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# CFD2 | Regular Meeting

Monday, 04.04.2022 via Zoom 5:30-7:34pm

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## Attendees

Ian Baldwin (Board Member)

Farley Brown

Gina Campoli (President)

Nicole Civita (Board Member)

June Cook

Paula Davidson (Treasurer)

Christina Finkelstein (Secretary)

George Hall (Board Member)

Norm Hanson (Board Member)

Andy Hoak (Dubois & King)

"Owner's iPhone"

Jeremy Rathbun (Dubois & King)

Clyde Simmons

Joan Simmons

Steve Smith (Systems Operator)

John Zabar

ABSENT:

Renee Rossi (Board Member)

## Agenda

- Changes/Additions to the Agenda
- Presentation by Dubois & King: Findings and recommendations re potential new source well sites
- Update re existing wells / Do Not Drink timeline
- Updates from subcommittees

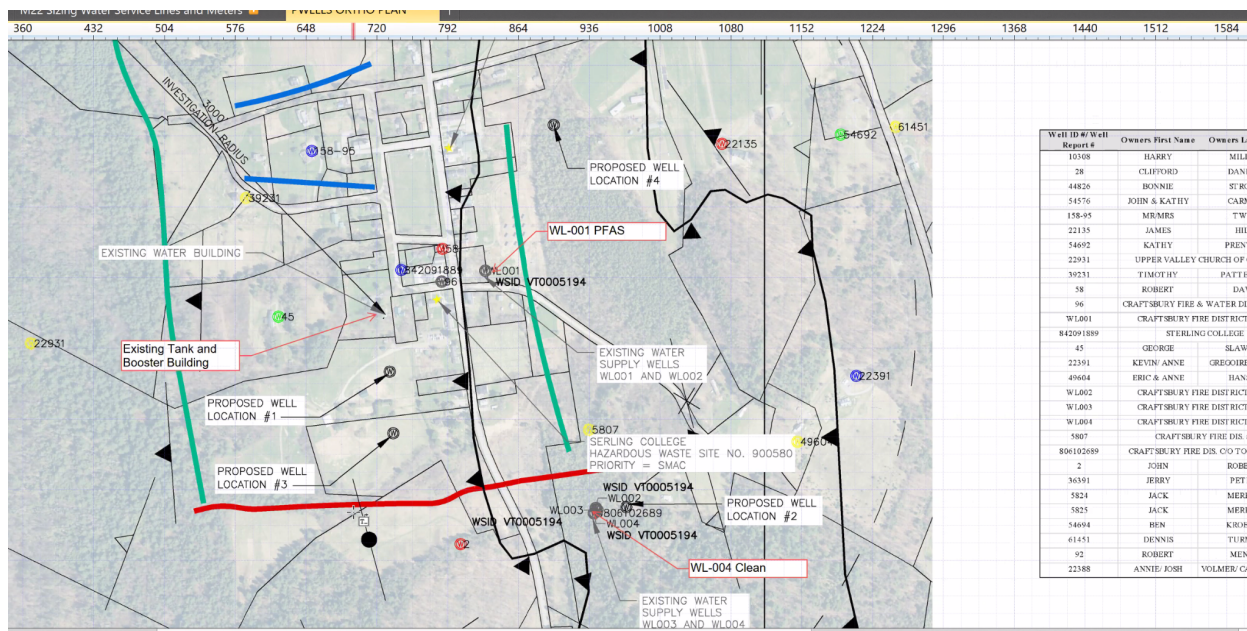
## Changes/Additions to the Agenda

- None
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## Presentation by Dubois & King (Andy Hoak and Jeremy Rathbun)

### Potential New Source Well Sites

Andy Hoak and Jeremy Rathbun shared of the Craftsbury Fire District #2's service area that was first developed in 2014-2015. The map (see screenshot below) is a compilation of existing [publicly available] data—e.g., bedrock and geologic data and yield from existing wells—as well as [fracture trace analysis](#) to identify [photo lineaments](#). Lineaments suggest that fractures may exist below the ground. Fractures are a good indicator of potential water yield. Using this and other data, Andy identified four possible sites for where a new source well had a high probability of yielding a good amount of water. (In the screenshot below, red indicates strongest potential, followed by green, and then blue. The range of a good spot is ~50-100 feet of the colored lines/existing wells.)



