

BFD BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

March 12, 2018 AT THE WATER DEPARTMENT OFFICE.

PRESENT WERE: Board of Water Commissioners: Chairman David Jones, Commissioner Evelyn Bassett and Commissioner Stephen Whitmore. Also present: Superintendent Thomas Rooney.

- Meeting called to order at 2:32 P.M.
- Warrants and payrolls signed.
- Collectors End of Month Report reviewed and signed
- Superintendent's Projects Report reviewed

Chairman Jones asked for a motion to accept the previous Meeting Minutes. Commissioner Whitmore **motioned** to accept the Meeting Minutes from February 12, 2018, **seconded** by Chairman Jones. The **motion passed.**

Proposed Capital Projects Review with Prudential Committee

Chairman Jones asked Superintendent Rooney if any details of the proposed projects had change since the last meeting? Mr. Rooney informed the Board that no changes had been made. He listed the proposed projects as Treatment #2 Roof and Siding Repairs, 300 Gallon KOH Tank Replacement, Paving of Access Road to Wells #2 & #5, SCADA System Improvements, Water System Improvements, Raw water Chemistry Analysis, and Meter Reading Software Upgrade. Mr. Rooney informed the Board that a SCADA radio had just failed, and that the radio is not repairable due to it's age. Rooney explained that the obsolete radio is an example of the type of item that will be addressed in the Capital request under review.

The District's Prudential Committee members joined the Commissioners Meeting. Superintendent Rooney provided the Committee with an explanation of the Water Department's Capital improvement requests for Fiscal year 2020. Prudential Committee Chairman Jones asked if there were completed Water Department Articles that could be used to transfer funds to the coming year's needs. Superintendent Rooney reviewed the status of the Department accounts. Mr. Rooney suggested that \$18,000.00 dollars may be remaining at the completion of the Water Department Office Remodel.

Proposed Water Department Operations Budget Review with Prudential Committee

Superintendent Rooney reviewed the Water Department's proposed with the Prudential Committee. No changes were made to the previously submitted proposed budget.

Water Quality

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that the Water Department had conducted water quality sampling at a District Resident's home. Mr. Rooney explained that the homeowner was concerned by a taste in here water. He explained that the Department has gradually lowered the levels of Chlorine and Potassium Hydroxide added to the

water system over the previous six months in an attempt to reduce taste and color complaints. Mr. Rooney explained that chemicals added to improve the water quality tend to oxidize the iron naturally present in the water causing it to come out of solution. This results in greater awareness that the iron is present. Commissioner Whitmore asked Mr. Rooney if there are containment limits set by the government. Mr. Rooney informed the Board that there are non-enforceable Secondary Containment Standards to be used as guidelines for public water suppliers. Mr. Rooney informed the Board that the naturally present minerals in the water are not a health hazard, and that the iron only affects the aesthetic quality of the water.

Superintendent Rooney discussed the Department's most recent sampling for PFOS related chemicals. Chairman Jones asked the Superintendent how often the samples taken? The Superintendent informed the Board that it had been one year since the last sampling was conducted. Mr. Rooney reviewed a recent newspaper article regarding PFOS detections on Cape Cod. Mr. Rooney explained that the Article used Barnstable instead of Hyannis when describing PFOS contaminations in the area which could lead to an incorrect assumption that the Fire District had PFOS contamination. Chairman Jones asked, "Would the cost of the sample analysis prevent the Department from sampling every six months instead of yearly?" Superintendent Rooney replied, "It would not be cost prohibitive." Chairman Jones informed the Board that he would suggest sampling every six months. Mr. Jones informed the Board that in light of the negative publicity regarding PFOS contamination that he would like to assure the Department's customers that the Department is on top of the issue. Commissioners Bassett and Whitmore agreed with the Chairman's suggestion. Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that the Department would resample for PFOS in July of 2019. Mr. Rooney discussed the precautions that must be taken in order to assure the accuracy of a PFOS sample. Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that the minor PFOS detections, from the four rounds of sampling conducted by the Department over the previous four years, had been trending downward. Mr. Rooney explained that he felt that the Department's most recent, and lowest detections, were the most accurate results because of a greater awareness of sampling protocols. Failure to follow proper protocols can lead to inadvertently contaminating the sample due to the prevalence of PFOS in a variety of products. Commissioner Whitmore suggested that the Department should counter the inaccurate reporting about the water in Barnstable. The Board discussed the suggestion. Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that the Department was working with GZA Engineering to review the Department's sampling protocols, and audit past results. He went on to say that the Department should consider using GZA to conduct the next round of PFOS sampling based upon the potential for inaccuracies. Mr. Rooney also discussed interactions with MassDEP staff regarding evaluations of the Cape's aquifer.

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that the Department would be working with the Town of Barnstable Golf Department to investigate the areas adjacent to the golf course in the area of Well #4 for illegal dumping.

Superintendent Rooney discussed recent developments in the process for the Town of Barnstable to place a Conservation Restriction on the Breeds Hill Parcel.

Capital Projects Update

Superintendent Rooney informed the Board that the Department would be rehabilitation Well #4 to restore pumping capacity. Mr. Rooney discussed the progress of the final items in the Tanks #2 & #3 Rehabilitation project. He discussed repairs needed to Tank #1 due to the mixer failure, and the subsequent discovery of coating failures on the floor of the tank. Mr. Rooney informed the Board that the estimate for the needed repairs is \$21,600.00 dollars. Commissioner Whitmore asked if the issues were related. Superintendent Rooney replied the two failures were not related. Chairman Jones approved the tank repairs. Mr. Rooney explained that the repairs to the tank floor coating failures may be postponed until fall when the air temperatures will be more favorable.

Superintendent Rooney discussed the Water Main Gate Replacement pre-construction meeting. He informed the Board that the projected start date is the first week in May. He also discussed the schedule for water main flushing.

Solar Panel Update

Superintendent Rooney discussed the progress of coordinating Personal Property Tax reimbursements to the solar project developer. He also discussed proposed Legislation to exempt Municipal projects from this tax.

Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair

There being no further business, Chairman Jones asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Bassett **motioned** to adjourn the meeting, **seconded** by Chairman Jones. The **motion passed unanimously.**

The meeting adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

*Respectfully Submitted,
Thomas Rooney*