

KY Water Utilities Advisory Committee - PLACEHOLDER-20241206_100020-Meeting Recording

December 6, 2024, 3:00PM

2h 5m 28s

● **Frey, Josiah (EEC)** started transcription



Frey, Josiah (EEC) 1:03

Being larger synthesis.



MS Mindy Scott 1:58

Then I am not going to be able to see all the way in because I got a big job.



Frey, Josiah (EEC) 2:04

OK.



MS Mindy Scott 2:04

So I won't see if they say anything about code, there's.

Talk about so if you are to the end, just make sure you keep eye out for that kind of stuff. Like I'm saying it talks about CSO, if you want to do some, OK.

Sooner than I forgot.



Frey, Josiah (EEC) 2:23

That's not.



MS Mindy Scott 2:23

No, that is quite all right.

And I'll just stay in here anyways, because then I can.

Yeah.



Frey, Josiah (EEC) 2:39

I.

Hey, good morning.

Everyone.

Thanks for.

Taking my questions.

Yes.

Those are online.

This is a draft for post list, so as you browse it and you can see changes that need be made or admissions, please be quick about those.

Welcome. Thank you guys for coming out on this cold day. It's a very crowded.

And it's really cold in here.

OK, that's done horse here.

It's a new experience.

Not really sure what the what's going on there.

So.

Just I'm just glad you're here and hopefully I'm going to take some time to draw these committees and detail. I feel like we need this constantly, but I kind of want to get to the end of this one and and get a better framework set up.

We'll start with.

Minutes.

Do we have those minutes to add it not on the screen?

Do you want me on the screen?

Yeah, but we don't have to talk, OK?

Yesterday.

And a link to the website.

Does anyone have any changes to the Minutes amendments?

From the previous meeting.

From yesterday.

Did anyone look at?

This one.

Don't don't make a motion to accept the minutes or a second.

Second, all in favor.

All right, so we're we're acting normal.

We're not normal yet, but we're going to get there.

All right, so.

We'll with approve minutes.

So as I talked about our last meeting.

In the past.

Many people were thrilled with involved with the various.

Iterations that this committee.

Forms that it's taken currently we're operating as a committee on Council.

I did propose that we make this a statutory standing group and we weren't able to get that through the session.

I'll let the suggestion.

Because I feel like this is important and we need to provide guidelines on on the very things that come up every year on the session at other times. So the list that you have for you is again a draft.

It is rough. It is.

Perhaps something that I was looking at at 11:00 last night.

OK.

I don't know what to do about that.

They're having a hard time hearing online, so I'm going to speak up and you all are going to feel like I'm shouting at you. Some of you are used to that anyway, but hopefully if you pick up in this room, hopefully they'll hear you as well.

So going through that, what I have on the 1st page is the core committee.

So these are the people that I hope to have in the room every time that we meet to tackle important issues. I've reached out to several organizations to get their recommendations and some of some people got stuck on this because I volunteered for some committees and I needed.

To fill a hole on the 4th committee. So feel free to speak up and say this is not me, this is somebody else or I have a recommendation for something.

What we lack in all of these lists are representatives from Eastern KY.

And we like very, very painful representations of small systems.

We have just a couple of small systems that have gotten into the fray here and I would like to see a whole lot more of that now.

That's I understand most of the people in this room and most of the people online are going to be centralized.

Kentucky. That's. I mean, a lot of that has to do with proximity to the meeting.

That's why we're here.

You know, some people driving further?

But it's harder for people from Eastern Western hopefully having the hybrid meetings will lead to that, and I don't want it.

I don't want the distance for proximity to Frankfurt to be a barrier to participation in these meetings and committee, so I will ask this subcommittee Chairs and Co chairs

conduct their meetings in in a hybrid format when possible, so that people from all over the state can be.

Can be active on those committees and that we have.

Well distributed representation across the various topics that we're taking up so.

There are some areas where I have put small and I've highlighted in yellow or I've highlighted some others in yellow just to make sure that people are in agreement, such as Joe Caboni.

I asked them before.

Hey, why don't you do that?

He said.

Well, sure. Anything you want, Sarah. And I just want you to know that that's kind of how she respond.

Don't take a lesson from my teenagers.

That's not how they respond.

So we do need a representative from Chfs to ask that has been Jennifer Park.

And I'm not sure.

I may be wrong.

Yeah. And I'm not sure if she still a CHFS or if anybody has recommendations for that position.

So we need to fill somebody there because we need that crosswalk to, especially with fluoride issues that are coming up all over the country and that is legislation that we see every year as we respond to.

Of course, it's not a Dow regulation.

Those are engagement industry.

Understand that we you know, we monitor for as contaminant, but that's the general health program that still we end up on the same page having those discussions together. So and there are other many other areas where we crossover to CHF. So looking for a representative there.

Chris O'Brien as a large system and I haven't spoken with him personally.

Chris, are you willing to serve on the?



Chris Bobay 11:43

Happy to help anyway I can. Thanks.



Frey, Josiah (EEC) 11:45

Right.

If you can hear me or not, we can hear you.

Speakers work great.

This is a whole new system, which is why we're working on bugs.

And then I have James McDowell.

From Princeton.

I can reach out to him and send it and then we are in need of at least one more small system and then two systems of any size. Just because what I was hoping to do is get 8 systems on the support committee that would be distributed across.

The four regions that I kind of designated across the state as well as sizes, so.

Anyway, so if anyone's willing to step in there we can. We can take your name down now or you can send us an e-mail.

Stare behind you, Brian.

I'd like to start with you.

We have Brian Bingham.

What do you consider fall for this area?

I wish I could say I did a better analysis than that, but really I just am looking for systems that deal with small systems issues.

And I think people kind of understand what that is fewer than 3000.

Regulatory, but I don't know, fewer than five.

I really didn't have.

I didn't really take a regulatory approach with it because some water districts that come in entire county might exceed 10,000.

Sure. It's 5 customer for mom and ship and small.

Sure. Yeah. OK.

So it's more, it's more about representation than anything. I just want to make sure that we're getting the right voices in the room when we have these conversations.

Right now, LJ Turner.

Is live on water this morning.

OK. Anybody else wanna volunteer their friends?

There's two online.

Richard Crass or John Rudolph from GPS? Yes.

And Angela, Billing says Jennifer Burke is with Department of Public Health.

OK.

So we'll reach out so that I'm saying that I'd like to.

To put it in here.

OK.

So we'll continue to build that list.

I just want that core group that we can count on to be together.

That's represented.

I have a.

Just a clarification question.

I'm not sure if that's me or other Russell Rd. because it says he's got Carroll utilities there.

Does it have Carrollton?

Maybe it's a typo, but there might be two.

It could be.

It could be a copy and past error from 11:00. That's OK.

Somewhere up there.

Yeah, I was working from a compilation of the surveys that we did last time, so there may have been an error.

I apologize.

In other places it's Russell Bay roads.

Is that you or is that?

OK.

Alright, we'll keep working on that on the next page. We have the Cybersecurity Committee, which is.

We have small, medium and large systems open, so I'll I'll I'll talk to them.

Carlos Felix from little water.

Also, is former state government employee, so he's he's just familiar with all current state governments, so that would be helpful.

OK.

Very good.

I'll get you his contact info.

Hi, Nicolas.

Carlos Carlos. Felix. Felix is undercover.

So any anyone interested from a small or medium system on cyber security issues that would like to fill those roles are another. Another large systems OK too.

I just want to make sure that we have the opportunity to have a discussion with everybody.

I think we all have different challenges.

I can do it through the small systems OK.

Maggie.

Anyone else? I'm gonna move pretty quickly.

Sarah, several of these committees or subcommittees don't have representation from Acec, and I think we would like to have an opportunity to get some people on some of these committees, but I need to take back to that's my favorite group. If that's OK and we've got an as.

Meeting right.

So we can we can have that conversation.

I did contact Mark and I asked if he wanted to serve on that on that board committee and he said that he would.

Oh, that's great.

But I listen.

I'm glad to have representation from all our organizations, from academia, from whatever sector, on all of these committees.

I know it's a it's a big ask.

And some of the committees are going to be working on others.

So however it works out.

More than glad to have that placeholder on all the lists and make sure that we have representation.

Thank you.

I'll definitely get back to you, OK?

I'll pay you back on that for Kia as well.

OK.

Yeah, I was just gonna plaster it with your name.

Is there a question?

Are there the list that you have here? Is this base like the people for instance, an operator recruitment, retention?

Is this people who apply to your survey?

Yes, it's who they wanted to be. Part of this committee? Yes. OK.

So like our our specifically we have other committee members, OK, so that aren't here, but I can just marry those two things together, OK.

What we want to do is make sure so this is this is a snit out of a.

Spreadsheet that I was developing that has contact information. Then I want to make

sure to get to the committee so that they know who's surveying who they represent and how to contact.

So you guys are you've been meeting a lot.

You've always been.

Very consistent.

So you're probably a little bit more.

OK.

So if you would file a fuel worth with John Carlton to get to make sure that our lists are correct for any Co chairs for any subcommittees, please send me your list of current members so we can marry those. That would be helpful.