- The analysis does not take into account details such as setbacks, existing leach fields, septic mounds, wetlands, or property ownership.
- Jeremy reviewed why the four proposed sites are no longer viable options:
  - Location #1 - The state's limitations on land use [i.e., a 40x40 fenced area with limits on the number of livestock] around any new source well would restrict Sterling's ability to operate and develop its Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems and Draft Animal Management programs.
  - Location #2 - Too close to existing WL-04, which is now yielding water at a rate higher than projected. Placing a new source well here risks the two wells interfering with the other's yield since the aquifers are linked. Moreover, having two wells in close proximity doubles the jeopardy in case of a localized

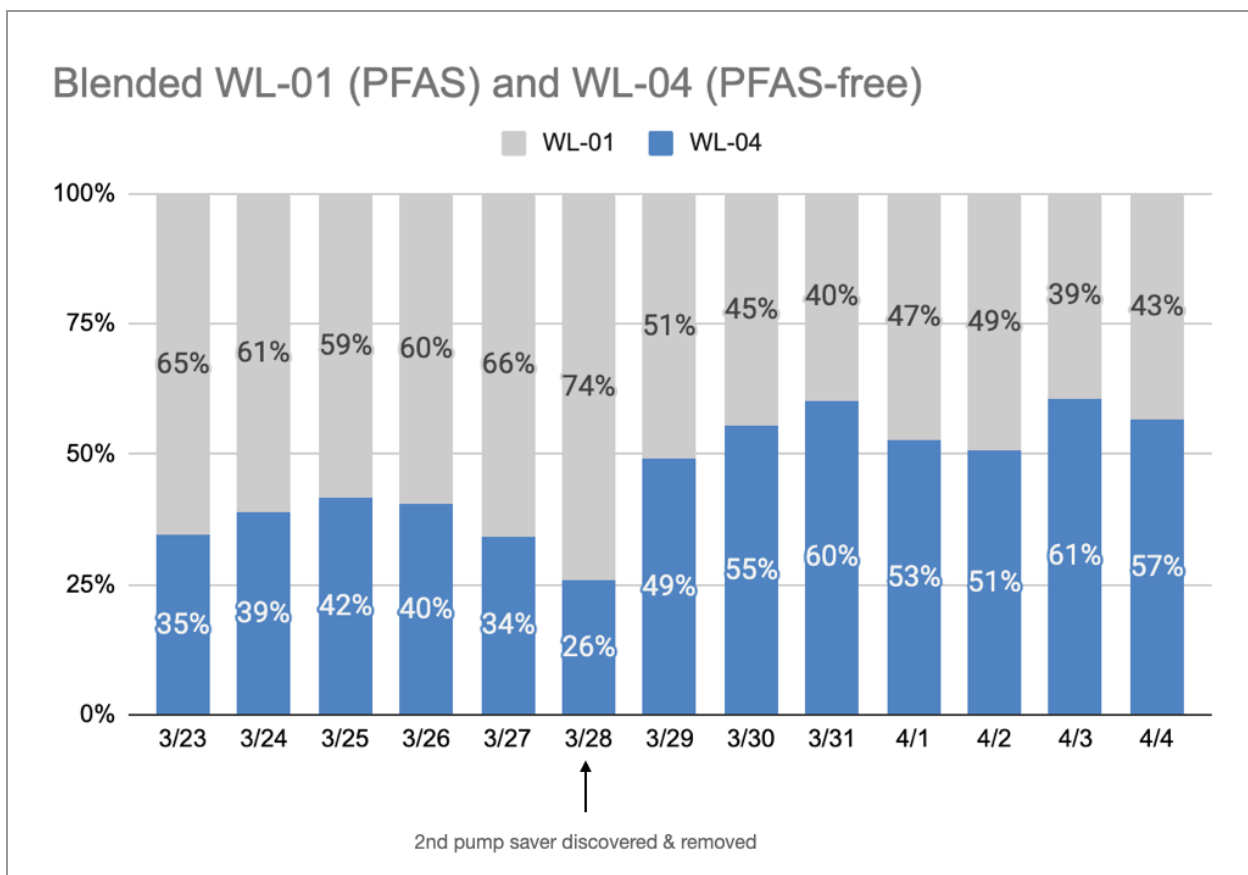
contamination, natural disaster, etc. [Since earlier meetings, the state has concluded that drilling so close to WL-04 is

