



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Cotuit Fire District

Water Department

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

03/18/2026

The Board of Water Commissioners held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, March 18, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. via ZOOM only. Present at the meeting were Chairman Mark Robinson; Commissioner David Churbuck; Commissioner Scott Horsley; Superintendent Chris Wiseman; Office Manager Jen Nash.

Chairman Robinson called the meeting to order at 5:46 p.m.

Public Comment: None at this time.

Superintendent Wiseman reported that there were no total coliform detections. VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) results were received and showed improvement over the prior year. Chloroform was detected at 3 of the 5 stations but were below the action level. PFOS results are still pending.

The superintendent gave his report:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>+/-</u>
February	4,977,000	6,160,000	+1,183,000

Service activity was reviewed: 1 new service, 1 replacement, no leaks.

Association Updates: Superintendent Wiseman will attend the annual conference in Worcester in April 2026.

Storm Update: The Department incurred approximately \$10,000 in expenses as a result of Winter Storm Hernando. Cost estimates have been submitted in coordination with the Fire Department to determine whether reimbursement may be available through MEMA (Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency) under the state emergency declaration.

Groundwater Contour Mapping, Station #5: Superintendent Wiseman will be meeting with Tom Cambareri one week from Friday to begin work on this project. Commissioner Horsley also spoke with Tom about tracking PFAS levels at this well.

Generator Updates: Superintendent Wiseman is working with our generator companies to do a post storm evaluation to see what can be done to prevent the issues that the department experienced during the past storm. All propane generators failed for various reasons, mostly due to frozen propane lines, so they are evaluating options which include insulation, heating or burying the lines.

This concludes the Superintendent's report.

Cotuit Elementary Conservation Restriction -Town Councilor Burdick contacted the Town Attorney's office, and they will get a draft out for further review "soon".

Enabling Legislation - The proposed enabling legislation passed through the senate and is on the governor's desk to be signed.

Source Water Protection: The CWMP Ad Hoc Committee met with the Board of Health on Monday to discuss potential septic system upgrades for shoreline properties. None of the recommendations directly address source water conditions in Cotuit; therefore,

additional work will be needed specific to the district. Commissioner Horsley will continue to provide updates.

Sick Time Memo to Prudential Committee: Chairman Robinson resubmitted the memo to the Prudential Committee and has not yet received confirmation of receipt. He will address this topic at the PruComm meeting on Monday March 23rd.

Chairman Robinson asked for a brief write up on the three items to be addressed at the PruComm meeting: Unfunded Sick Time Liability, PFOS litigation Fund, and the FY27 Operating and Appropriation Budget.

FY27 Salary Recommendations and O&M Budget: The Board voted unanimously to award all employees, except for the new Field Operator, a 2.8% COLA increase. Operator Marks will receive a \$1.00 per hour increase for each license obtained upon passing the 1D and 1T exams, which are required within his first year of employment. The remainder of the Operating and Maintenance budget was also reviewed, reflecting an overall increase of approximately 6%, which was considered a modest rise given the current economic conditions. The FY27 budget as discussed and revised at this meeting was unanimously approved by the Board. The 5-year Capital Plan budget was also discussed, revised and unanimously approved. Chairman Robinson and Superintendent Wiseman will present the budget requests to the Prudential Committee at their March 23rd meeting.

Bylaw Committee Update: Commissioner Churbuck provided an update on the Bylaw Committee's recommended revisions to the district bylaws. These include changes to the start time of the Annual District Meeting, publication of Annual District Meeting warrant article voting results, updating the list of district properties to include 140 Old Oyster Road, and clarifying recall initiation and procedures. Additional recommendations address updates to the table of contents, administrative and technical support for remote meetings, and strategies to increase public participation at the Annual District Meeting. These recommendations have been compiled and will also be presented to the Prudential Committee at its meeting on Monday, March 23rd.

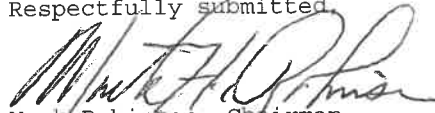
The Board voted unanimously to accept the minutes of the March 4, 2026, meeting. Chairman Robinson will come by the office to sign them.

Dates and time for upcoming district meetings were discussed.

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, April 22, 2026, at 5:45pm in person at Freedom Hall.

There was no additional public comment. The meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Mark Robinson, Chairman
Board of Water Commissioners