Thank you. OK.

So the next subcommittee is also one that we're standing up.

And you know, more recently asset management, Asset Management Subcommittee. We have a joint Senate resolution that I'm hoping will make it up that will require the division to do a study.

On how to develop asset management regulation, what implementation looks like and what the division of resources would be in order to get that in place.

Place. So we're hoping that goes.

Anyone who works with a lobbyist or legislators who sort of like your friends, know that's really important to all of us, right?

Yeah, we're all behind that.

So do you have text for that?

Sorry, do you have a text for that resolution?

Not yet. OK.

So it's still a draft form, but when we get it, we'll send it out.

So that's all in progress right now, but in anticipation, because if you don't behave like these are going to happen, then they won't.

We're we've got this committee and these are the folks that expressed interest.

We are going to have to move very quickly on this committee because I committed to having.

If it goes into effect, it will go into effect until June, so I asked for end of March 2026 to have that study done.

So it'll be a pretty heavy lift for the people that are on that committee to to work together to get that done. And I and if it goes through also.

Hire some contractors so we can all work together on that and get that done.

Yes, Terry suggested.

Derek Willis, will Davis, from Carrollton.

Darren Thompson also.

Yeah. So Darren, darren's.

An asset manager.

I don't, presumably.

Yeah, Derek won't.

Yeah, I'm going to talk to him.

OK, Sarah, we have a loop for 10 years or so.

Is this kind of?

Is this that same framework?

No. So passionate development actually succeeded.

Infrastructures sustainability, I think there was kind of a thank you stress, am I correct?

Yeah. So that was the former.

Capacity building, infrastructure sustainability.

The core group.

Like a Manchin.

Asset management.

So can I just request for everybody that's online? If you're volunteering for one of the groups in the chat, make sure you tell us what group your voluntary corporate.

So we have Manchester on asset management.

For southeast Kentucky.

If you'll invite organization and name to John so that he can get that. If he doesn't, he doesn't have enough.

Question on the committee membership if.

You envision that you would have proxies that you couldn't make it? Sure.

OK.

Yeah, I I mean I think that's ideal just to make sure that we have all the voices in the room that we need to have.

Branch manager on the committee and I'm just going to call her or her designee if that's appropriate.

So any anybody else on that?

Go ahead. Next committee is drinking water clients.

Subcommittee, this is the regulations, regulations and so thank you client.

This is usually.

A pretty interesting subject.

Sarbanes was on it for a number of years.

We do have lots of rules coming up and I will say that it is my intention to break open debate in the next few months and start making changes there.

So this is a committee that I'll be looking to the Council on those changes, to be sure that it works for everybody.

We've got to add some drinking water rules. We've got to make some references to CF Rs.

But in addition, we're looking at changing the way that we do.

Advisories for advisories consumer advisories, adding some additional tools and tiers there for water systems, be able to better communicate with the public.

So there are some things that we're looking at.

We probably will not do a total revamp.

But we definitely have some areas where we can make some improvements.

So again, this will be an interesting committee to serve on this time.

Anyone's interested. We still need 2 smalls.

Mike Sanford from Lake Village should be on that, OK and I can.

I was going through my memorandum.

That's that's the only one I can pull.

Oh yeah, he's very useful.

Yes. Yeah, he's leaning on him a lot in the past.

OK. And Donna McNeil also would like to be able to.

Thank you.

All again.

That's fine.

No, I probably will.

OK.

I'll give you my thoughts.

Yeah, that's OK. Always welcome.

All right.

And then moving on infrastructure sustainability, sustainability again.

This is the former Taxi development committee.

Are something that we've handled in this break in the past.

For us.

Can you kind of give us some bullets on other things that we work on?

So Subcommittee for a start up meeting capacity development strategy that has been made.

After that.

We're still at the course.

That's where we need to go next. I think those are the two core issues that we took up.

OK.

This is the list that those were the main ones.

I plan on.

In the archives, all right.

Is there anyone else that's particularly interested in starting on infrastructure and sustainability?

We would have.

Someone else to volunteer, but I I will volunteer.

We'll work with the add history on on.

The facilities within the facility.

OK.

Yeah, that would be really useful.

Maybe I'll see.

Will that get into?

Your name replacement.

Capacity development service. I'm just curious.

Let's go public comment.

That's a great question.

I think it's assessment.

You know, I think most of these committees need to kind of be guest at all.

And hey, what is our objective? I have some thoughts like I know that we need to do a little work on sanitary survey.

And so I know this. I don't have this video. So I mean, there's things I have in my mind the various committees that I think also the committees are somewhat self-directed in that, hey, this is an issue we would like to work on.

Bring it here.

Committee agrees on it.

Then we go to work, making fines in the.

District either one.

I think it's something we ought to be working on as a state, just just to understand our infrastructure, right?

So on asset management, Richard, I think you know my vision is more.

How do we develop a requirement for asset management planning and what does that mean?

So what is the definitions?

What are the requirements?

You know what?

What type of things do we expect from our systems?

In terms of planning, not necessarily the specific.

A pipe at this point in time.

It probably has some place is on.

I wonder if that needle is moving with all this federal money coming in.

There's some of the planning department's in there, but I'm not that familiar with planning department.

Yeah, so it's not.

It's what I like for it to be, and that's that's part of the thing that's urging me on now is just that we have all of this historic funding that's going in the ground right now.

And if we don't manage that better than we have elsewhere or.

In the past, when it gets to the end of its useful life, which will be sooner than we would like it to be, if they're not managing their assets, they're not going to have the funding to replace assets.

So we'll be right back where we are right now in 30 to 50 years.

So people have to we need, we need to ask people, tell people to manage what they have.

Would this be kind of near the asset inventory of what the wastewater side is?

That's a potential because we have a regular assessment.

I don't know.

I mean, it'll certainly be complimentary, but I'm sure it'll be a mirror to.

But again, to be told you know, I mean, it'll be interesting to see where where systems and organizations want to be.

You know.

They're I I joke sometimes that Kentucky is the myth of state.

Instead of like the showcasing.

So.

You know, we'll have some.

We'll have a subset that are very resistant to having to do anything different.

So I'll have to figure out how to get everybody on board.

We'll have to compromise.

Play.

Right. Lead in drinking water.

This has been a very active group.

What I didn't see was discussion in small systems.

And I know Maggie.

I think Maggie's been involved with the electric water and Ariana has been so you guys kind of covers more systems.

But I would love to see more small system participation.

If we if we can come up with some folks that are willing to serve there.

So there's in the LED group, we've got probably 5 or 6 subcommittees to that group, and that's a much longer list of people.

Do you need the names of the people that are serving on those subcommittees? You know, I don't think I do.

I think it's just, you know that what I really in my mind when I start making these lists. I want this to be like no more than 10 or 12 people, but then you get into groups where people are very active and these groups are really doing a lot of work and I'm, you know, I'm.

Calls and I see how many people are. You don't want to. You don't want to say we're limiting participation.

So everybody's in.

But I will count on this group to report back to us, to tell us what work is needed.

Well, I think there are some small systems that are participating in those.

But if we can get their names on this list, I would just feel better to know we have that representation.

See what I'm saying?

Yeah. So ideally I would.

But no, I don't.

But I think that's a lot kind of this process is what it what there are several committees that.

I make spreadsheets for, but we're just not able to right now because we don't have

the special assignments or that work ahead for those they reach out to.

Sorry, who would they reach out to there? John Carlton.

So we'll get it that way. And then this is, it's open to whomever.

Do you want tier one systems or do you want Tier 2?

OK, anyone who would like to participate?

Unless they're.

Some of those.

OK.

I had a suggestion.

Yes, Jennifer, because that's her specialty. OK. And then, OK.

I understand. I don't.

Yeah, that's fine.

I just wanted to make sure that the CHS OK and then.

It might be good to get somebody from a local health department that deals with lead, like Jefferson County Health Department.

It's not called, that's something else.

We can probably get you, I think Emily or Chris hasn't contacted the health department.

That might be good to have them.

The other.

The other thing is it might be good to have somebody from Department of Education because of the schools and daycares.

It could be, yeah.

So Dave Channer works with Department of Education on Wind Grant.

So he would have a name, but this is usually somebody from Department of Education, invited whether or not he shows this very different story, because there is usually outreach and someone has been invited.

But there's value in saying.

Sergei is a participant in the corrosion Control Submodular group, too, so he's he's already involved.

He's very.

So I would say.

You know, I expect a lot of our drinking water arrangements to participate in this kind of thing, and they're not necessarily walking on the list.

I probably just expect me to know their names so.

I apologize about it.

It'll take for klc.

My name is like spread all over it.

Jason's going to take half of it.

I want to send an e-mail.

I actually may not even understand that TLC has started the utility partnership.

So that's municipal partnerships.

So we've got a group, so I'll send an e-mail out to hopefully feel some of those subcommittees instead of me being the name on everyone of them.

Well, you know, I did use your name very liberally.

It was because you were the only one bald enough to fit.

Already emailed me today and saying I want to be on this committee and I said so, yeah, I'm. I'm glad to have. Like I said, spread it over the organization. That's fine.

You guys will communicate on your own.