- Location #3 - There is a septic system in the field.
- Location #4 - Located in wetlands with numerous leach fields and septic mounds from nearby private homes.
- Two-three privately owned wells, including one with the highest yield in the area (60 gpm), are potential alternatives worth exploring further. Proposed next steps include:
  - Seeking permission to have wells tested for PFAS. This will help confirm that the PFAS contamination is from surface water, and not the aquifer
  - Determining if there is an area in the vicinity of these known wells that could be a viable spot to drill for a new source well
  - Initiating conversations with landowners including gauging interest in granting a well easement (with the owner becoming a customer of CFD2)
- Q: Why not seek a potentially good spot (i.e., near a known high yield well) in land owned by Sterling? An existing relationship with the owner(s) of an existing well is preferable to having to initiate a new land owner relationship. However the yield is not known until drilling is complete so uncertainty is eliminated with an existing well. If the owners of existing wells are not interested, exploring sites in reasonable proximity on Sterling property for a co-primary well is a potential next step. This does not remove the uncertainty associated with drilling. It involves negotiating with a willing partner and existing customer eager to see the system develop a reliable new source.
- Since hydrofracking WL-04 has increased its yield, the burden of finding a “primary” well is reduced. Locating a back-up or second primary well with 8-10gpm yield might be sufficient.
- **Likely timeline for WL-05 to be online: 6-9 months.**

## Update re Existing Wells and Do Not Drink Timeline

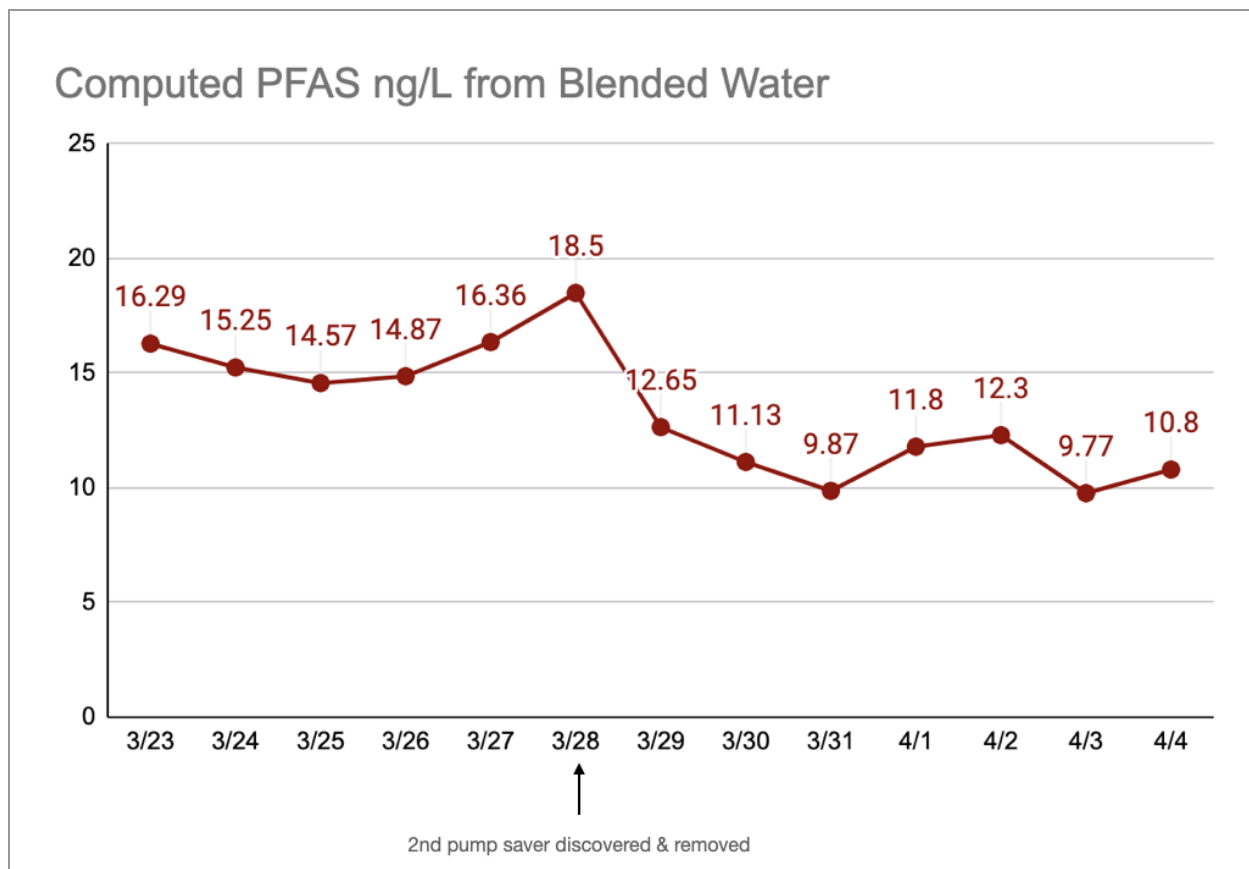
- **Current Status:** Water from WL-01 and WL-04 is being blended, but the Do Not Drink Order remains in effect until further notice and the state approves the proposed blending approach.
  - Automated blending equipment installed and operating since early March
  - Initial data suggested that WL-04 was not contributing as much water to the blend as expected
  - Jeremy and Steve Smith (System Operator) discovered that water from WL-04 would shut off for about 90 minutes, turn on again, and then shut off again for 90 minutes

