

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF
NOVEMBER 15, 2022

Chairman Fox called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m., announced that the virtual version of the meeting was being recorded, and asked for each Commissioner to state their name for the record by roll call:

Board Members Present: Robert H. Sheldon, Commissioner – Present; Joshua M. Fox, Commissioner and Chairman – Present; and Robert E. Boyd, Jr., Commissioner - Present.

Others Present: Tom Travers, Treasurer; Renee Adams, Customer Service Manager; and Vincent J. Roy, Executive Director.

Note that all meeting attendees were in person. Nobody attended virtually.

1. REVIEW THE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 1st COMMISSIONERS MEETING:

The Commissioners approved the Minutes for the Meeting of November 1, 2022, as amended. The motion for approval was made by Commissioner Boyd, duly seconded by Commissioner Sheldon, and approved by unanimous roll call:

Robert E. Boyd, Jr., Commissioner - Aye
Robert H. Sheldon, Commissioner - Aye
Joshua M. Fox, Commissioner and Chairman - Aye

2. REVIEW THE DIRECTOR'S NOVEMBER 11th BI-WEEKLY REPORT:

Executive Director Roy presented his bi-weekly report to the Commissioners and addressed questions regarding the following topics:

MetroWest Expansion Study:

Director Roy informed the Commissioners that he attended a one-on-one discussion with MWRA staff as part of their MetroWest expansion study, which would include a pipeline extending from Framingham north through Sudbury to serve multiple communities, including Sudbury. Mr. Roy stated that items discussed at the meeting were the District's hydraulic model and interconnections, the Eversource Transmission Line Project, PFAS in MWRA water, MWRA future CIPs, funding for expansion, and SWD's use of the MWRA as a potential water source. Mr. Roy also stated that he informed the MWRA that SWD has no desire to abandon its groundwater sources and that the only anticipated use for MWRA water would be for emergencies on a temporary basis.

Commissioner Sheldon asked Mr. Roy if this initiative was generated by the MWRA or surrounding communities, to which Mr. Roy responded that the Town of Concord initiated the study because of their need to treat their own source. Mr. Roy also stated that other nearby communities have also expressed a strong desire to connect onto the MWRA system.

Communications Meeting:

Mr. Roy informed the Commissioners that he hosted a meeting on November 8th with the DPW Director and Assistant Director, along with the District's Operations Manager, Ted McAuliffe and Renee Adams to review past projects and improve communications between the District and DPW.

Mr. Roy said he planned to summarize the discussion to memorialize key points and then to circulate the document among attendees.

2nd Quarter Billing Cycle:

Mr. Roy informed the Commissioners that the District would be reading meters next week in preparation for the 2nd quarter billing cycle. Customer Service Manager Renee Adams asked if there would be a rate increase for the next calendar year. Mr. Roy responded that he planned to present a proposed rate to the Commissioners around January, once he's completed the FY 2024 proposed budget.

There were no further questions or comments from the Report.

3. VOTE TO APPROVE CROWN CASTLE CELL TOWER GROUND LEASE EXPANSION AT WILLIS HILL:

Director Roy presented the Commissioners with the additional requested information from the previous meeting for Crown Castle to allow Dish Networks to co-locate on Crown Castle's cell tower on Willis Hill. Commissioner Fox asked Mr. Roy if the proposed 60 square foot ground space is within Crown Castle's current leased space, to which Mr. Roy responded that it is not. Commissioner Fox stated that it appears that Crown Castle is indirectly asking the District to amend the lease agreement to permit use of additional ground space at no charge. Commissioner Fox requested that Mr. Roy further communicate with Crown Castle and inform them that the Commissioners have no problem with the additional Dish Networks canister onto the cell tower but that a dollar value for the requested ground space is reasonable. Crown Castle should propose a fair market value to lease that additional ground space. Mr. Roy agreed to make that request of Crown Castle.

Conclusion of Open Meeting:

The motion to conclude the meeting was made, duly seconded, and approved by unanimous roll call:

Robert E. Boyd, Jr., Commissioner. - Aye

Robert H. Sheldon, Commissioner - Aye

Joshua M. Fox, Commissioner and Chairman - Aye

The Open Meeting concluded at 6:11 p.m.