



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Cotuit Fire District

Water Department

4300 FALMOUTH ROAD, P. O. BOX 451

COTUIT, MASS. 02635

08/26/2026

The Board of Water Commissioners held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, July 29, 2026, at Freedom Hall and also via Zoom. Present at the meeting were Chairman David Churbuck; Commissioner Scott Horsley; Superintendent Chris Wiseman; Office Manager Jen Nash.

Chairman Churbuck called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

Public Comment - Mr. Jhon Sanchez addressed the Board regarding the cost of his water usage. Mr. Sanchez resides in the Cotuit Meadows development, where the Homeowners Association has requirements related to lawn maintenance and irrigation. He explained that the resulting water costs have become difficult to manage for his household of six. After hearing Mr. Sanchez's concerns, the Board agreed to grant an adjustment to his bill provided that the remaining balance is paid within 30 days.

Lallie Lloyd addressed the Board regarding a water leak that occurred in late December 2025 and early January 2026. The Board reviewed and discussed the request for a billing adjustment and voted unanimously to approve the relief as calculated.

Superintendent Wiseman reported that there were no total coliform detections and that perchlorate results were also non-detect. He confirmed that PFAS testing is conducted twice annually, which exceeds State and Federal testing requirements. Commissioner Horsley requested an additional round of testing of the test wells in the Little River Estates neighborhood. Superintendent Wiseman will contact Tom Cambareri regarding this request. The next scheduled round of PFAS testing will be conducted in October 2026 at all five District wells.

The superintendent gave his report:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2026</u>	<u>+/-</u>
July	30,315,000	26,717,000	-3,598,000

Service activity was reviewed: 0 new service, 0 replacements, 0 leaks.

Association Updates - The New England Water Works Association (NEWWA) will host a conference in New Hampshire, and the Massachusetts Water Works Association (MWWA) will hold its annual Summer Expo in Wachusett. Operators Dwyer and Marks will attend the MWWA event. Barnstable County is also offering upcoming classes and a dinner event.

Generators - Superintendent Wiseman has received quotes for a small generator for the Santuit Tank.

Water Main Replacement - Superintendent Wiseman, and Sr. Operators Gallagher and Dwyer met with EDR to review a draft plan for the water main replacement project to begin in the spring in the Presidents neighborhood.

Tank Cleaning & Inspections - We are soliciting quotes for the water storage tank cleaning and inspections.

This concludes the Superintendent's report.

The Board reviewed Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 21, Section 67, regarding Irrigation Interruption Regulators, which prohibits the operation of irrigation systems during rainfall. After discussion, the Board agreed that the most appropriate course of action would be to educate residents about this requirement in the next issue of *Cotuit Currents*.

Discussion regarding the Conservation Restriction for the Old Oyster Road property and the Service Rate Study was tabled until Commissioner Robinson is present.

Long-Term Capital Planning - Commissioner Churbuck reported that he attended the recent Prudential Committee meeting, where long-term financial planning for the District was discussed. The Prudential Committee has invited the Board of Water Commissioners to meet with them in September to discuss the Water Department's long-term capital needs.

Commissioner Churbuck identified several areas that could require significant capital investment over the next decade, including continued water main replacement, potential construction of a water treatment facility, source water protection measures, and the possible development of an additional well. He recommended gathering historical and projected data on connections, water consumption and system capacity, water costs, infrastructure replacement, contaminant trends, and construction costs to better understand and plan for these potential needs.

The Board agreed that long-term capital planning should be a priority and will continue the discussion at its September meeting in preparation for meeting with the Prudential Committee.

Source Water Protection Plan (SWPP) - Commissioner Horsley noted that the proposed override may not pass and that available Town funding may be insufficient to complete the Comprehensive Wastewater Management Plan (CWMP). He discussed several potential measures to protect the District's water supply, including the possibility of a small-scale wastewater treatment facility to serve neighborhoods abutting the main wellfield. The Board also discussed obtaining an updated cost estimate for a carbon filtration treatment facility to address iron, manganese, and PFAS.

Follow-Up Items - In preparation for the upcoming meeting with the Prudential Committee, Superintendent Wiseman will follow up with Tom Cambareri regarding the status of the Hydrogeological Study for Station #5 and contact Tata & Howard for updated cost estimates for a treatment facility. Commissioner Horsley will investigate the potential cost of a package treatment plant. Chairman Churbuck will compile the information gathered into a presentation for the Prudential Committee meeting.

The Board postponed the review of the July 29th minutes until Commissioner Robinson is present.

Cotuit Currents - As discussed earlier in the meeting, the next article for *Cotuit Currents* will focus on the requirement for rain sensors on irrigation systems and provide information to residents about the applicable regulation.

The next meeting was set for Wednesday, September 16, 2026, at 5:45pm.

The Board will then meet with the Prudential Committee on Monday September 21st at 6pm.

The meeting was re-opened for public comment. There was none at this time.

Cybersecurity - Due to the late hour, the Board decided not to enter Executive Session to review cybersecurity matters. Commissioner Churbuck has compiled a list of security-related questions that will be forwarded to the District's engineers at EDR for review and response. The Commissioners will review the responses when received.

Seeing no additional public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D. Churbuck', written over a horizontal line.

David Churbuck, Chairman
Board of Water Commissioners