



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Cotuit Fire District
Water Department

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

03/15/2023

The monthly meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held via Zoom at 5:45 p.m. Chairman Tom Hoppensteadt, Commissioner Mark Robinson, Commissioner Scott Horsley, 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 were none.

The minutes of the February 15, 2023 meeting were reviewed and approved.

Sodium results for the previous quarter were reviewed and discussed. There were no total coliform hits. VOC (volatile organic compound) tests were completed in the prior month; there were no detects at all of the stations, with the exception of Station #3. This station showed a result of .85 (MCL = 70) for Chloroform. No action is required.

The Superintendent's report was presented:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>+/-</u>
January	7,694,000	6,503,000	-1,191,000
February	6,995,000	6,709,000	-286,000

New Service = 1, Replacement Services = 1, Leaks/Repairs = 0

Project Updates:

- The VFD's (Variable Frequency Drives) have arrived, installation schedule pending contractor availability.
- New Service Truck has been delivered to the outfitters and we hope to receive it by the end of March.
- The annual flushing program will begin the week of March 20th. Notices and postings have been sent, and the signs will go up next week.
- Signed a contract with Veolia to clean the interior of the tanks. This should happen in May of 2023. The commissioners discussed cleaning (again) the outside of the tanks.

Discussions:

- The commissioners reviewed and discussed the proposed regulations for PFOS/PFOA and UCMR Testing, as well as the FAQ's that were sent by DEP. If the recommended standard is 4 ppt (parts per trillion) then all systems will be required to treat.

- Industry Updates included alerts on the PFOA/PFOS proposed regulations; the Superintendent will be attending the Annual Mass Water Works Conference in April at the DCU in Worcester; participation in Zoom meeting with BCWUA (Barnstable County Water Utilities Association) regarding the Lead Service Line Inventory and the inclusion of Lead Goosenecks as part of the service line. There is conflicting information on this topic.

Source Water Protection Plan - Tom Cambareri has worked with the Town Surveyor and have marked boundaries for the new well locations. These locations have been approved by the Conservation Commission (Darcy) and David Anthony has provided a license agreement, as they are on town land. Commissioner Hoppensteadt will review the agreement with Atty. Boudreau, and we will ask the treasurer to review the insurance requirements with the district's insurance carrier. Superintendent Wiseman noted that the quote from the well drilling company has increased, approximately \$7k based on the location of the Santuit-Newtown Road well. There are sufficient funds in the test well appropriation and in the Engineering operating budget to accommodate this additional expense.

The commissioners discussed the next steps for the alternative septic solutions plan. Chairman Hoppensteadt will discuss with Atty. Mark Boudreau their authority under the enabling act, the requirements of Chapter 41, section 69B and the bylaw proposal for the stabilization fund before moving forward with the budget proposal. As follow up to this discussion, Office Manager Nash will circulate the Enabling Act and Proposed Stabilization Fund Bylaw change to the commissioners and Atty. Boudreau.

In conjunction with the Civic Association, Commissioner Robinson will present the proposed Affordable Access to Drinking Water policy to the residents of the district on April 18th at 7:30pm at Freedom Hall. The public is encouraged to attend and provide feedback on the proposed policy before the BOWC votes to adopt it.

Superintendent Wiseman and Office Manager Nash attended a training session for the LIHWAP (Low Income Household Water Assistance Program) offered through the South Shore Community Action Committee as part of their Fuel Assistance Program. The commissioners voted unanimously to authorize Superintendent Wiseman to sign the vendor contract so that we can receive funds on behalf of qualifying district residents who receive assistance through this agency.

Upcoming Meetings:

- Bylaw Committee 3/22/23 at 5:30pm - Commissioner Robinson to attend.
- Affordable Access to Drinking Water - 04/18/23, 7:30pm at Freedom Hall - Commissioner Robinson will present, posted as an open meeting so all commissioners can attend.
- PruComm Meeting, Monday 3/27/23, 6:30pm - Chairman Hoppensteadt and Superintendent Wiseman will present the FY24 proposed budget.

Budget Review:

- 5 Year CAP Plan reviewed - added water main infrastructure projects: \$200k for FY24, \$300k for FY25 and \$500 for FY26.
- Voted unanimously to submit FY24 O&M budget as discussed, and CAP plan with modification noted above as special appropriations.

Chairman Hoppensteadt submitted the Annual Letter to the clerk for inclusion in the upcoming Annual District Report.

The meeting was again opened to public comment. Jennifer Loughran noted that the new community hall at the Cotuit Federated Church was now available for use and will have new technology that could accommodate hybrid meetings.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners is scheduled for Wednesday, April 19, at 5:45 pm to be held in person at Freedom Hall. The meeting adjourned at 7:03 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Tom Hoppensteadt, Chairman