

**Drinking Water Advisory Council
Lead in Drinking Water (LIDW) Workgroup
Location: Kentucky Division of Water Office
300 Sower Blvd
Frankfort, KY
Meeting Minutes
December 21, 2016**

In attendance: Greg Heitzman, Chair, Jennifer Burt (DPH), Obe Cox (CCW), Tom Gabbard (DOW), Mike Gardner (BGMU), Ron Lovan (NKYW), (BWK), Brad Montgomery (ACEC), Bill Robertson (PWWKY), Thomas Rockaway (UofL), Justin Sensabaugh (KYAW), Rengao Song (LWC),

Liasons: Gary Larimore (KRWA), Kay Sanborn (KYTN-AWWA),

Absent: Brian Thomas (MWD)

Division of Water (DOW): Peter Goodmann; Director, Sarah Gaddis, Samantha Kaiser, Joe Uliasz

Public Attendees: Amber Agee (DPH), Lane Boldman (KCC), S. Morgan Faulkner (KYOAG-ORI), George Haynes II (DCA), Representative Dennis Kenne (KY Rep.), Mike West (EEC/OGC),

The meeting began at 1:35 p.m. ET.

Call Meeting to Order and Membership Roll Call

Chair Greg Heitzman led the roll call, confirmed a quorum, and introduced guests. Some items have been added to the agenda since the public notice was posted. At 2:00 pm the fire alarm will sound and everyone will have to evacuate for the fire drill.

Approve Minutes of October 26, 2016

The Workgroup approved the October meeting minutes by consensus.

Lead in Drinking Water (LIDW) Webpage

Samantha Kaiser updated the Workgroup on the status of the Lead in Drinking Water webpage. All meeting documents, presentations, and approved minutes are now available on the new LIDW webpage. Since the LIDW Workgroup is a subgroup of the Drinking Water Advisory Council, both groups share a webpage. The webpage can be found under two different tabs on the Division of Water homepage: Resources -> Drinking Water Advisory Council; - or Programs -> Drinking Water (under the Quick Link on the right side of the page – Drinking Water Advisory Council). The webpage address is <http://water.ky.gov/DrinkingWater/Pages/DWAC.aspx>.

Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act

Peter Goodmann summarized the key provisions of interest to state drinking water programs. The Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act (WIIN Act) has been signed by President Obama. The WIIN Act authorizes Congress to grant funding, however funding has not been appropriated. Small community assistance programs are covered under the WIIN Act, which also requires public notice from a utility no later than 24 hours after a lead action level is exceeded. Mr. Goodmann is going to get

clarification for the Workgroup on whether ‘special samples’ are included.

Mr. Heitzman asked the Workgroup to work together on a collective response and each utility should evaluate how this will affect their systems. If any utility receives a notice that can be shared with Mr. Goodmann, they should notify him.

Water Sampling Protocol

The Workgroup discussed the importance of following the EPA guidance document on water sampling for lead. If EPA determines that “special samples” exceeding lead action levels require public notice, utilities may no longer collect “special samples”. Some utilities currently collect “special sample” in order to optimize the water quality in the distribution system.

Lead Inventory

Other states have been sending letters to utilities for inventories of lead infrastructure. Kentucky has not sent letters, but is expecting pressure from EPA to gather information. Mr. Goodman asked the Workgroup to discuss how utilities would like to address lead inventory issues, knowing that eventually DOW will require this information be provided.

Presentation of Finance/Funding Subgroup – Mike Gardner and Greg Heitzman

Mike Gardner started the presentation by reviewing topics discussed in past meetings. There are several questions associated with financing lead service lines, replacement costs for utilities and property owners, and financial responsibility for schools and apartments. Most Kentucky utilities transitioned from lead to copper between 1935 and 1950. The cost of replacing lead lines can vary and is site specific. Historical data shows that the utility cost can range between \$1,600 and \$3,000, and replacing ancillary lead components for utilities is \$800 to \$3,000. This is a wide range due to replacement of the entire line at some sites. There are an unknown number of ancillary components in Kentucky. Several ripple effects can occur when replacing lead lines that could increase the cost. Generally, utilities replace everything including the service line, meter and connections. The private side of lead service lines can contribute significantly to lead levels, and private cost will typically occur from the meter or property line to the house. This cost will vary. The Workgroup discussed the issue of utilities replacing the LSL but private property owners not replacing the private lines (defined as a partial lead service line replacement).

Mr. Heitzman discussed the newest American Water Works Association (AWWA) Journal article (June 2016) on lead service line inventory. An AWWA/EPA survey of utilities estimates that there are 6.1 million public lead service lines (LSL) in the US, and approximately 53,000 public LSL in Kentucky. The Workgroup discussed that this number appears high, however there is not a current inventory of LSL in Kentucky. Mr. Heitzman estimated that the total cost to remove public and private LSL is \$92.5 to \$185 million. Kentucky LSL inventory compares favorably to other states. Approximately 95 percent of Kentucky residents are served by community water systems and an estimated 3.8% of Kentucky houses have full or partial LSL, compared to a national average of 6.8 percent.

Mr. Gardner discussed different financing options that utilities and private individuals could utilize for replacing LSL. Some Kentucky utilities are actively replacing LSL and using corrosion control treatment, while others are using corrosion control only. Madison Water Utility in Wisconsin was the first major city in the country to launch a full Lead Service Line Replacement Program, which took nearly 11 years to complete. To finance the program they sold bonds, used monies from cell phone tower fees, and cost sharing with homeowners. Louisville Water Company initiated a formal LSL replacement program in 1985. LSL were installed in Louisville up through 1937, at which time the utility transitioned to copper

service lines. Louisville has replaced 90% of their 68,000 LSL, with fewer than 7,000 remaining in 2016. Current replacement costs average \$3,000 per LSL and \$6 million is budgeted annually to complete the LSL replacement program by 2020.

Soci-economic issues surround rental properties, schools, and daycares, and the responsible party for replacing LSL. In the future, lending institutions and home buyers may require lead disclosure; which may affect more industries than just utilities. Public education may not currently be an issue for large communities, but small communities lack sufficient programs regarding lead in drinking water.

Mr. Heitzman presented the Finance Subgroup's draft recommendations and suggested that the LIDW review them and come prepared to discuss recommendations at the next meeting.

Future Topics and Meeting Schedule – Greg Heitzman

Mr. Heitzman distributed an article regarding additional charges brought against government officials in the Flint Water Crisis. The Workgroup discussed future topics and the scheduling for the remaining meetings.

Open Discussion for Workgroup

There was no further discussion from the Workgroup.

Public Comment Period

There were no comments from public attendees.

Next meeting January 18, 2017 at 1:30 pm E.T.