 Meeting

The regular 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, June 27, 2022, via remote access. Committee members present: S. Mongillo, N. Campbell, M. Levine, A. Rescigno, and R. Smith.

Members absent: F. Pepe

RPB: M. Ricozzi, Chair

Authority: S. Sack

RWA: D. Bochan, L. Gonzalez, R. Kowalski, and P. Singh

Office of Consumer Affairs: Attorney Donofrio (“OCA”)

RPB Staff: J. Slubowski

Chairman Mongillo called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. He reviewed the Safety Moment distributed to members.

On motion made by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Levine, and unanimously carried, the committee voted to approve the minutes of its May 16, 2022 meeting, as presented.

CIS Application Review for Completeness:

- Chair Mongillo stated that the committee would be reviewing the criteria for the Authority’s Application for completeness, mode, and date of public hearing for the Customer Information System Solution Project (“CIS Application”). Members discussed the public hearing process with members of management and requirements for Applications as outlined in the RPB Rules of Practice. Members discussed alternative options, interrogatories, and procedures for confidential information at the public hearing.
- Mr. Ricozzi, Chair of the RPB, reminded members that at its June 23, 2022 meeting, the RPB authorized Chair of the RPB to set the public hearing date for the Application if the CAC deemed the CIS Application to be complete.
- Attorney Donofrio, Office of Consumer Affairs, reported that he completed his review of the CIS Application and found that it meets all the criteria as set out in Section 24, Article II, of the RPB Rules of Practice. He addressed member concerns regarding requirement flexibility for different applications and individual components not required but included in the Application. Attorney Donofrio also reported that he has engaged a consultant, USP Utility Solutions Partners, to assist with assessments, alternatives, and challenges. He expects to forward interrogatories to the Authority at the end of the week.
- After discussion, on motion made by Mr. Levine, seconded by Mr. Rescigno, and unanimously carried, the committee voted to recommend the following resolutions to the RPB:

WHEREAS, the South Central Connecticut Regional Water Authority, on May 26, 2022, filed

an Application with the Representative Policy Board (“RPB”) for the Customer Information System Solution Project, (the “Application”); and

WHEREAS, the RPB Consumer Affairs Committee reviewed the Application and recommends that the Application be accepted by the RPB as complete; and

WHEREAS, the RPB Consumer Affairs Committee recommends that a public hearing be conducted by a Presiding Member; and

WHEREAS, the RPB Consumer Affairs Committee recommends that a public hearing be scheduled for Thursday, July 28, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the RPB Consumer Affairs Committee accepts the Application as complete and recommends said Application to the RPB, and determines to hold a public hearing to be conducted by a Presiding Member, on July 28, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.; and

RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Chairperson is hereby directed to give notice of said hearing in accordance with Section 11 of the Rules of Practice, as amended.

Report of OCA:

- Atty. Donofrio reported that much of May was spent reviewing the application for the Lake Gaillard Water Treatment Plant Filter Influent Valve Project and preparation of his memorandum. He also spent time reviewing the Lake Whitney Dam Initial Design application and for preparation of his memorandum for the public hearing. Currently, he is working on the CIS Application.
- He reported that there were two customer billing issues but that both were not escalated to the Office of Consumer Affairs. The RWA has resolved the issues and he has been in contact with the customers to ensure that they are satisfied with the outcome.

On motion made by Mr. Rescigno, seconded by Ms. Campbell, and unanimously carried, the Committee approved the OCA’s May 2022 billing (\$3,764.83).

Chair Mongillo stated that he attended the June Authority meeting and that much of the meeting was dedicated to Strategic Planning. He reviewed the volunteer schedule for upcoming Authority meetings:

July 28, 2022 – Mr. Levine
August 25, 2022 – Ms. Campbell
September 22, 2022 – Mr. Rescigno

Chair Mongillo stated that next month’s CAC meeting will include the election of Committee Chair. He is eligible to serve for one more year. Anyone interested in serving as chair for the upcoming year should contact him.

