

**Water Subcommittee Meeting Minutes from Shared Services Meeting
September 26, 2017**

Present: Phil Stockin, Kevin LaForge, Randy Shayler, Dave Truax, Bobby Budinger, Lori Ballengee and Rich Haywood

There were 3 water issues identified as important that need immediate attention:

1. Who can operate where?
2. How are water services structured in the different towns/villages?
3. Who employs the water operators?

Phil spoke at length about Houghton's water services. He said exempt properties have to pay for water while Dave said Andover charges a flat fee. Randy Shayler said Wellsville bills by consumption. Phil said it works well to produce the water and then sell it to other municipalities.

Andover is applying for a grant to facilitate water connectivity with Wellsville.

There was much discussion around sharing of water operators. Lori volunteered to find out from the state what it would take to allow a IIA operator, for example, to function at a B or C level system. Is it a matter of a test, just paperwork, etc. Lori will report back to the group with her findings. Union issues and differing rates of pay were brought up as possible obstacles to sharing. Lori also volunteered to discuss one or more of our county colleges/universities offering the water operator training to help get county residents trained quicker and more conveniently.

Dave reported that Andover is also pursuing a sewer district and is looking at grants.

There was further discussion of the county assuming responsibilities for water services, county wide.

All agreed they like the small group discussion and would like to continue it. They talked about coordinating meeting location/date/time to allow for others to join.

Respectfully submitted by:

Lori Ballengee, MS
Public Health Director