



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Cotuit Fire District Water Department

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

09/18/2024

The Board of Water Commissioners held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, September 18, 2024, at 5:45 p.m. at Freedom Hall. Present at the meeting were Chairman David Churbuck, Commissioner Mark Robinson, Commissioner Scott Horsley, Superintendent Chris Wiseman and Office Manager, Jen Nash.

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. and was opened to public comment. There were no comments at this time.

Superintendent Wiseman reviewed the results of the August Total Coliform tests. There were no detections. Perchlorate samples were also taken, and there were no detections in the water supply. Other samples were taken with the results still pending. The next round of testing for PFAS in the production wells is scheduled for October 2024. Tom Cambareri from Sole Source Consulting has been away but will complete another round of samples from the test wells. Commissioner Horsley asked for a charting of PFAS results to better track over time. Mark Nelson is also working on identifying the source of PFAS with the data provided by the district.

The superintendent gave his report:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>+/-</u>
August	24,361,000	26,146,000	+1,785,000

New Service = 3; Replacement Services = 0; Leaks = 0.
Largest Day of Pumping = 07/22/2024 1,404,000 gallons.

Commissioner Horsley reviewed a graph of pumpage and rain fall for comparing the months of June-August and a more inclusive set of May-September noting that pumpage has decreased since the implementation of the July of 2019 (and subsequent) rate increase as well as the irrigation regulations in August of 2021.

PFOS Class Action Suit = No new update. Case still open and active awaiting settlement.

W2/Payroll Issues = The corrected W2's have been delivered. Employees should retain documentation of any additional expenses for filing an amended return. These will be brought to the attention of the Treasurer who will discuss reimbursement from Paychex for the error.

BLT/Conservation Restriction = A Public Hearing has been scheduled for Tuesday, September 24th at 10am via zoom and the legal notice and agenda with link have been posted to the district website and the Town website.

Staffing = New hire, Timothy Rodrigues started on September 3rd, he is currently training with the Senior Operators.

Commissioner Horsley discussed options for protecting the public water supply which include the Town Sewer Project (long-term project currently scheduled for 20+ years out for Cotuit), Onsite Treatment (I/A systems that may or may not be effective for PFAS) or a localized low-pressure sewer system (Orenco Systems). This last option seems to be the most effective and the commissioners discussed investigating this product. This system would require a treatment plant which could be located on District property

outside of the Zone II area of contribution and would use sub-surface infiltration to treat the wastewater.

There is no update on the Conservation Restriction for the Cotuit Elementary School property. There is concern that it takes a long time to process this with the state, and that there is no deadline to complete this. The commissioners will continue to work with the town to be sure that it is completed.

Chairman Churbuck has reached out to Rep. Diggs regarding the filing date and next steps for the Enabling Legislation but has not heard back from him as of this date. Again, there is concern that the petition is filed in a timely manner so that the district can move forward with source water protection.

Commissioner Robinson would like to do some additional research into road treatment alternatives before composing a letter to the town. The goal is to reduce the use of sodium for road treatment to reduce the effect on the public water supply.

The minutes for the August 28, 2024, meeting were reviewed, 2 edits were recommended and they were approved as amended.

The next meeting date was set for Wednesday, October 16th at 5:45pm, to be held at Freedom Hall.

As there were no other matters to discuss and no additional public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Churbuck', written in a cursive style.

David Churbuck, Chairman
Board of Water Commissioners