- After extensive troubleshooting, Jeremy and Steve were able to confirm that there was water in WL-04 and that the pump saver was set to recycle at the proper intervals. So why was WL-04 staying off for too long? Jeremy and Steve traced all the wires and found them going to two separate metal boxes. In one, they found a pump saver set to 20 minutes. In the other box, they found another, identical pump saver. Manosh sent out two different workers on two separate days who installed the exact same pump saver in two different enclosures. (The second pump will be returned to Manosh.)
- Once the second pump saver was removed on March 28th, the proportion of blended water from WL-04 went up significantly (raw numbers discussed at meeting but graphed below for clarity for these minutes)



- PFAS testing on WL-04 on March 9 came back at 0 ng/L. A sample of WL-01 was taken last week and the results came back at 25 ng/L. Based on the PFAS level of each well and its proportion in the blended water, Jeremy computed the PFAS level in the blended water. (Raw numbers discussed at meeting but graphed below for clarity for these minutes)
- Based on historical usage data and the blending equipment's ability to calibrate how much water is drawn from each well, Jeremy feels confident

that the blended water will be well below the 20 ng/L. Note, the combined PFAS will vary day-to-day and will be lower when there is less demand and thus there is less need to take from WL-01 and higher when there is more demand and thus more need to take from WL-01.



- CFD2 is the first municipal water system] that has had to issue a Do Not Drink Order for exceeding the PFAS MCL. The state is still determining best practices on compliance requirements to lift the Order and is navigating CFD2's circumstances in real time as blended water with varying day-to-day PFAS levels has not been addressed before. So although the PFAS from the blended water has consistently been below the maximum 20 ng/L allowed, the Do Not Drink Order remains in effect until further notice.

- **Next Steps/Milestones:**

- Jeremy will present to the state roughly two weeks of blended water data and computed PFAS levels
- Draw samples from the blended water to confirm the computed PFAS level
- Jeremy and Gina to meet with the state to discuss lifting the Do Not Drink order

- **Expect another 2-3 weeks before the state approves lifting the Do Not Drink Order.**

## Subcommittee Updates

- **Special Projects**
  - No additional bottled water needed this week since Sterling students are on spring break
  - Need to notify customers of PFAS violation quarterly per state requirements
- **Financial Planning**
  - Paula Davidson reported that 2022 Q1 bills went out today
  - Paula reported that she received a check from the Town of Craftsbury reimbursing CFD2 for a payment made to Consolidated Communications for pole rentals. The Town received and paid CFD2's bill and CFD2 received and paid the Town's bill in 2021.
- **Other**
  - Discussion re best way to communicate meeting dates and Zoom links with customers and Board Members. Regular monthly meetings will be announced on Front Porch Forum the weekend before the meeting date. Email reminders to Board members the weekend before the meeting date. Add meeting dates to FPF and Town calendars.
  - Discussion about potential applicability of the town's federal American Rescue Plan funding to CFD2.

## Action Items

1. Christina and Gina will notify customers of PFAS violation per state requirements
2. Gina and Nicole will investigate the feasibility of working with private landowners re a new well locations on their property
3. George will hand-deliver any announcements to customers without email

## Next Meeting(s)

A Special Meeting is **tentatively** scheduled for **Monday, April 25th, at 5:30 pm**. Customers and interested parties will be notified in advance if the meeting will be held.

The next Regular Meeting will be on **Monday, May 2nd**. A reminder announcement with the Zoom link (<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87324152544>) will be posted on Front Porch Forum.