# COTUIT \* FIRE DISTRICTO 1926 1926

## **BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**

# Cotuit Fire District

# Water Department

4300 FALMOUTH ROAD, P. O. BOX 451 COTUIT, MASS. 02635

### 10/16/2019

The monthly meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held at the Cotuit Fire Station at 5:45 p.m. Chairman Mark Robinson, Commissioner Tom Hoppensteadt Commissioner Scott Horsley and Superintendent Chris Wiseman were present.

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. and opened to public comment.

The minutes from the 09/18/2019 meeting were reviewed, a motion was made to accept them, and it was so moved and approved.

The warrants were also reviewed and approved.

Commissioner Hoppensteadt provided an update from the Silent Springs Seminar and tour of the Hyannis treatment facility. This facility used a carbon filtration system for the treatment of PFOA/PFOS. He noted that the filters are recycled, heated and used to produce hydrochloric acid. Commissioner Robinson confirmed that the letter to John Hobil thanking MassDEP in advance of their testing has been sent. Superintendent Wisemen confirmed with Bill Schwartz also of MassDEP, that we are still on the list for voluntary testing, but since we are not a priority testing likely will not occur until the beginning of the new year. Commissioner Robinson asked that the commissioners review the Tata & Howard Water System report distributed at a prior meeting which discusses the potential need for a treatment system in our district for discussion at the next meeting.

Superintendent Wiseman noted that the sodium raw water samples have not yet been done as station #3 has been offline with the SCADA system upgrade. He has the bottles and will complete the testing when all stations are back online. Trihalomethanes (THM) and Haloacidic Acids (HAA5) testing was completed and all are well below action levels. All bacteria testing was completed for the month and all were returned with no bacteria detected.

The Superintendent report was given.

Monthly Pumpage Results is as follows:

2019

2018

+/-

September

28,077,000

27,655,000

+422,000

September Stats:

There were no new services and one replacement service, as well as one leak repair.

The new SCADA system PLC has been installed at station #3 and is currently in the testing phase. Some discussion about the disposal of the old PLC and radio equipment ensued, and it was decided to obtain a value for the old equipment and see if a neighboring district who uses the same equipment would be interested in purchasing it.

No new quotes on cleaning the West Street tank have been obtained, but it was noted that the cost of the sanitary inspections has dramatically increased over the past year. Superintendent will shop around for better pricing.

The commissioners approved an exception for the Superintendent to carry forward his remaining vacation time as he is not able to use it before his anniversary date (11/9). They also approved closing the Water Department office on Friday, November  $29^{\rm th}$  noting that all staff is on call and will respond as needed with no additional pay.

Superintendent Wiseman will be meeting with Conner from AmeriCorps to walk the site of the former Main Street Tank. Work on the site will likely be postponed until the spring.

Mr. Wiseman also noted that Hydrant #138 on Old Shore Road was hit and is out of service and will be scheduled for repair.

Commissioner Horsley was asked for an update on the Little River report and the Water Management Act Permit Renewal project. He noted that he spoke with Meghan at Tata & Howard and had received a response just today that he has not yet reviewed. He also presented a one-page draft document to educate the public and encourage water conservation. The goal will be to (1) raise awareness of what excessive pumping has on Little River and other natural resources; (2) elevate cost awareness, especially given the new pricing structure that went into effect in July; (3) nitrogen mitigation. commissioners discussed the ability to limit the number of irrigation systems that draw on the public water supply by mandating that no new systems can be set up and eliminating existing systems through attrition. They also discussed possible ways that this could be enforced and ask Superintendent Wiseman to with neighboring districts (Mashpee) who currently have confer The commissioners are going to work together to finalize the one-page document for inclusion in the next bill mailing (January). The board will need to further understand what the district's regulatory authority is vs. the town's authority.

The commissioners have tabled the General Policy discussion until the next meeting.

Commissioner Hoppensteadt brought the vacant elementary school to the attention of the board and, as this property adjoins the wellfield, encouraged discussion with the town regarding the future use of the property. Commissioner Robinson will invite Town Councilor Jessica Rapp-Grasetti to the next BOWC meeting to discuss.

While setting the next regular meeting date, Commissioner Robinson noted two upcoming special district meetings. The Prudential Committee will be hosting an information session regarding the new proposed administration building on Wednesday, November 13<sup>th</sup> at Freedom Hall and a special district meeting to vote on the funding of this project on Tuesday, November 19<sup>th</sup>. Since these meetings will not interfere with the regular BOWC meeting the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, November 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:45pm at Freedom Hall. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Mark Robinson, Chairman