We just want to make sure everybody's at the table and especially since you know, Kentucky Municipal Utilities Association.

Isn't at the table. We need to make sure that KL, CS engaged and I would love to have Keiko involved too.

Well, I mean, since Roger left Peaco, there really isn't a water person.

And every time I see them in conferences, I'm like, who's your water person?

Who's your water person?

They're like we don't have one.

I'm like that's a problem.

We talk about this, so if we can figure out who that person is, that would be great too.

Nutrient sub committee. This is going to be led by Josiah.

And we have a group full list there.

Again, no apparent smalls.

And then also on source water.

Yes, Sir. I'd be interested in your background on that and not representing the system necessarily just.

CR **Cress, Rusty** 37:13

Sarah, this is Rusty. Chris, that last committee that you mentioned, something about Klc.

I'm here on behalf of them.

I can do that.



Frey, Josiah (EEC) 37:25

There's two KL CS right now that we're talking about.

He's within the city, right?

OK, I thought.

Yeah, it's all they started a utility partnership, OK.

I didn't know that was under klci.

All right.

OK.

I think that was after Kmua KMUA is all klc.

So I didn't realize it had been organized under Klci.

I'm sorry, OK?

Thank you rusty.

All right, where was that?

At source water and this is one where I put Joanna's name down.

I didn't ask her so or her design.

Yeah.

You can't get rid of her.

She has, unlike a bad thing, we have actually a much larger distribution.

So I'll get with John, OK.

Sorry.

Not supposed to feel that, OK.

You know, it might be good, Richard, to get somebody more cycling.

Yeah, for I mean for now, I can beat Sainsbury's putting on that. I can keep that connection going.

OK, there's a little bit of one that's probably like most interesting one.

So who stacks the?

Water use.

It like one of the sticks, or Carroll. No, I mean no.

I meant who stacks it for me.

That would be.

Changed. Now is a couple of votes, but.

I'm just concerned that they are part of.

6.

I'll talk to them and see one way or the other. We we can provide that linkage.

Yeah. And Richard, to be clear, no limit however many.

You can put me on there.

Provide some value to that.

Absolutely, yeah.

And you can add me on source water because I'm working on some issues right now.

And you would talk you would, you would mention briefly, the idea of of of river system and some committees they could report, they could kind of report up to this and that might be just thinking ahead.

Yeah. So I'm glad you brought that up because I know something that I was thinking about in terms of this. This committee is kind of a longer major river systems where we have several entities having representatives from each of the systems kind of.

In a group.

In a conversation, in case we have bad things that happen and we already know each other, we already have a plan.

We already have a communication.

Once I want a communication so that we're not starting from zero.

So wheres anko? Has a water user's community advisory committee, their utilities that they use our resources are on it.

So that that would be a natural subcommittee of of this, that could provide help.

Certainly.

About 600 school boards a year.

All right.

So I'd like to build the same sort of thing on Kentucky River. And you know, in some other areas to where.

They'll feed their horses. They'll help. So.

You can take the.

River. Well, the river of corn. The only has one utility representative. So it's mitzi.

OK. And Dorothy and Kentucky American, this was pretty regularly I think there was a lot of bandwidth there.

Right. Yeah. I mean from Eastern standard.

Right. There's some strength in that for sure.

All right. So the next one is operator certification and I put that together on the same page with operator recruitment, retention. I know that you guys have been regularly

and also.

Mandate. I think Amanda has been very active with that group.

I've just been so there's still not two groups. There's just one group development.

So these two are being merged, but it's but it's myself and Valerie that compared.

Hey, is that Derrick Willis released?

Again.

What time was it when you did this one?

You know.

Now it's about 12:15.

Four chains for a whole lot.

OK.

Anyone else natural fit once again?

We like now, says we.

'LL send OK.

All right, small systems.

I added.

Shannon was that part on this and I didn't ask her. So we'll see how that goes.

And and Scott, so Scott and I were Co chairs of this and we kind of lost our grip when we're searching positions.

So hopefully you're on track, but if there are more people there, obviously you know we have, we have David Peterson and even tomorrow here.

And we welcome more small system input there.

I think the goal of this committee is really how can we support small systems?

What are the things?

What are the specific challenges that small systems have and how can we better support those systems or provide tools or?

Even training or anything that that we can do there so.

OK.

Anybody want to put their name on that one, Sarah?

I was going to suggest sort of a global recommendation that just occurred to me that there are a lot of Kwa.

Members nobody necessarily representing Aww specifically. So maybe we should talk to Kay.

Or Luke, who's the chair or president right now about getting membership representation up in as well.

For example, they have a small system subcommittee.

You know, they have a subcommittee that aligns with almost everyone. We have, council.

Policy.

I'm Co chair and I'm on the national.

You can do something like that too I think.

I mean, if Kay's on committee, that's that's what it does. But there are going to be a lot of Members on here and I'm hopeful for that.

So I mean, like I said, the broader participation can get better.

And I'm not gonna turn anyone away.

So we want to hear from everyone.

The P5 committee is missing a packet that we can get a list to join.

I have a list.

And apparently.

That must have been post 11.

No, that was 10:00 this morning.

So so there is a I'll send that.

Out.

So I don't have that.

Separately, sorry. OK.

So this is not we're not closing the door on this.

This is the.

Please take john.carlson@ky.gov.

Take this back to your friends, whoever you have.

Oh, your friend, sorry.

So John will help in this list together and corrected and then we will get it out to everyone without contact information so that everybody knows who's representing.

And then.

The the group supports will get contact information for their groups OK.

Alright.

So this brings us to.

We talked a little bit about the asset management workgroup and why we're doing that 2024 retrospective on infrastructure investments. So it says due to the governor's office, that's kind of self-imposed and I want to explain to you what this is and.

And hopefully recruit some folks to to help me pull this off.

What I would really like to do is to develop a final report.

That encompasses all of the good work that we do across state government and with our partners.

In progress that we're making, specifically the birth of our industry.

I don't want to exclude clean water, but there is particular focus on drinking water.

And what I would like to do is to deliver a product that says. Here are the great things for going on drinking water, drinking water.

Here are the here are the number of systems that have received outreach from various grants or contracts with our partners.

Here are the ways that we are supporting.

The community here are the number of dollars that have been invested through various.

Funds, loans, grants.

W waters.

Here's what we're investing in water this year, and here are some success stories.

It's kind of big and it's kind of broad. And I mean if you want to think of it as like.

A glossy magazine kind of thing.

That's easy to consume, easy to read, not highly technical, but something that.

Informs the public about the great things are happening happening in drinking water.

I really want to do that and I would love the support of this group to do that so that we have contributions from all over.

And I'll tell you what has.

What? What is Sparta Song for me was there was a Facebook post from the governor's office.

That said.

You know, we're doing great things in drinking water.

We're making this historic investments, blah, blah, blah, blah great.

Sounds really good to me.

But then there were 286 negative comments that followed it.

Maybe a half dozen positive comments about drinking water.

It took my breath away and to the point where I literally went through every comment. I logged every name and I went and snooped their Facebook pages to find out where they were commenting from and wrote down what system they're in to

know where people perceive that we.

Have these awful problems.

Do you have something?

It was.

It was a rough night and I went to bed well after I left.

But literally, I sat and walked those comments and a lot of it is if drinking water is right, then I should have drinking water and I don't have it.

I have to haul water.

I have to you know, these are things that we can't really resolve here.

And we can't run public water to everybody, but.

The negative perceptions.

Of our public drinking water is a real problem.

And this is one way that I thought we could perhaps tackle that.

Is to come together as a group and say there are a lot of people across the state supporting.

Safer work. And here's the good work that we're doing.

So.

That's my idea.

I'm throwing out this group. I'll do it with or without you.

It will just be harder without you.

So if anyone is interested in kind of showing up as a partner in that.

That we have contracts with that we do business with that we regulate, I'm looking for all of the the tentacles of what the division does to express to the public that we do good work so.

And then try to press some of your partnership with with utility as well.

And one of the hard things to capture on that financial part is the investments by utilities themselves.

Funding things like that. There's a huge amount of investment by utilities that is hard to capture, but it's important because it does.

Progress, right?

But in the second thing, I think it might be to talk about those partnerships with the utilities like natural partnerships with our capital water, etcetera and then some.

This grouping and you know other organizations, Valerie's organization, sorry.

There's also another part and I I.

Always brag about Kentucky to other states, and that's the Wis.

Dom. I'm not saying that's the same as I think you're looking at the investment over the last few years, but I also think we lost with the with the last statute changes that took away laying out all the other areas.

The fact that Kentucky more than probably any other state in the nation has done great work, and I'm not sure I ever saw I've ever seen a good cohesive report that that lays out all all the investment.

Kentucky made our system as extended hundreds of lines.

So just it's just along those thoughts, I'm not trying to make it more difficult.

No, there's a few.

There's a few presentations there are, but absolutely I've seen it. Like Water's got a couple of really good vision of water's got a couple. If you don't have them, I probably have one in some part. Just kind of, you know, just kind of because I know.

The legislature is no longer.

Routinely funding it through the back of settlement funds.

All settlement stacks but.

