



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Cotuit Fire District

Water Department

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

12/20/2023

The monthly meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held via Zoom at 5:45 p.m. Chairman Scott Horsley, Commissioner David Churbuck, Commissioner Mark Robinson, Superintendent Chris Wiseman and Office Manager, Jen Nash were present.

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. and was opened to Public Comment. There was none at this time.

Minutes of the November 15, 2023 meeting were reviewed and approved as written.

Superintendent Wiseman reviewed the recent water quality testing results for total coliform. There were no detections. Sodium results were up slightly over the last sampling period. Chairman Horsley intends to send a letter to the two neighborhoods that border Station #5, requesting that they not treat surfaces with salt products.

The Superintendent's report was presented:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>+/-</u>
November	6,941,000 gal.	6,542,000 gal.	-399,000 gal.

Rainfall was consistent year over year for November, averaging just over an inch.

New Service = 0, Replacement/Relocation Services = 0, Leaks/Repairs = 0

Project Updates:

- Lewis Pond Road Water Main Upgrade - EDR is working on preparing the bid package and will reconvene in January so that we can begin construction in the spring.
- Association News - Quiet month, mostly holiday gatherings. MWWA newsletter came out and the Superintendent will circulate it.
- Staffing - Field Operator, Jon Medeiros, has left for a higher position in another district. The position has been posted, resumes and applications are being accepted through December 29th, after which time the Superintendent will conduct interviews with eligible candidates. The hope is to hire someone in January. One employee will need to use some family medical leave in January, and the department has a plan for support from other districts and associations should we need it.

Old Business:

Source Water Protection Plan (SWPP): Tom Cambareri (Sole Source Consulting) presented an update on the test well installations and water table evaluations that have been conducted over the past few months. Ground water reviews,

mapping and water table data all corroborated the flow data presented in the hydrogeological report prepared previously. The well installation along Little River are still pending legal review by the town and other nearby test wells were used in collecting this data. Water table levels are approximately 36' near the pond and between 22'-31' throughout the wellfield. Sampling for IOC, VOC, and PFAS will be done at the new test well sites on Mariner & Santuit-Newton Road sometime in January. Commissioner Robinson noted that the report presented that ground water movement is approximately 3"-4" per day in general, and Mr. Cambarari confirmed that to be true in the higher flow areas, but that it is slower in places where the water table is more gentle. He also noted that the natural slope of the water table and the drawdown areas of the local wells would affect the time of flow. He will follow up with a final report including the digital data collected and with the results of the tests to be conducted in January.

Enabling Legislation: Chairman Horsley attempted to contact Rep. Diggs and will follow up with him after the holiday. He reviewed the cost of installing an IA Septic System as compared to the cost of the Town's CWMP and noted the savings to district residents in abutting neighborhoods. After research results presented by Commissioner Churbuck regarding the submission of a non-binding question on the general presidential election ballot, it was decided to target the Annual District Meeting Warrant with an article allowing the BOWC to request changes to the enabling legislation. Chairman Horsley will draft the language for the warrant article and submit it to Attorney Mark Boudreau for review, as well as funding requirements for the project (if it can be bonded). If approved at ADM, Chairman Horsley will submit it to the Rep. Diggs for the legislature change. If approved at the state level, it would come back down to the Fire District Warrant to ratify the change.

Affordable Access to Drinking Water (AADW): This proposal will be brought forward for Public Information sessions in the spring, as we approach budget planning for the new fiscal year. It will remain on the agenda as a reminder.

Employee Handbook Edits: Superintendent Wiseman has received approval of the draft handbook from Attorney Michael Pierce. Commissioner Churbuck moved to accept the handbook as revised on 08/30/2023. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion and it was voted unanimously to accept the revised policy.

No new business was raised with the committee. PruComm Chair Ms. Park's requested that Chairman Horsley review the funding of an IA Septic project with the District's Atty (as noted above) to be sure the project could be funded with a bank bond. He agreed.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 17th at 5:45 pm at via Zoom only.

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott Horsley, Chairman
Board of Water Commissioners