

**KENTUCKY WATER UTILITIES ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
HYBRID VIDEO TELECONFERENCE  
REGULAR MEETING  
MARCH 7, 2025, 10:30 AM EDT  
300 SOWER BLVD, FRANKFORT, KY 40601**

**MINUTES (DRAFT)**

**Present (In-person):** KDOW Director Sarah Gaddis, KDOW Assistant Director John Webb, Brad Montgomery (STV/ACEC-KY), Scot Treece (LaGrange Utilities / KLC), Arianna Lageman (KRWA), Derrick Willis (Carrollton Utilities), Roy Gray (RCAP), Brian Bingham (Louisville MSD), Terry Roach (Carrollton Utilities), Stephanie Laughlin (Louisville MSD), Russ Rose (Oldham County Water District), Scott Young (KRWA), Josh Gabbard (Berea Utilities), Scott Johnson (Berea Utilities), Brittany Ditmer (KRWA), Dawn Peterson (KRWA), Kay Sanborn (AWWA), Mark Sneve (ACEC-KY), Adam Scott (KWWOA), Doug Kimbler (BGMU), Joe Pavoni (BGMU), Valerie Lucas (CWP-KT), Donna McNeil (KWRI / UK), Peter Goodmann (Louisville Water), Russell Neal (KIA – proxy for Sandy Williams), Lindsey Richten (NKWD), Richard Hanson (NKWD), and Jarrod Bell (EEC DEP DENF).

**Also Present:** KY DOW Branch Managers, staff, including approximately 48 virtual attendees.

**I. Welcome and Call to Order**

Director Sarah Gaddis called the meeting to order at approximately 10:30 AM ET and welcomed members and guests.

Core Committee members present during roll call: Brian Bingham (MSD), Chris Bobay (LWC), David Peterson (CEA), Derrick Willis (Carrollton Utilities), Donna McNeil (KWRI/UK), Joe Pavoni (BGMU), John Webb (DOW), Kay Sanborn (AWWA), Linda Bridwell (PSC), Mark Sneve (ACEC), Russell Rose (Oldham Co. WD), Russell Neal (KIA), Sarah Gaddis (DOW), Scot Treece (KLC), Scott Young (KRWA), Valerie Lucas (CWP), and John Rudolph (CHFS). A quorum was present.

**II. Approval of Minutes for December 6, 2024**

No changes were recommended for the draft minutes from December. Director Gaddis asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes from December 6<sup>th</sup>. A motion was made by Donna McNeil, seconded by Mark Sneed, and all voted in favor by voice vote.

**III. Approval of 2025 Regular Meeting Schedule**

Director Gaddis inquired if there were any potential conflicts with the meeting schedule. A few conflicting meetings were noted. Attendees were encouraged to send any conflicts to Administrative Specialist Senior John Carlton so that meeting dates could be revised as needed.

**IV. Approval of Committee Members Lists**

Director Gaddis requested that attendees review and update a list of contact information and subcommittee workgroup lists shared by email. Approval of the subcommittee workgroup member lists was tabled until the next quarterly meeting to provide additional time for review and updates. A request was made for subcommittee chairs to notify Mr. Carlton of scheduled meetings so the information could be shared more broadly.

**V. Coordination for Drinking Water of the Commonwealth publication**

Director Gaddis brought up the topic of a publication on drinking water in the Commonwealth initially discussed during the December 2024 meeting. She clarified that the document was not a requirement from the Governor's Office, but something that could be provided to the Governor's Office and state

legislature. She proposed to focus on drinking water for the first publication but noted that a future publication would focus on clean water. Publication frequency was proposed to be less frequent than annually, possibly on a five-year cycle for drinking water and clean water. Director Gaddis expressed an interest in seeking assistance from other organizations represented in the meeting in the development of materials to create a professional report.

