

## Water council begins work, elects officers

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YORK COUNTY — In 2005, utility-sponsored legislation to encourage regional solutions for water utilities was passed, creating Maine regional water councils. The Southern Maine Regional Water Council (Biddeford-Saco Water Company, Kennebunk-Kennebunkport-Wells Water District, Kittery Water District, Portland Water District, Sanford Water District, South Berwick Water District, and York Water District) is the first such council formed.

The council recently named its 2009 board officers that includes Don Neumann, superintendent of the York Water District, being elected as vice-president.

The council is developing a regional water system master plan and has implemented a cost-saving group purchasing program and an emergency response mutual aid plan. Combined, these seven utilities serve approximately 375,000 people in 23 communities.

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