

# Long Island Commission for Aquifer Protection (LICAP)

## Water Resources Opportunity Subcommittee Meeting Minutes

December 16, 2014

*Dvirka and Bartilucci*

330 Crossways Park Drive, Woodbury, New York

ATTENDEE	REPRESENTING
Karl Schweitzer	Nassau/Suffolk Water Commissioners Association
Corey Humphrey	Nassau County Soil & Water Conservation District
Brian Schneider	Nassau County Department of Public Works
Steve Colabufo	Suffolk County Water Authority
Paul Tenyenhaus	Suffolk County Soil and Water Conservation District
Jared Hershkowitz	Suffolk County Legislature Presiding Officer DuWayne Gregory
Nick Bartilucci	Divirka and Bartilucci Consultants / Jericho Water District

Karl Schweitzer, Chairperson opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to the meeting and reminded everyone that the comments to the State of the Aquifer Report are due Friday, December 19, 2014.

The group reviewed the items brought up at the last meeting and prioritized the list. The group felt that there are many items that need to be addressed over time; however it would best to highlight three or four items that are achievable on the short term. Steve Colabufo (Water Resources and Infrastructure subcommittee Chair) suggested that the two sub committees meet prior to January, 2015. There will also be a joint meeting between this committee and the WRIS Committee in January to discuss the similarities that are being worked on.

After review and prioritization, the members agreed on creating smaller sub-committees to tackle the issues on a smaller scale. These smaller committees will be open to anyone willing to volunteer and assist with their expertise. These committees will meet separately and report on their progress at the main committee meetings.

### **Consumer Sensitive Issues**

1. New York City Well Openings – Monitor the progress on the environmental impact document when it becomes available. Prepare comments to the report and provide data that protects the suppliers on Long Island.
2. Regulation Enforcement – New York State DEC, Health Departments etc. The Chairs of both subcommittees will request a meeting with the NYSDEC to discuss what their role will be on LICAP and how they will be involved in providing guidance and addressing needs as the committees move forward. Jared Hershkowitz will also solicit feedback on soliciting political oversight and assistance.

Included in the category will be;

- High Risk Facility Inspections
- Underground Storage Tanks – Leaking
- Air Stripper Treatment - Air Emissions

### 3. USGS Funding

- Ensure that ongoing data collection is properly funded by both Counties, and all water suppliers

### Aquifer Quality and Quantity

#### 1. Saltwater intrusion

- Chloride contamination
- Road salting
- Upconing

### Wastewater Management

1. Nitrates
2. Pesticides and fertilizers
3. Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) - TCE
4. Pharmaceuticals & personal care products
5. Household hazardous waste

### Water Education

1. Value of Water
2. Water Efficiency
  - Conservation caps for aquifer withdrawal
3. Promoting and Public Relations
  - Colleges, Speakers Bureau and Civic Groups
  - Creating programs promoting LICAP and its purpose

Additionally, the following topics were suggested to hold as secondary priorities;

1. Nassau County Water Resources Board –Schweitzer will be asking for a meeting with Arnold Palleschi the current Chair to see what their charter is and how they fit in with LICAP

2. Banning the Sale of Nitrogen based fertilizers on Long Island that would be replaced with slow release fertilizers. It was suggested that we have an outreach to the Long Island Farm Bureau and other vested groups.
3. Sentinel groundwater quality monitoring network and active program and the Regional Water Quality database concerns will be moved to the Water Resources and Infrastructure subcommittee
4. It was suggested that the Committee look into the overall aquifer management for Long Island with the NYSDEC and make the LICAP case of the needs and recommendations to have the State take a more proactive role since it has many resources, programs and regulatory enforcement.
5. A suggestion was made the current "State of the Aquifer" report should include an educational piece promoting suppliers, the water cycle, treatment and the end product is a valuable and vital resource

At the next General LICAP meeting these sub-committee topics will solicit volunteers to assist since there is a wealth of expertise that would benefit LICAP and the concerns targeted. When volunteers take an active role a committee member will be asked to act as the committee lead and the remaining members will work on the sub-set issues.

Committee will meet again in late January in the afternoon. Meeting location will be determined.

Steve Colabufo and Karl Schweitzer will be meeting to discuss the best approach and what topics would be worked on first. This meeting will take place prior to the next General LICAP meeting.