# WLSD Planning Committee Meeting Monday, March 30, 2015 @ 3:00 p.m. Minutes

Attending: Ray Turri, Jim Mersfelder, Bob Goldfeld, Joan Lang, Charlie Ekstrom, Chip Roraback and Ken Green of WLSD; Dave Prickett and Jay Sheehan of Woodard & Curran; and John Wertam of Shipman & Goodwin

## 1. Review feedback from USDA RD on Funding for Regional Alternative

Dave briefed the Committee on his telephone conversation with Norm St Jean of USDA RD. The 2015 funding allocation has been less than anticipated and FY 2015 funds have been fully allocated to another project. RD is now indicating they will be able to fund our project phased over three years beginning in FY 2016 (which begins October 1, 2015) at a 21% grant level. There was considerable discussion on this new information with many questions on how the RD loan commitment process works and how it would dovetail with grants/loans from DEEP CWF funding. The Committee determined there were many loose ends that needed to be tied up that would best be done through a face-to-face meeting with USDA RD officials. Dave will contact Norm St Jean to arrange a meeting as soon as possible.

### 2. Meeting with DEEP CWF Officials

The Committee discussed plans for a meeting with Dennis Greci and other DEEP officials. This meeting would follow the USDA RD meeting so that we can inform DEEP of our RD funding commitments and seek complementary grant/loan commitments from DEEP to make the cost of the Regional Alternative affordable to our taxpayers.

#### **3. Meeting with Torrington WPCA**

The Committee discussed and agreed a meeting with Torrington WCPA to discuss the issues involved with the Torrington Pipeline alternative would be scheduled following the funding meetings with USDA and DEEP.

#### 4. Presentation to Update Taxpayers

The Committee determined that most issues would still be up in the air precluding any detailed briefing of taxpayers at either the April Annual Meeting or the May Budget Meeting. A detailed presentation of all matters would best be planned for this summer

## 5. Pre-Bid Boring Estimates for Regional Alternative

The Committee discussed and agreed that it would be good practice to have test borings made over the preferred (Northern) route of the Regional Alternative to give us, our bidders and our lenders the best information possible of the likely costs of building a pipeline to Torrington. The Committee agreed that it would recommend the WLSD Board contract to take such boring samples in a May time frame at an approximate cost of \$90,000 to \$120,000.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Ken Green, Chairman March 30, 2015