The next regular meeting is on Monday, July 18, 2022 at 5:30 p.m.

As there was no new business, at 6:10 p.m., on motion made by Mr. Rescigno, seconded by Ms. Campbell, and unanimously carried, the meeting adjourned.

Stephen Mongillo, Chairman

**Presentation to the Regional Water Authority
Representative Policy Board
Consumer Affairs Committee**

July 18, 2022

2022 Legislative Update



**Lori Vitagliano
Government and Public Relations Specialist**

State Legislative Landscape

Short Session

- February 9 – Session Began
- May 4 – Sine Die

Format

- Remote Public Hearings
- Hybrid Committee Meetings
- In-Person Session Days for Legislators



Government Relations Executive Summary

The RWA's legislative lobbying efforts focus on evaluating all proposed bills that have been introduced in the General Assembly's 27 committees. The Government Relations Specialist closely monitored 31 proposed bills. The majority of these bills have originated from the Appropriations, Education, Environment, Human Services, Planning & Development, and Public Health Committees.

The key topics concern legionella, well testing, safe water, drinking water, solar siting petitions, fire protection charges, and electronic notifications to water companies.

There were 17 bills concerning the water industry or a political subdivision that were identified, and closely monitored. The RWA submitted testimony on ten bills and personally delivered comments on 7 bills. This presentation covers the bills we actively supported or lobbied our concerns.

Bills Relevant to the RWA

HB 5269: An Act Concerning Remote Meetings

- Allows public agencies, boards, and commissions to continue conducting remote meetings under the Freedom of Information Act.

HB 5142: Extended Producer Responsibility for Certain Gas Cylinders

- Creates a free and convenient stewardship recycling program for gas cylinders.
- Supported by the RWA because it will help the HazWaste Central program and its member communities.

Water Industry Bills

HB 5506: State Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Implementer

Section 68 – Office of Aquatic Invasive Species

- Creates an Office of Aquatic Invasive Species within the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station.

Sections 139 & 140 Salt Applicator Training and Registration

- Establishes training standards for road salt applicators.

Section 291 – Public Utility Management (PUM)

- Increases pathways for high school students to learn about the PUM Degree.

Section 361 – Open Space and Watershed Acquisition (OSWA) Program

- Allocates \$15 million for the OSWA program.

Water Industry Bills

HB 5506: State Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Implementer

Section 141 - Local Health District Reporting System

- Local health districts must create an electronic reporting system for property owners to report sodium chloride damage.

Section 142 – Residential Water Treatment Information

- Any person who installs residential water treatment systems must provide customers with written information about automatic water softeners or tanks.

Section 467 – Advanced Notice of Road Projects

- Municipal Chief Executive Officers must submit a letter to the Office of Policy and Management secretary stating whether the municipality, provides advanced notice to utility companies of any impending road projects that could impede the safe operation of vehicles.

Water Industry Bills

SB 116: Pesticide Notification Near Lakes and Ponds

- Pesticide applicators must make the public aware of the specific date for pesticide application.

HB 5342: Membership of The Low-Income Energy Advisory Board

- Adds water company representatives to the Low Income Energy Advisory Board.

HB 5045: Reducing Lead Poisoning

- Requires the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health to convene a working group to recommend legislative changes on various lead poisoning prevention and treatment issues.
- Lead service line replacement was not mentioned.

Water Industry Bills

HB 5500: Department of Public Health Recommendations Revisions

➤ Private or Semipublic Wells

Requires property owners with private or semipublic wells to have water quality tests performed prior to a property being sold, exchanged, purchased or transferred.

➤ Legionella

Creates a working group comprised of representatives from hospitals, nursing homes and water companies to address legionella concerns.

(Died) SB 325: Prohibits Certain Charges and Requiring Approval for the Installation of Water Lines and Hydrants by Water Companies

➤ Would have changed how water companies charge for certain fire protections.

Questions?

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