And I'm sure there are.

I'm sure there are. That's that's a good point.

But I think it's part of what you and it's one of the things. Shine one minute, the conductor. Bourbon. Lots of great stuff.

One of the things Kentucky shines in in just the ability to see our systems in the GIS and we think it granted now that a lot of states do not.

Hire Pennsylvania. A lot of states do not do that.

So just the well to head up one of the governor's teams and legislature as well is.

No water, no economic development, no wastewater, no economic development.

Those projects are going where there's adequate capacity for water and wastewater.

That's back power companies are at the table.

All the time.

Less so. The water, water and sewer, but.

I had already written down Richard is bringing up.

I think we need to put together something on the history of drinking more since 1996 and that's kind of where it started. And then Senate bill came through with John, Governor Patton and everything associated with that as part of that talking about regionalization, all that's part.

Of that is February.

Speaking of big huge factor with that, with Roger Ricket pushing for that as well.

So there's a big history there. Normal, where the presentations come from that I think we have start the new generation does not know that history.

That's what I'm working.

Does talk about.

The effectiveness of the implementation. It was done in like 19 was done like five years after the the sitcom.

When it came out, there is research report that talks about the effectiveness and if it was implemented, but it needs to be built on, it needs to be finished. That report does.

Yeah, so this is.

I became acutely aware.

And I've always known, but I became more aware of how fragmented.

It's driven.

Water is because it's across so many agencies.

Agencies have their own objectives.

They do their own piece of work, even in the division of water. We cross 3 branches 4 if you count other facets. But just in the regulation of water.

So it's like it's it's not very cohesive. And then all of our partnerships on top of that.

So I was watching a presentation from the state of Ohio and they're like, this is how much money we've spent.

This is the investment we made everything umbrella.

In Ohio.

It's very tidy.

They also have the the agent, the Funding Agency and the agency. Right, right.

That's what I'm saying.

I mean, it's all very tiny because it's in one package and it and I started thinking about that and I thought, you know, it's hard for me to explain how with PSD.

How all of that works to regulate the drinking water industry that to anybody outside of state government, they're completely probably unaware of how drink water is regulated and how.

So I think I want this to be a nice thing and and my vision is perhaps we can throw this out in 2025 and then refresh it every five years. I get worn out for requests about that sport.

Sorry, I get worn out. Other states, EPA people about that.

That's for even Russ.

Contact me and said do you have any slides on the history of this series that we talked about 5 minutes ago?

Crap. I had no idea.

My favorite story that Paul Patton calling Dutch executive 3.

UK game basketball game.

Get him on the phone to commit to doing this and they want they couldn't get off the phone fast enough to get back to the game.

Yeah, yeah, yeah, I'll do that.

Don't call me during the day.

No call during jeopardy.

So anyway, that's my.

It is. Who is your audience that you want this presentation for?

Is it specifically legislature?

So primarily my audience is the governor's office.

Because I think they don't understand how we work, but.

That means that it's got to be written for, right?

I mean I I communicate with the governor's office and I have to know.

That I can't give them the same answers that I give them secretary. It's got to be less technical.

It's got to be more layman's terms.

So that makes it colorful for everybody.

So if we go back to 1996 and that they should have gone to where we are.

Today. So thank you that were made those, those that were passed.

Created something that we're very proud of today.

Is there some way we can?

Kind of lead that through to what we're doing today and how what we do today, but that we can't see the future based on what we know from the past, how we see the this.

Huge amount of funding. What we're doing today leads us 20 years from now to a brighter, you know.

Today.

We can.

Kind of put that since it's for the governor and they're the ones that are making this decisions like kind of make that.

So especially with the guys that you really noticed and and your your rabbit hole of

Facebook.

Yes, we all get in them.

Yes, it was dark night.

So you know, I want to be able to produce something that we can all feel very proud of, that we all feel connected to because we all have a piece of this.

Everybody that's sitting in this room every day that's online has a piece of that success and someone wants to all feel proud. But I also need it to be something that I can say.

You need to support us because this is what we're doing. Well, if you want this legacy right of water, right, and then you're going to be walking out this industry in the next 10 years.

We don't tell the story.

Now, what are we going to tell it?

Right. Well, and this legacy led to this group, right?

This is where this group came from.

Being organized when I was a branch manager at drinking water because so many changes happen because the amendments 1996 and then some of the letters that I issued at that time was like, oh, unintended consequences.

Necessitated for this kind of a group to come together, and I think this would also help tell the story to the legislature by it might need to be caught up, yeah.

Yeah.

So again, it can't be too technical.

It can't be.

You know, we don't want it to be so far in the weeds that we go into the audience, but I think that each of the subcommittees that we're talking about have a little something to put in here. But more than anything, I think the core group, the people. That have been involved for a long time.

We just have this great story to tell, but also we need to tell.

Oh, we need to tell them how to work because I don't think people understand.

I get so many calls that I have to re direct.

Oh, that's PSC.

Oh, that's P ia.

Oh, that's your health department.

Oh, that's real water.

Yeah. Let me send you to the people that can help you.

We're just too pregnant and I wish we could fix that, but we can't. So we better tell people how it works and the user's manual so they don't do it, all right.

Can we take advantage of drinking water?

We can use other weeks and we absolutely should.

Because that's the kind of stuff that's gonna get down to the lower public as well.

So thank you for that leeway and that leading into the next part.

So if you look down here, it states that the 15th anniversary of the segregation.

Is the 16th of December.

Those of you who are on LinkedIn might have been unfortunate enough to see my ugly mug doing a video for Waterloo.

I did not enjoy that experience at all.

I don't.

I don't like the sound of my homeboys.

I'm not the only one in the ceremony, I'm told so.

We are going to be celebrating 15th anniversary so.

We talked about ways that we could celebrate and.

I will today be sending up a recommendation to the Governor's office for his state of the Commonwealth address to include 50th anniversary of state cooking water and here are some great things that are happening.

And we're going to highlight the South Shore project.

For our containers, PFAS and then you know the governor had a huge focus on Marion when the when the dam tobacco occurred, that dam was now complete as of last month and we have some beautiful aerial pictures secured.

The reservoir we're moving forward with regionalization there.

There are lots of things happening there, so we're going to highlight at least those two projects that have been.

Very much on his radar.

For that statement Commonwealth dressing, we're hopeful that that drinking water makes the cut because I don't know if you've noticed, but since he's been in office, every time he's gotten in front of the state, he's mentioned water and I think he's the first governor.

I've really heard talk very much about water in that from that position, so I'm glad to hear it and I think I hope he'll take this up. One thing that.

We've kind of been holding onto to celebrate this anniversary. While we're saying it's to celebrate this anniversary.

Is Joanna Ashford's group has developed a regionalization to Europe and it's just kind of a simple, it's something I asked for months ago and I was just like hey, do you think we can do this?

And then I went on my merry way.

And then one day, she walked in my office and she was like, hey, we did this.

I was like, really, it's cool.

It's awesome.

So we had this neat little viewer.

That we wanted to show you guys who's gonna talk about this.

So, Carolyn, introduce yourself.

I'm Carolyn Chan.

I'm the shad management branch and I do a lot of data analysis and GIS work.

And I need to see what I'm doing here.

Basically is taking data from the systems from the year 2000 up to the present.

And so we're looking at regionalization.

So what it does is it has this slider that shows.

What the data were, what the systems were in the year 2000 and now.

What we have?

At those times.

Currently so you can zoom into areas.

And really get an idea of how much regionalization has gone on. We do have here.

What surrounding states?

The number of systems they have and then also you can see the number of points in the in the map view that you have at this point.

So if you zoom out.

See that and and it doesn't matter where the slider is, it's just telling you in this area right now there's 101 active systems, but in the year 2000 it was 195.

So that's a really.

Important lemma.

So there we go.

What? What are some of those like the legend?

Can you just like say what the legend is like very briefly. OK, so.

So for the active ones now the light green is the producers and the blue are purchasers.

And then in the historic.

The red circles are unknown, but they're no longer active systems. They don't.

We don't know really.

We haven't documented what's happened to them.

The green triangles over here are.

Active. So if if we.

Zoom over. You'll see that that the the circles will turn into a triangle.

The orange squares those are now purchasing from another system.

The I guess this yellow diamonds are merged with another system.

And the blue hexagons I think they are. Those are discontinued they were.

They are semi public and they're not regulated.

Stars are they connected to another system?

Plus signs they're closed.

This goes from 2000 to present 2000. Yeah. And then they.

My vision's not that great.

The the black are abandoned.

And X inactivated.

You can also.

Pull up the.

So this is an excellent telling our story.

I think it's important that we tell our story because one of the things that I often say, and even with your staff when Dow went to meet the region 4 back in the summer with little water, we had our annual meeting.

You know, one of the things we always tell is that over the past 49 years, Kentucky has had 8% reduction in the number of public water systems.

And so anytime that I'm in a public.

Regional setting like.

Or in a national setting with national water and congressional delegates, it it just blows their mind that that we were a trend setter and a leader in regionalization and and the other part of that is a lot of the things that division of water is doing the pro. Of where we are as a state as relates to water is so far ahead of what I see with some of the other states.