Director Gaddis requested feedback on potential topics to cover in the first publication. She plans to put the ideas into an outline to be shared in the future. Suggested topics from the committee included

- highlighting Kentucky's success at being third in the nation for the lowest number of health-based violations for drinking water
- Water Grows Kentucky
- revisiting the strategic plan for water resource development from Governor Patton's Executive Order 96-1339
- discuss partnerships with stakeholder groups
- flood recovery
- technical assistance and the Area-Wide Optimization Program and how it has evolved
- highlighting the Water Resource Information System (WRIS) as a useful tool
- discussing the value of the KWUAC forum
- Source water awareness
- highlighting case studies like Logan Todd
- highlighting other successes and awards
- Infrastructure improvements, SRF impacts, challenges, BIL funding successes
- highlighting the water workforce, challenges, and impacts on public health
- KY WARN
- Nutrient reduction efforts.

## **VI. Reports**

### **A. Division of Water Updates**

#### **i. Director's Office**

Director Gaddis provided a personnel update and reported that Alicia Jacobs, the Division of Water, Drinking Water Branch Manager, has taken another position. Staff are working on filling the vacancy. Assistant Director John Webb noted the Division is near its personnel cap of 226 staff. Director Gaddis announced a new section was added to the Water Infrastructure Branch in order to create two distinct sections: a Drinking Water Engineering Section and a Clean Water Engineering Section. This effort is intended to further reduce the backlog on reviews of infrastructure projects. A new supervisor has been selected for the Clean Water Section.

Director Gaddis provided a legislative update and noted that the Division of Water has a neutral position on recent legislation regarding water fluoridation programs. Policy specialist Carole Catalfo added the Division is closely tracking Senate Bill 89, commonly referred to as the waters of the Commonwealth bill. The Division is also following resolutions relating to flood prevention and mitigation. Russell Neal, Staff Assistant at the Kentucky Infrastructure Authority, provided an update regarding House Joint Resolution 30 and House Bill 741 regarding the KY Water and Wastewater Assistance for Troubled or Economically Restrained Systems (WWATERS) Program funding. Assistant Director Webb stated that House Bill 6 could also have relevant impacts for the group.

Director Gaddis updated on regulatory revisions, noting that drinking water regulations are in the process of being updated to address updates to federal drinking water rules.

**ii. DOW Branch Manager Updates**

**Watershed Management Branch:** Dale Booth reported the branch is growing its drone program to provide additional information on water resources. They recently started producing 3D models of reservoir bathymetry using data collected by a drone. They are also launching two new viewers for emergencies to identify areas without water and areas under boil water advisories.

**Drinking Water Branch:** Elizabeth Dowling reported that Alicia Jacobs has stepped down from her role as branch manager. Several new FFTLs are working on a corrosion control treatment program. Staff are also working on an electronic MOR that could be ready by the summer. Systems have been assisting with testing for the past couple of years. Review of the initial service line inventories was completed. All inventories were received by mid-December. Only 10 inventories did not meet the minimum criteria. They are also working on 401 KAR Chapter 8 updates.

Eileen Miller presented on the WIIN program that provides free voluntary lead testing in public schools and licensed childcare facilities. She noted that funding is available for testing and addressing concerns. Risk communication templates are also available. At present, 157 facilities have signed up for the program, 74 have been tested, with 637 outlets sampled. No systemic lead problems have been identified to date.

**B. Committee Reports**

The Compliance and Regulations Subcommittee met on Feb 18<sup>th</sup> and discussed potential revisions to 401 KAR Chapter 8 regulations including methods for updating the population size for water systems and bottled water regulations.

The Lead and Drinking Water Subcommittee did not meet in the last quarter. The next meeting will be on April 9<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM.

The PFAS Subcommittee will meet next on March 31<sup>st</sup> at 2 PM.

The Nutrient Subcommittee will meet on March 10<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM.

**VII. New Business**

**VIII. Comments and Announcements**

Director Gaddis announced that registration is now open for the DOW Regulatory Forum on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Peter Goodmann recognized the work of former Division of Water Director, Jack Wilson, who recently passed away.

**IX. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:20 PM.

These minutes were reviewed by the Committee and approved on \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sarah J. Gaddis, P.G., Director  
Kentucky Division of Water

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date