



Meeting Notes
Drinking Water Advisory Group
March 6, 2023

Note: Presentations are linked on the agenda item title. Handouts are linked in the notes section.

Agenda Item	Notes
<p>2. ODW Update Holly Myers, Office Director</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Strategic directions complete and EPA approved. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Revised capacity development accepted by EPA for approval. Request to present internally. ◆ Permanganate update (shortage/resolved). Fire in main plant that produces permanganate. Communication from ASDWA on what the impact will be on systems and three surface water systems that use permanganate. ◆ ASDWA survey link shared for reference. Asking staff to take inventory of what work has been across the operations side and identify gaps. Encouraging staff to share information and reach across the state to help each other and provide mentorship. Kay will provide updates on staffing. ◆ Link posted to chat. Washington State Drinking Water Survey (Page 1 of 4) (office.com) ◆ SDWA received 25 primacy agency responses, with the anonymized results attached—separated tabs by groundwater, surface water, and additional comments. Summary: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Number of GW/GWP CWS using permanganate: 749. ○ Number of GW serving > 100,000 that use permanganate: 5. ○ Estimated avg Number of days permanganate storage across state (GW): 119. ○ Number of SW/SWP/GWUDI CWS using permanganate: 646. ○ Number of SW serving > 100,000 that use permanganate: 47. ○ Estimated avg percent of time SW use permanganate: 70.55 percent. ○ Estimated avg Number of days permanganate storage across state (SW): 110. ◆ Budget Proposals. Allocations requested from the legislature; many requests were for permission to spend set asides we already have in our accounts. These allocations are already in the Governor’s budget. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Reallocations not in Governor’s budget. ◆ Staffing changes. Kay Rottell. Hiring has been ongoing. Thirteen permanent vacancies currently; three non-perm vacancies. ◆ Updating MOU with Department of Ecology and we will sharing draft language as available. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Working with Squaxin on an MOU-this is a request for earlier communication and an opportunity to ask questions and provide comments earlier in the process. Draft received from Squaxin Tribe.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Working with EPA to transfer public water systems to transfer two water systems located in the Yakima Nation; will be ongoing project for the state as water system located on tribal land are sovereign where EPA has authority to ensure safe and reliable drinking water. ◆ Evans School of Governance and Policy—shutoffs and impact research. Ask: Please complete survey sent out on rates. ◆ HEAL ACT referenced.
<p>3. Legislative Policy and Rule Update Brad Burnham</p>	<p>Rules Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ WAC 246-296 Emergency Rules Adopted Effective 2/28/2023. ◆ Q (John): How did the definition of disadvantaged communities come about? A (Jocelyne Gray): will cover in the DWSRF presentation. (Brad) We are in the CR101—code revisor and then present to public (CR102) the final stage is CR103 or adoption. ◆ Rulemaking webpage; Sign up for Drinking Water Rules email. <p>Legislative Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ The legislative process is in the midway point and Wednesday, March 8, 2023, is the final day a bill has to leave the floor. If it doesn't pass a floor vote then the bill dies. Elements of a dead bill can appear in other bills. ◆ Bills ODW is watching various bills. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5094 Water System Plans and Climate Resiliency: UW will assist if funding allows. ○ HB1181 State Response to Climate Change: contains language from 5094 (see webpage for details). ○ 1251 Water System Fluoridation: moved from House to Senate ○ 1138 Drought Preparedness: contains policy elements for emergency meetings during a drought. Funding elements removed. ○ Substitute HB1329 Extreme Weather Utility Shutoffs: prohibit shutting power and water shutoffs during weather advisories related to a heat alert-moved from House to Senate. ○ Substitute HB1326 Utility Connection Charges: waive fees for certain entities and organizations-moved from House to Senate ○ Substitute SB5225 ADU's: requirement for cities and counties to allow ADU's; waive, reduce fees and covenants that would prevent ADU's. This isn't retroactive and current bylaws can remain. ◆ John Freitag is a new hire and is the new Planning and Policy Lead.
<p>4. Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) Update Brian Sayrs, Principal Planning Consultant</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) is a national initiative. In Washington, it is also a funding mechanism. The intent is stated in RCW 43.70.512. The funding mechanism is set out in RCW 43.70.515. ◆ Q: What is the funding source? A: State Budget.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ There is a wide range of expertise at the LHJ level; a few jurisdictions that are being funded to develop a model program to help LHJs learn more about drinking water and reduce barriers.◆ The initial projects are:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Model Water Programs for local health jurisdictions.◆ Community Water Planning guidance for cities, towns, and counties.◆ Q: What if an LHJ refuses to participate? A: We do not anticipate jurisdictions refusing; often it is a matter of support from commissioners, funding or tools and resources.◆ There is a limited amount of Group B funding and is not enough to implement ordinances and most of the funding we receive is for public water systems.◆ Seattle/King County is considering restarting a drinking water program.
<p>5. LCRR Updates and Guidance and Feedback Sheri Miller, Field Operations Manager; and Jocelyne Gray, DWSRF Engineer</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Demonstration on where to find information from main LCRR webpage.◆ EPA is working on an improvement of Lead service line inventory (LSLI) rule.◆ The rule requires all community Group A systems and NTNC systems to complete inventory and an internal group is working on tools to assist water systems.◆ History of lead use and removal of lead, including dates.◆ EPA has a template and ODW requests that systems use the EPA template.◆ Reviewed sample of identifying ownership of service lines.◆ Group polling activities and discussion. Breakout Groups.
<p>6. DWSRF/Funding Updates Jocelyne Gray</p>	<p>The Lead Service Line Loan Cycle opens April 1, 2023. Funding can pay for LSL inventories that are required by EPA. And for lead service line replacements. Visit our DWSRF webpage for more information.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Two presentations:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ DWSRF Funding (PDF).○ DWSRF Funding LSL Cycle (PDF).◆ Webinars and trainings available on our DWSRF webpage.◆ Lots of funding available for planning and engineering loans, LSL, consolidation feasibility study grants, construction, emerging contaminants for small and disadvantaged communities.◆ BIL constraints.◆ Must have approved, current planning document.◆ Water right permit or certificate for service area.◆ Eligibility requirements:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Able to pay back loan.○ Control of property.○ Clean audit with no findings○ Signed meeting minutes approving funding.◆ Lead Service Line funding.◆ Mandatory LSL inventory loan:



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ \$25K min award.○ 2% service fee/0% interest.○ 10-year loan term.○ Complete by 10/16/2024.◆ LSL Replacement loan:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ \$25K min award.○ 2% service fee/2.25% interest.○ Complete in two years.○ 10-year loan term.◆ Prioritizing disadvantaged communities.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ WAC 246-296 defines based on water rates and median household income.○ Emergency rulemaking for definition: open for public comment.○ Serve less than 3,300 people, OR○ Located in county designated as rural by OFM, AND○ Evaluate disadvantaged status.◆ Call your regional planner.
<p>7. Agenda Ideas for Next Meeting Brian Sayrs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">◆ Are there any PFAS workshops available to learn about testing, detection, and treatment? Casey O’Dell.◆ Ownership/responsibility for replaced customer LSL.◆ Brian Wilson: 15 min to discuss non-residential population on WFI. Half the largest systems report, the other half don’t. Figure out how to collaborate and solicit feedback.