And this is excellent.

Yeah. So.

I'm sorry, Caroline. It's OK. One more 2nd.

So we're gonna publish this to our web page so that it's accessible.

So we got to use it.

You know, whatever.

And if we can make it better, I assume we have that opportunity like additional data that we can add to it. You know, certainly 400 systems in, that's one of the things that got patent into this water 2020 thing he was like.

This is ridiculous, so I don't know if we can really document that.

And you're free now. Yeah, just to free. Wow. Yeah.

Presentations and highlights, regionalization and a lot of that data.

So there may be opportunities to make this better, but we wanted to get this out because we want people to see it.

I mean, I just sat for 15 minutes and just went.

I mean, I'm easily entertained, but you know the other caveat that is is that we still have a lot of opportunity for reasonable in the state. But when that said.

That you know, there's currently rules being proposed.

To regionalization and then so much of the existing regs and the focus of regionalization.

So it's important to be able to tell. Look at where we've come and we don't necessarily fit the model, but sometimes with what that intent of that bread is compared to some of these other states.

So usually when they propagate new bread, they'll start out by saying OK.

Here's the new bread. Now everybody needs to reduce about 25%.

And they just love that on everybody. And I intend to go.

We've already done that work.

And let me show you how I know you can take that 25%, put it someplace else and we'll figure out what we're going to do next.

So I think there's a couple of things that that behind that story that.

What drove that and what drives it right?

I think it's unsustainable. Systems that may or may not have compliance issues.

Compliance is a difficult thing to try to measure because people can.

Clever people can sample their way through compliance.

You could have just look at. It wasn't a small system.

Toledo, when it had the issue, they had issues.

They went up there and their filter gallery had they hadn't gone up the roof to keep stuff falling off the ceiling into the filter.

They had one they have.

They had one.

They're clear.

Well, was there only storage in the whole system?

So they're completely dependent on pumping pressure.

Just pressurized their system and they're they had a 1940s era electrical room that was dangerously ocean problem that had a hard time. They got. So I mean, it's not just small systems.

It can be fix systems too, but.

But what drove what's driving those regionalizations is, and what makes it happen?

Leadership, money, collaboration and Raj will tell you the hard one of the hardest things is going to those little sisters and saying it's time for you to give up the ghost.

That was a very difficult job. I had to go to a few of those trips with him.

And it was.

Those were hard meetings because people identified with their water.

Well, we were.

We continued to work very hard on so.

I have not been shy.

People and saying, hey, what are you gonna do here? You know, I haven't.

So just this week, we've gotten 2 cities that have decided that they're going to give up their systems.

So I mean it, we are really in a time to your point where we have very small cities that have.

Larger systems than they need actually, because like there's a lot of depopulation that can't afford to continue to to run them. And they are 1 water emergency away from being unincorporated in the city.

They just it's going to bankrupt cities. That's what happened to Flint, MI.

You you can blame the family trees of some of the utilities our ours goes to 18 utilities and that would be interesting to have some exhibits on.

Sure. I guess the one I know we're talking 13 water rescue one, I have like 30. So you can just show some of those family trees that I've called family trees.

Right now, that would be how many packets you take it.

Over 500 in the county.

Probably 300.

It would just show it would be a good visual to that and we actually, you know, diagnose the show where they were, what's left 300 injection or 300 injections, 300

injections.

So we've got a good story to tell on both sides.

Yeah. And how many water took over and not not by taking over, but they're being served like we went out consolidating.

Yeah, like consolidated a lot of, yeah, in Jefferson County, I think restoring was what Richard's saying too is just to kind of taste test together, like Logan Todd Water.

That was the big one.

And they just added another one.

What, 10 years ago?

Was there in Tennessee? Oh, OK.

Yeah. So they had their. So I'm sorry, Carolyn, we are running.

That's quite all right.

Yeah, I just wanna say another feature is you can actually get to the data behind it and if somebody needed, you can filter it and get statistics.

So that anybody can access the data behind it.

That's been added to.

So that's really good for those of you that have the the more complete story behind some of the you can see what data's there and perhaps pick up you know where we might have missing.

Of course, it's just based on our records and and there are a lot of unknowns.

Yeah, you know, things that just aren't.

So you know, you might be able to provide some clarification there, but I think this is it's kind of beautiful the way it it works right now, but I realize that this is kind of stepping off point and this can really this can tell a whole story.

Right on this web page.

I I think there's another part of the story too.

That isn't it.

Isn't all consolidation in regionalization?

Is that you can have regional partnerships and that we have 9 wholesale customers who really partner with and then we have secondary wholesale customers.

Town that's coming on. And we went together and got \$35 million. Thirty \$538,000,000 a couple years ago from the legislature to make that because of the plant that flew over plant to get the infrastructure improvements down that corridor.

That wouldn't happen if we had not build that build that corridor out earlier so.

And nobody's interested in taking anybody over, doing any of that. It's partnership.

So there's there's that model as well and and that's something that needs to be on the table as an understanding doesn't grab the same way.

But there may be other ways to put that together.

I think it would be really important to do this for the wastewater side as well.

You know, we talked a lot about patents, 2020 vision and you were incredibly successful in doing that and getting public water out to you know what 97% of the state population, we weren't quite as successful in the wastewater side.

We still work to be done on that end.

Well, we were very successful, but there's still a lot of problems still so much work.

And I think that would be a phenomenal thing to put in there.

Let's look at what we've done over here.

Look at all the work we've done on wastewater side, because there's still still many little.

Things that we're working on, people cannot breathe and I think that would be pointed side by side.

But you know, before going to be showing off the story and showing their needs are that can be a good thing to ask.

Is that extension where it's supposed to go somewhere?

It's important that when we're trying to sell regionalization that we don't focus in on the system getting up the ghost and being taken over that well, basically.

That's right.

That that part is that partnership or that management ability of other system that's that's going to be a key component moving forward. I think to get to keep the local governments autonomy but also get that buy in and acceptance so.

Alright.

Carolyn, do you have anything else to?

Say is trying to figure out why a plugged in laptop has out.

Noise. It reminds me a little bit of like, you know how you can go on your laptop into the 80s that, that, that would be really cool to see like that almost in the deck table because then you see the trends and then you can also forecast, right?

With some of those areas.

Look like, yeah.

In terms of consolidation, I think I can be proud of this. I mean this.

So cool. I didn't believe it.

She actually said.

I don't think she's.

I do want to say Megan Martin developed this and you know, I consulted a little bit with her, but this is not actually my view or I'm just presenting.

Give her. Give her the credit back to what are the drivers?

What were the drivers?

What are the drivers and what they hadn't?

I think that's really critical because.

That's where EPA is even still asking fundamentals.

They'll call me in, ask fundamental questions like that, and and you're going to get those questions. And I think us as a group recognizing what those drivers were and how it happened.

Some of it was just taking taking advantage of opportunities that compliance.

Challenges and economies of scale kind of scale are playing a big role right now as well.

Customer rights meetings.

Sorry I it's still working on that consolidation that some systems are not going to be able to keep up with compliance with the merchandise.

Consolidated stuff with their neighboring systems.

Well, I was just going to say I think that.

Recognize that what's best for their community may not be what's best for the city. It's hard.

It's not.

We have to craft our message carefully for those individuals to look. I think you're right, you have.

You have an opportunity as the division in the state of Kentucky to kind of steer that national direction relative to that because.

Like you said, they come out with these arbitrary.

If you go to the upper Midwest, very functional small groundwater system that are pretty simple, but a lot of them you don't have salad.

Right, like every trailer park that.

And stuff like that but.

In fact, he was largely a service squadron since service squad dominated, and that's a very different challenge than running.

Look at look at the purchase of the purchase.

Regularization.

Carolyn, please tell Joanne. Thank you from all of us. And that went over pretty well. Caroline has mad skills too.

She helped me do some modeling, some probabilistic models and stuff like that. We're still using today.

So that will be publicly available at some point in the next.

And I would love for you to check that opportunity and to improve it where we can. You know the the feedback on that, the ways that we can make it more specific or better or include data that we don't have or.

Something that would be really great, I think, Richard said.

Something about wrs.

Wrs was fundamental to this process and it was a restructuring.

It was incredible.

We we didn't play well in the sandbox initially.

Pains us to give up our locations or our stuff, but we still kind of went when we do it. But it's an amazing it's an amazing tool.

It's amazing.

So I'm saying it wasn't without its challenges, but it's still incredible.

Wrs sensitive crossroads right now.

I mean, it's time for upgrades there and the division's supporting that.

Financially and with our with our, you know, personnel support when chaos ready to move when you go to another state, you've shown that pickle.

Yeah, absolutely.

And I think the risk of jumping the shark here in Ohio with the H2, Ohio.

In a very conservative legislature with, with the right emphasis and information, and they they mess, they're now investing in working as soon as we talk about it, when this infrastructure money is gone, this will be a fiscal Cliff here. And so as these types of tools that will.

Help possibly get the legislature going the best again.

There will be a fiscal Cliff coming.

They invested heavily in infrastructure this last year.

And and so part of that project part of this emergency and then there were several several line items you know for various utilities to to have projects.

