



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Cotuit Fire District

Water Department

4300 FALMOUTH ROAD, P. O. BOX 451

COTUIT, MASS. 02635

08/16/2017

The monthly meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held at Freedom Hall at 6:00 p.m. Chairman Don Campbell, Commissioner Vic Mastro and Commissioner Tom Hoppensteadt were present as was Superintendent, Chris Wiseman. Also in attendance was Zak Farkes from Borrego Solar.

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m, opened to public comment, and there was none given.

The minutes of the regular July 12th meeting and the August 2nd meeting were reviewed and approved, and the warrants, including the lien warrant were reviewed and signed.

Superintendent Wiseman gave the water quality report, noting that all total coliform tests have been negative and that MTBE and Perchlorate tests were also non-detects. The annual by-product tests were also completed and were returned with results similar to last year, and well under the required limits.

Mr. Wiseman then went on to give the Superintendent's report.

Monthly Pumpage Results is as follows:

	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>+/-</u>
July	36,248,000	45,104,000	-8,856,000

The difference year over year can be attributed to the 3" of additional rain over last year. The summer overall has been more wet than 2016 and water usage is down. There were 2 replacement services, 1 relocation service and no new services in July.

Mr. Wiseman advised the board that Bortolotti Construction has not supplied evidence of qualified personnel on staff to meet the requirements provided for in the annual contract bid. The board agreed to notify Bortolotti that if staff was not in place by the next BOWC meeting that the annual service contract for FY18 would be awarded to the next qualified bidder.

Mr. Wiseman discussed a possible property infringement by a shed from an abutting neighbor. The board asked Superintendent Wiseman to verify with the town if building permits or shed registrations were received, check boundary lines and GIS maps and notify the resident of the error. They also decided to explore marking all property boundaries to ensure other abutting properties and not encroaching on district land.

Mr. Wiseman advised the board that we have been notified by Eversource that they will be doing line clearing near Station #5.

And lastly, Mr. Wiseman and Ms. Leger reviewed a discrepancy with payroll that has been in effect since the beginning of the fiscal year. This issue has been discussed with the treasurer, who has deferred the resolution to the Prudential Committee. Ms. Leger reviewed the

calculations for the increase that was voted on by the district. Commissioner Campbell, Mr. Wiseman and Ms. Leger will attend the Prudential Committee meeting on August 28th to review this issue in an effort to get it resolved with the treasurer.

Zak Farkes of Borrego Solar requested permission from the BOWC to move forward with the formal site restoration plan for the district watershed land that was disturbed during the solar project evaluation. Once the preliminary plan is created they will walk the property with the landscape specialist and a member of the BOWC, then hire sub-contractors and a project manager to begin the work in September. The commissioners granted permission, asked for a timeline and ensured that there would be a performance guarantee on the vegetation that was replaced.

The Superintendent and Commissioners reviewed an email communication from Russ Kleekamp of GHD Engineering with updates on the open projects. The tank project is complete pending the payment of a \$10k invoice by T-Mobile to Biszko Construction for the delay in the demolition of the old tank. This is being facilitated by Mark Boudreau and once complete we will close out the contract.

There is about \$35k remaining in the USDA grant for use in the security system and surveillance project. To date, the USDA grant has provided \$434,484 in grant funds to offset project costs. The Fiber Optic cable has been laid and will be connected to the Water Department Office during the 2nd week of September. A pole needs to be installed at the site of the Main Street Tank and some additional cable run on Rte. 28, but can be done until after Labor Day per state regulations. Mr. Kleekamp is hoping to have a draft report addressing the equipment needs of the office/tanks/stations for the next meeting.

The Water Department's legal council is working with Centerline Communications on a lease assignment agreement. Centerline owes some documentation on the Assignee before this can be signed and will be address when it is received. Mr. Kleekamp provided a site plan review application that has been sent to the town for review. No date for review has been set at this time.

Commissioner Mastro reviewed the progress made in completing the Position Descriptions for the Water Department staff, including the Superintendent position made available for this meeting. He requested that the commissioners review this, provide feedback on the PD and also to identify the key elements of all 3 PD's as a basis for a formal annual performance evaluation.

Chairman Campbell recapped the discussion of the focus group that met on August 2nd to discuss how to proceed with the Water Rate Survey. He then met again with Fran Parks of the Prudential Committee and district treasurer Ray Pirrone to discuss preparing an RFP for the Cost of Services Study and Rate Plan. Fran will consult with Mike Daley to create a proposal request and will update the PruComm at the August 28th meeting. The timeline is not known at this time but there is an overall awareness to keep the project moving forward. They also discussed a request from Mr. Goldstein to include contingency planning and the efficiency survey in Phase II of this project.

Chairman Campbell then raised the new business topic of the Planning Board meeting that he attended on Monday 8/15. Councilor Rapp-Grasseti is proposing an amendment to the Solar Photovoltaic Overlay Zoning regulation that will limit clear-cutting of trees to two contiguous acres and no

cutting within a 800 foot radius of a Water Protection Zone I. Mr. Campbell attended both the Town Council Meeting and the Planning Board meeting to express his concerns about this amendment. There are already regulations in place to vote against expanding the overlay map and, although there are no plans to pursue solar energy in the well field at this time, this regulation would tie the hands of future commissioners, not just from the Cotuit Fire District, but from the entire town, from pursuing this option in the future. He feels the restrictions and the 800 ft. radius are both over-kill. He informed the BOWC that the Planning Board voted in favor of the amendment by a vote of 6-1, even though they approved the Overlay Map Amendment at a prior meeting, and fully expects that it will pass at the Town Council Meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 17th at 7pm. Council Rapp-Grasseti discussed her position on the amendment and answered some questions from both the Commissioners and the public regarding the proposal.

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, September 20th at 6:00pm at Freedom Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Donald Campbell".

Donald Campbell, Chairman

Cc: Prudential Committee