So I don't remember what the total was.

So that's what, that's what.

That again is.

I didn't know that, but I don't know what it looks like in the next budget cycle, so we need to show them how those funds are being used.

150 million was committed to the waters over the two budget 2 year budget cycle, 75 million the request just for this year was nearly 10 times what Kia or what the legislators.

So 775,000,000 is what we had in Ki received seven, 750 million in requests and so they for which fund their job was just to.

Was just to score and it might make the list and then that that goes to legislators and legislators making decisions where that money goes.

So AI is making that decision because you're not taking it from SRF, right?

I said at least you're not taking it from SRO. One of the good. Sorry. Sorry. One of the good aspects of the waters program.

Is that all of the criteria is financial, whereas the SRF is technical managerial.

Some financial in the back end.

We can clearly see the economically distressed systems in a way that we can't see that with the astronom.

ICal picture of the system that are on financial. One of the things about you know and and I've said this to people at EPA like Andrew Joyce and some of his folks and talk about it with various people at Kia over the years is that we.

Incentivize small system funding, and I'm sometimes like how far.

How much money are we going to spend on that?

Hard that it's gonna run anymore, I mean.

And where's the incentive for a bigger system to come in and take over a very risky operation with old unmaintained infrastructure and and bad debt and all kinds of stuff?

Our funding mechanisms aren't really set up to to to subsidize the risk that another larger utility that may be interested.

But it's like their board doesn't want to take the risk, right?

I always thought so.

Sometimes that funding is a little upside down for me.

We do this try to sustain unsustainable systems rather than.

Towards the door and get somebody to come in and take. I will say that.

Cost increases that we've seen in recent years.

Small.

Scale. Yeah, it's just it's gotten crazy, and I think I think those are excellent points.

And the other side of that, even though there was only 75,000,000 available, it's roughly 700 plus in West that I guess the good part of that is is that there's been some discussion that the legislature level that this probably needs to be coming on going.

You know, Sarah, when I got Pamela and Aww there and every.

But he wanted to lobby our lobby.

Ists to turn lobby.

To try to encourage our legislators to not tap into those.

Those SRF funds to do direct allocations.

They don't want to hear if I start with that or I end with that conversation.

They're not going to hear anything else.

I have to say so.

I'm not going there. I keep telling them every legislator I mentioned it to has basically, like, I think my judgment is better than Kia.

That's what they're trying to do.

We're not going to win that battle.

How it is right now?

And that's just where we're headed. And if we don't, we don't.

Is that your experience?

Don't want to hear that message?

Unfortunately, I think it's going to be worse before it gets better.

I think we're getting ready to take, it will be.

The next few years going to be interesting because one.

The Kentucky waters, I think you mentioned that.

Aih responsibility was accepting the applications scoring the application based on a rubric created in the mall and then providing those applications and the scores to the legislators.

The legislators choose which project they don't have to fund and rank for. They can fund it however they want.

So it it puts the owners back on and from the meetings that I've been in, Sandy, they're kind of nervous about that.

'Cause, they have to make. They don't have to shield it.

The division disable.

We don't agree with division.

We don't agree with Kia. When they chose, they choose.

They've got the constituents now.

So that's gonna be a hard pill to swallow.

Coming fairly soon and then with the Sr. FS.

We've got one more federal fiscal year, bill, the last federal fiscal year 26.

If earmarks continue past bill, it will decimate the fcaf programs.

Oh yeah.

Well, I mean, it's 61% this year.

Was that total nationwide or is that Kentucky?

61% of our Sr.

So we took 39% this year.

But you're saying 60% less or was only 60% of previous years only 39% was available for the funded project?

Yeah.

So, you know, recently I saw a movie to to kinda to to codify that as well, with additional federal rules on how those are done.

And I'm like, wait a minute. I'm not enjoying seeing rules written for how you take money from the SRX.

So sorry, it's not.

Just gonna say it's just concerning because.

For those who don't know, a lot of the you know the set aside that comes from that on the ancillary programs.

Is able to go out and provide service to these utilities.

Is directly proportional to the funds. So as we lose the funds, we're going to lose programs too.

And that's what the legislators don't understand, right?

So we, you know, we have we have a certain percentage of those funds that support our administrative activities which oversees the programs.

So you're also going to see an erosion of that and the number of people that are at Kia or India that will provide assistance assistance or?

Regulate systems. I mean, then you're talking about backlogs of of permits, of approvals, of all the things that you guys need.

So it's it's super important if you have the opportunity to talk to people about that, you should.

Ask them.

No, I don't know the user. I have a list. The list is available on one.

It's it's not a huge list. I mean, they're pretty large.

And and you know another part is like, where were they?

Yeah.

And then follow up question I have with what's that 2024 or 2025?

Russ says the trends been happening since.

I think that's 24 that I was speaking.

To yeah, the last couple of years has been startling.

So now it's just a benefit to be part of the Congressional delegation to grab those dollars for your constituents.

And it just it sounds great and I don't even know what they know, but it comes right out of the bottom of that.

They do know, but that's the only one that their constituents can get funded. That's what they're gonna do. But do they understand?

I think they do.

Well, but you know, I mean, Scott's point, I think that's like the the effect of that. I'm not sure is that they really realize the full range.

Of the.

The advantages for us to start small with two congressional members and have that conversation to see if we can't grow up without it's like Pete indicated, we've had that conversation and it's a it's a tricky subject to navigate, but I'd be willing to entertain some of those discuss.

With you all, if you'd like to.

Well, I mean, just just the word that you that you all have been doing for us.

In our CAP and rural water, you know we're able to take them set aside.

Work on that service on inventories and that's why we're in a position where you may work pretty high up in the country in terms of percentage reporting. You know, at the date when these things are due. I mean that's what this money allows us to do and I.

Think putting out some, you know, just examples of like, here's how that cascades into what we're able to accomplish.

And then completely negates need survey.

I mean, they can play like 100 pets the mainstream, right?

Story loves the good news.

All right. So we're going to move on because it is, we've got 30 minutes left and we've got some other things to cover here.

For branch updates from BMW, I'm just going to open the floor to any branch manager as a representative of branch managers to to give a quick update before we go to committee.

Jason, do you have anything?

I don't know anything major.

We we are working through some general permits renewals. For instance, our construction general permit renewal is before coming first thing and it will be issued. We have a code general permit.

I don't know if that really affects the invariant in this room, but that that is that is in the works, and I think we've got a path forward on that for renewal.

That's that's I think that's the major things for the for the group here.

OK.

Thank you, Jason.

Holly, do you have anything?

Permit backlog continues to drop, so a big shout out to all of our engineers doing their reviews.

Special shout out to Terry Humphreys because he's getting through so many of those reviews as a supervisor and also a big thank you to Greg because he's been helping Terry on those as well.

Yeah. So we got called on the carpet in what, March?

April may somewhere in we got tall in the carpet and said, hey, you all have a huge. History backlog for for infrastructure projects, we said, yeah, we know.

Have you seen how much money is in the world right now?

We don't have more engineers and so we reorganized the water infrastructure branch and we have made several personnel changes.

That, I mean, I think we're down 50% where we were.

Oh yeah. I mean, 1st of May when we identified the problem, we had more than 300 pending applications with more than almost two like 175 or 180.

Those were by were over the regulatory time frame. Today, I think we're we're we're down to 91 that are over the time frame and that's where we're down.

Substantially on the pending, I think.

Below 200 the higher.

I'm not real sure what we have a we have a dashboard now for ourselves too to check that stuff, yeah.

Hey, can I ask a question about those engineering agreed orders that I know a lot of

them are expired or about to expire and I know you were thinking about making a global review of those, but yeah, so that is something that's on our To Do List things. That we're gonna, that we're gonna do that. We've had to kinda. I know that will help us with the backlog.

So we have to take these immediate measures to to do the backlog. And so basically all of our engineers have been working overtime.

We've done the reorganization. We've pulled people from other parts of the. So our entire energy has been focused on that. We get to the point where we have some breath to give.

We'll go back and review those agreements and then that will further help us that we have to make these kind of urgent steps.

But yeah, we definitely if on the one.

Hand. So those are the.

For reviews that can be done within systems.

Did you know that?

One of the first products out of.

We had.

We had a subcommittee that would produce that first one.

And jury, you would talk about, I know that the. I don't believe that the wastewater side was called an agreed or.

Both of them and try to make even combine them in a way with when you got utilities to do both, can you get under one or whatever agreement the vehicles are?

The vehicles were developed differently.

Or Clayton water.

Or Clayton water drinking water.

So try to yeah. The other thing is, is that Brenda doesn't drink alone. Going back that far, we had originally waste water was in Moa Memorandum Agreement, but render loads like a memorandum agreement does not give you compliance.

You need to agree enforcement order in order to deviate from the compliance requirements of.

88100 this in white water water case can't be reduced.

Something in fine.

So that's why that's why I went to the.

To get that cover for plants because you were still subject to third party.

Litigation because it wasn't censored.

Open compliance.

Well, your own rights, Clean Water, act rights. I don't think they apply because it was. Those are state rules.

Only that.

Yeah, that's. But it didn't apply with eight, 100, and whatever's in Chapter 5.

So the short answer is it's on the To Do List.

We're just not down to it yet, like we'll get.

Anything else?

Projects closes December 13th.

What's that SRF holding project next?

The 13th December 13th.

So can I just make a quick thing on that?

The state always pushes the 13th, but if you're going to do a project you have to have that to your ads way earlier.

So the main date that's always presented to everybody is the 13th.

But the ads need those projects, like a month or so earlier before you're picking it. If you don't get in on the deadline, you don't get the project you can put in the name.

So I think we also need to make sure that we push to check with your ads and they know what they put those in, because otherwise you can miss that deadline if you're only going by the December 13th deadline.

Next year, magnitude put that out.

There's here's the bright line for the KIDOW call.

And then maybe the list of ads and say, here's their regular committee times or something.

We've voiced that, but it's not in the.

Blurb that goes out public consumption.

Well, where do we need to put it? That's the thing.

Most systems probably don't think they need most ads there, but the ones that Maggie's representing down.

The.

A lot of systems don't know that there's that extra bed line, and then you've got a lot of new time, new people that are applying and have never applied.

They don't know.

Just they don't. If they're not as active with their their water management councils, they don't know that deadline. You only ever hear that December deadline.

To the water department. Well, I'm just like you make your point and say, like, nobody's going to fight for your money like you would. Right. So you should go. But they don't know.

There's not a lot.

Or that you can be available personal assistant. Exactly. But you can, you know, redirect them as much as we can to their information.

And we have a lot of new people at the ads as well.

Mm hmm, yes, that's for the problem.

That's a conversation.

I mean in the, you know, the ads are all different between ours.

Ours is a pretty good job of saying, hey, these in by the state, which is well before and we've actually got to the point where we just updated throughout the year that way we're not in a rush and have everyone moving everything.

Time to. Yeah, I don't think, you know, overestimate the importance to keep making a relationship with the area development area development district.

I'm going to put some adversary simply, and I mean that's what I think I've said a couple times.

It's not all ads are creating one thing.

It's just the bottom line. One thing that we found in KA with the Waters program is that it's very hard to give away money.

And a lot of the ads for the project administrators for those projects and keep them on task, are they getting any money to do that?

I don't know, but making sure that we have all the pieces of the application.

Help them get down that road. It's been challenging. You're talking about another high taxed bar. They just don't have enough resources.

I can hear a fighting from either.

Hey, Alicia, do you have any updates for drinking water Ranch?

AJ

Jacobs, Alicia (EEC) 1:41:14

I didn't know if.

Can you guys hear me?



Frey, Josiah (EEC) 1:41:16

Yeah.

AJ

Jacobs, Alicia (EEC) 1:41:17

OK, cool.

We are working through the compliance for the service line inventory.

I know there are some questions on that that have gone out and some discussion on there, but bear with us as we work through that and answer answer questions. Reach out if you have any questions.

You know if if you want to talk, to talk to us about the issues that that have been pointed out and we appreciate you guys walking through that with us.

Well, I did wanna mention we just had.

We had a really great compliance rate, one of the best in the nation with with getting those inventories in in Kentucky. So I think that's something to be proud of as well.

Lots of other stuff going on, but that's the the big the biggie right now.



Frey, Josiah (EEC) 1:42:01

I think we still decide 11 system that's out for.

Inventory, right?

AJ

Jacobs, Alicia (EEC) 1:42:09

That's correct.

We're working on working on getting that one in, though, so they're they're working on it.

It's in progress.



Frey, Josiah (EEC) 1:42:16

But what's this?

What's this?

It's not bad when it when states started reporting in Texas to say this is what our compliance rate is on October 17th, you know Kentucky was only one in five or six states that was anywhere above 90%.

Thank you to our partners.

Didn't have to make that happen.

Who else was on the Thomas List? Who's our competitor?

I'll look.

I'll look at it.
I want to know.

 **Jacobs, Alicia (EEC)** 1:42:43

Yeah.
I can look it up and tell you, but yeah, we've got we, we did great.
So fantastic job 96% on the date actually so.

 **Frey, Josiah (EEC)** 1:42:54

And Elizabeth put a chat comment in that there's 75% completed the initial review of the service planning report.
So they're killing it.
They're killing it now. We just have to wait for it to catch up so that we can have compliance.
But that's a whole.
That's.

 **Jacobs, Alicia (EEC)** 1:43:13

We actually have good news on that too.
We're we're in task 4 for that.
So it's it's all been updated and we're in tasks we haven't moved to production yet, but.
That's internal, but good news for that one too.

 **Frey, Josiah (EEC)** 1:43:27

Awesome. Well, we we don't mind being your Guinea pig for that, you know.
In terms of getting you the data electronically.
Well, we sort of are anyway. But but I mean in terms of electronic reporting and getting you information that that electronic, so beta testing that we need to make sure. Thank you.
All right, Shannon, do you have anything for mob?

 **McLeary, Shannon M (EEC)** 1:43:54

Our two new wastewater PFAS consultants are starting to set up meetings with wastewater systems, so you might hear from them.

And also probably to note, since August, four of our 10 regional office supervisors are new to their positions.



Frey, Josiah (EEC) 1:44:03

Hey Cortana.



McLeary, Shannon M (EEC) 1:44:09

So you might be getting contacted by people you really haven't heard from before, or they could have been your inspector and they're in a new role.



Frey, Josiah (EEC) 1:44:18

Can you tell us who they are?

Is that announced yet?

Yes. So in Columbia, we have Jason Stevenson, City supervisor there. Brian Crump is now one of the white water technical assistants, people for the eastern part of the state.

And Bowling Green.

The new supervisor is Bruce Hatcher, and he was previously an inspector.

Bill Baker is now vice director for the western part of the state. Shannon is out of the Paducah position because she's doing what she's doing now and doing it really well.

And Maddie trailer, who was the previous inspector, has been on supervisor there and who's not missing.

Madisonville Lindsey Davis, a long time inspector in Madisonville took the position every time when he was hired.



McLeary, Shannon M (EEC) 1:44:55

Lindsay, baby.



Frey, Josiah (EEC) 1:45:05

So yeah, so we have good faces.

And there, Jason Stevens didn't say I should have. He was.

He was also an inspector for us and he came from no waste management side.

So these are all folks that have been in the agency.

Get the whole crusty guys.

Get them back.

All right, watershed management branch.

Updates other than beautiful viewers.

Delhivery beautiful views, which you should check out on marimath.ky.gov many of them made by Carolyn Chan.

At watershed Management Branch, I think the biggest thing is that the deadline for 319 grant letters of intent just passed the deadline for applications will be February 14th.

So anybody trying to put together applications for implementation or watershed plan and keep those states in mind is that pretty competitive still?

Yes it is.

It's I want to say they were at least 20 applications this year, so it is continuing to grow.

In.

People like people know about it now and they're they're really starting to put it there after and and the 20 applications we I think are after an initial interest thing where it kind of is a screening.

They don't apply if this is not something they were 20 letters of intent.

So when the applications come in, we'll see how many people follow through 19 budget.

I am not sure what this year's application. Where is that relative to the store? I can't. It's close.

I mean, it has to change.

It it goes up.

It stay pretty stable.

So we have 15 minutes left.

Fair warning.

All right, all right.

Water quality branch. Do we have anybody on the water quality?

A.

Water resources.

All right. So we'll move on to committee reports. I don't have anyone listed.

So if you have, if you're chair committee that needs to give an update, now is your chief.

Keep us there.

Still have a usual subgroups with pension, pilot testing and finance. The

communications subgroup has started meeting with that in the next full work group. PFS meeting will be January 28th at 2:00 PM.

You've not been attending those and you would like an invitation to attend those. Just let me know or Jackie logs to know or Melanie will will get you on the list.

For that.

And that committee is large.

Ly in the background.

A lot of interest in that, right?

Pfas rule and litigate being litigated by a number of different parties and WWE.

That some of the public health groups and then some of the industry folks briefs involvement submitted, I think EPA should be by now EPA has 50 days to respond and then the Court in the late in the first quarter is anticipated to rule on that and it's it.

Can't it can't pick and choose.

It has to decide whether to let the pool stand as it is or remanded for reconsideration.

OK.

So we should know that.

Late first quarter, early second quarter 25, I think it's one that's going to be under review anyway.

Well, I can get into that a little bit under the Congressional Review Act, people have to understand that you have to.

I can send you a couple paragraphs on that because I've gotten someplace that I just wrote, but basically the Congress can can't do a joint resolution.

And you have to have both the house and the Senate voted to approve to.

Review not review, but.

They take a rule from previous administration and there's so many days to do this schedule that you have to meet and then that precludes any of that rule from ever having gone into effect.

And and the agency can now can no longer promulgate a rule that is significantly similar.

Sort of similar to how 13 a works a little bit. There's two rules that are getting reviewed right now under that subtraction. That's the lcri.

Which would revert us back to lcr if that in fact did happen.

And there's quite a bit of interest around that right now.

With congressional staffers, if that happens, we'd go back to Lcrr.

But then that creates compliance deadline issues for utilities.

So the agency would have to do something to accommodate that. Same thing is true.

I haven't heard as much on that because the litigation sitting there, I don't know if that's going to happen, but those are the two rules that have been in water sector that.

All right.

Jessica has about operator recruitment, so the operator recruiting for voluntary.

OK. And when when that is final in the replications, yeah.

Met with.

The other workers, who were the new look setting.

And I worked on.

That will be.

There's a public and it's on our web page and we'll be in our next nutrient newsletter as well.

And then we've got some other interesting things coming up next year.

So we'll be scheduling a anniversary.

What are the things to keep track of in that?

Is that rule and the requirement is P fast numbers for the phosphorus numbers in the grocery really attractive in terms of optimization, but obviously that puts found quality and treatment in for wastewater system so, so we're also.

Not consistent with standard, but I mean we are doing work.

There's a movement, but to do a lot more optimization and palette's been working with that.

She's working with our new wastewater so that that REACH is a little more expensive, getting out to our systems to work on organization.

Put that forward as an opportunity so.

You know, all of that is going to come together.

Simultaneous compliance.

That we I would.

I would like I would just be.

My initial reaction is if they could be able to say, yeah, we think we need to do phosphorus sends as pH.

We're like, you're going to find something really compelling to get us there because

Brian.

Did you hear Brian?

Here's billions of pounds of phosphorus.

Water Protection Subcommittee did meet last month and we're planning to meet again in February.

If anybody wants to join that subcommittee, please let me know. Or if there's anybody on the call who wants off the subcommittee, you can also let me know that too, and we'll adjust that list at that meeting, we updated the Group on Division, Outreach and Education.

Activities that we undertook in September.

October for Water Conservation Week and source Water Protection Week and got updates from particular Water Association on their lead inventory.

Chloe, do you want to mention the utilities management?

Yeah, sure. OK.

Or maybe Ariana would be a better person to do that.

So we have a utility management institute that.

That the full water does and it's a two year program that you have 6 purses to review. And it's been revamped and kind of revitalized.

So if anybody is really interested in doing that with us starting in January, we'll we'll have a new schedule and new classes.

I'm going to do it because I've never done it before, so I'm excited, but I anybody in here is welcome to to join in that effort.

There's an E in classes, but it's it's really good stuff.

It's about PRHRHR.

You know anything and everything utility is is kind of tacked into that institute so.

As soon as I fire me, I'm doing yes and our events catalog also like if you go to our website, we have all kinds of conference.

I think we have three main conferences during the year.

So if you're interested in in, in doing our management conference or Expo or all of our events are on our calendar for next year. Also, if you're interested, please join us any of them.

And that's what I was going to say too, was Dale and I are going to try to establish more regular like what month our meetings are.

And so we were looking at the calendar for this Council.

I don't know if you guys have thought about when those are going to be next year,

but you might want to think about putting those out there. And I I know that needs work for you, but they might look similar in terms of the months and if that.

Fine, that's great. If not, then maybe.

Maybe we can think about that.

That's all Chloe's the entire year is scheduled for next year, and it's on the website on the web page.

OK, you put it on the webpage. That's great.

All four days. Wonderful.

Last thing is we had a really informative presentation on U, KS, triple bottom line analysis tool for selecting best management practices at that meeting and there was a video recording of the the meeting itself.

So if anybody wants to take a look at that, then any comments is that Ag practices or that's mostly Ag practices.

Yeah, it's really cool.

Yeah, it really is very neat tool.

Thanks.

So other business.

I just had two things I wanted to mention.

Real status.

One is a rule status thing.

It's like product rule. They're supposed to come out with something next year, and they're starting to they're starting to prepare for the new administration.

In WWE and like what kind of stuff?

You think is reasonable.

They make it in the rule and you know what kind of stuff to get controversy.

So I know Alicia has been involved in lots of conversations. I think with asthma and others.

Alicia, do you have anything to add there?

AJ

Jacobs, Alicia (EEC) 1:56:34

Not right now, but I can talk to Pete afterwards a little more.



Frey, Josiah (EEC) 1:56:35

OK.

Yeah, this is pretty fresh.

It just had probably 1 schedule, an update and a little conversation around that, and I'm certain that as was in the group on that because they have been working together.

Awwa had been working together on that previously.

So I think they're kind of trying to.

Prepare for a different perspective in the next administration.

One of the things that's on the table is the alternate TOC thing for treatment, and I don't know if it'll survive, but I know that motivation behind that is pushing more systems towards carbon.

That's, you know, EPA has always wanted the GAC rule, and they're nudging it there with GMC.

So just I don't know if that's about. Yeah, the other, the other thing I wanted to mention is that we're trying to get the band back together with Kentucky.

I volunteered to be the interim steering chair.

We have an interim steering committee pretty well populated and I sent out a letter to all the board committee, all the board members and pretty positive responses.

So we're trying to get something going back in the getting permanent steering committee that doesn't involve me in any role.

In the first quarter?

He is.

We're discussing what that's going to look like moving forward. The agreement, the arrangement is going to be, but anytime there's a, you know, boots on the ground deployment and somebody's going to oversee that deployment, you know Joe's going to get to go to.

So we're just trying to get it pretty functional in the sense that, you know, look at what we did in the floods and stuff and there's a lot of good utilities. And I mean, I saw some really great professionalism on the ground in Eastern Kentucky.

So we did respond, but it's sort of administratively mothballed and we're trying to get it back together.

But I thought.

That.

Regulatory agency might want to have some involvement in that and I'm thinking of regional field office representation maybe and then ERT as well, which I know is under other people but.

They play a key role as that conversation evolves.

I mean, I think that's another great thing that could come back here for a presentation just to show everybody how it's going to go, sure.

You know, because I think a lot of people.

That's right.

Any other business, it's one quick thing. I I briefed you on it.

From the water Management Planning Council meeting we had this week, the utilities and the judges agreed that we could form a utility S on utilities before it gets to war.

So, so just just sparring expertise.

PowerPoint Asset Management, hydraulic planning or Development directory amongst the utilities within the ad. And then we talked about updating the water management plan that brought up the idea that K Town has requirements for capacitor, for water supply planning and it would be useful if we could link you.

All with KA and the ad seemed excited. So.

Pretty positive on the loop on that, but I know we talked about this before we did it, but it seemed to be some good vibes on that.

Liz Dahlen had mentioned in the comments during the Lcrlcr conversation.

About LCR was 16.

LCR is a lot of confusion, since no water system created those lcr plans, which goes back to what you were talking about with the deadline confusion.

Thank you.

So announcements.

Anybody got announcements from the organizations?

I think this may be the call from Patrick for water professionals conference went out.

Those abstracts are due January the 16th.

Happens fast enough. And then January 16th.

And then the conference itself this year will be in Knoxville, TN, July 27th through the 31st.

I hope you guys can make it again this year. You had a great representative.

Yeah, I know it's hard.

I called them all season abstract.

I I'm in the process of getting final approval on doing an online survey of drinking water in West water managers in Appalachia, Kentucky and all of West Virginia is a follow up to the 2020.

Waters.

Workforce survey that we did and so.

Expect that to come out probably in January.

Where does that line?

The 54 Kentucky Appalachian County.

And all of West Virginia except for two counties.

So that will be West Virginia has done a lot of survey as well and has their report.

So there should be a follow up on that from a standpoint of looking at what training may be needed and other operating retention and recruitment problems with utilities.

Which two counties in West Virginia are in and Henderson?

Ohio, close to Ohio, OK.

So is the arc campus? Is the arc campus?

Acalache and Rachel counties.

Done the survey in West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee.

Basically the same survey, correct?

Yes, same questions.

Is there any?

Is there any like future presentation where all three will be compared together?

Actually.

Both Tennessee and Western Union were working, trying to get something to fit together.

We've been working on other similar initiatives right now.

But that is implanted 1.

You're doing an individual article. The two would want to do a joint article in presentations.

Can we have that presentation?

Sure.

We've done that.

Is this an arc funded? Yes.

It's actually funded through Arc Arts program, so it's a planning grant to set up a Center for adalaction for training operators.

And others in future. So.

And actually this is.

Co funded through.

Energy. Environment, cabinet.

So that's another funding mechanism that is really benefiting the state as well.
Valerie out just circle back a little bit to Wpci was talking to Josiah and I asked Josiah if he would work with this part.
Nership to see about what we're doing together.
On their drinks and that kind of thing.
So I'm interested in seeing more of that.
How hard boasts?
Sorry, Sherry wants to work, so I'm looking for more options.
I mean, it's just the same, right?
But it's not even the wall or.
So anyway that we can do that. Any other announcements, I'll just go ahead.
And now next four dates since I was just told they're not on the website yet, they should be happen today at March 7.
June 13, September 12 and December 5th.
One of the things on June 13th it might check and see if that doesn't interfere with ACE. A lot of people.
And that's in Denver this year.
So we'll just have to have an empty room room.
OK.
Well, I am into your lunch hour.
So thank you very much for being here and for your police station and the great conversation.
Thank you guys. Thank you.
Very officially.

● **Frey, Josiah (EEC)** stopped transcription