

## BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

### MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF

March 23, 2021

*(Meeting held virtually via Zoom, with two attendees also being in person at the District office)*

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Chairman Fox announced that the virtual meeting was being recorded and announced the names of those in attendance in the virtual meeting.

**Members Present:** Chairman Joshua M. Fox, Commissioner Robert H. Sheldon, and Commissioner Robert E. Boyd Jr.

**Members Absent:** None

**Others Present:** District Counsel Lawson Williams, District Moderator Craig Blake, District Treasurer Thomas S. Travers, Executive Director Vincent J. Roy (also attended in person), and Assistant Treasurer Karen Moretti (also attended in person).

Chairman Fox confirmed attendees in attendance by polling the individuals. After determining that a quorum was present and the statutory requirements were met as to notice, Chairman Fox called the meeting to order at 5:03 pm.

#### **1. REVIEW THE MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 9<sup>th</sup> COMMISSIONERS MEETING**

The Commissioners approved the Minutes for the Meeting of March 9, 2021, as amended. The motion for approval was made by Commissioner Sheldon, duly seconded by Chairman Fox, and approved by roll call:

Joshua M. Fox, Chairman - Aye

Robert H. Sheldon, Commissioner - Aye

Robert E. Boyd, Jr., Commissioner - Aye

#### **2. REVIEW DIRECTOR'S MARCH 5<sup>th</sup> REPORT**

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

##### **PFAS Analytical Results Exceedance of MCL at East Street Water Treatment Plant:**

Director Roy informed the Commissioners that the latest analytical results for the East Street Water Treatment Plant (ESWTP) exceeded the State's limit of 20 parts per trillion (PPT), actual results being 20.7 ppt. Mr. Roy stated that he believed that the levels have increased from prior results because of the recent use of Well #3 at the East Street Water Treatment Plant. A connection has been made recently to allow Well #3 to the plant. In the past, Well #3 fed into the distribution system directly and typically hadn't been used unless there was a high demand. Mr. Roy also stated that he informed MassDEP of the increased level and that the District has since stopped pumping water from Well # 3. Commissioner Sheldon suggested that Mr. Roy conduct confirmational sampling immediately at the ESWTP to verify that removing Well #3 has in fact decreased the level being fed to the distribution system from the treatment plant. Mr. Roy concurred and informed the Commissioners that he would keep them informed as the situation progresses.

##### **SWD Awarded Round 2 PFAS Treatment Grant:**

Director Roy reported that the District was awarded state funding from the Round 2 PFAS Treatment Grant Program for the sum of \$111,169.00. Mr. Roy also stated that the funds needed to be expended by June 30, 2021, and he has scheduled a preliminary design meeting with Blake Martin of the engineering firm Weston & Sampson for this coming Friday, 3/26 to discuss the observed elevated concentrations of PFAS in the latest

round of sampling and to initiate plans for developing a treatment facility for PFAS. Commissioner Sheldon and Moderator Craig Blake volunteered to attend the Friday meeting.

**3. REVIEW AND VOTE TO APPROVE THE FY 2022 BUDGET AND ANNUAL & SPECIAL DISTRICT MEETING WARRANTS:**

Director Roy presented the FY 2022 Annual and Special District Meeting Warrants for discussion and editing. Commissioner Sheldon suggested reordering the three articles related to PFAS treatment so that they might be considered together more easily at the Annual District Meeting. A lengthy discussion occurred regarding the breakdown of fund transfers listed in the originally designated Article 15, because one of the transfers was not related to PFAS treatment whereas the others were. A new Article was subsequently created (new Article 17) to transfer funds from the “Land Sale Fund” account to the “Well Improvements and Development of New Sources” account.

The Commissioners approved the FY2022 Annual and Special District Meeting Warrants, as amended. Mr. Roy stated that he and Assistant Treasurer Moretti would send the modified document to Mr. Williams for final review. Mr. Roy also stated that the final version would be ready for signature by the Commissioners this Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**4. DISCUSSION ON EXTENDING THE TERMS OF THE ONE-YEAR ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Treasurer Travers noted that the process for modifying terms such as this is too complicated under the District’s charter. The Commissioners agreed, and the matter was considered removed from further discussion.

Chairman Fox moved to conclude the open meeting and to move into executive session under Exception 2 of the Open Meeting Law for the purpose of reviewing the minutes from the Executive Session of March 9, 2021, pertaining to negotiations with non-union personnel, or anything relative thereto, and to not return to the Open Session at the conclusion of the Executive Session. The motion was duly seconded and approved unanimously by roll call:

Robert H. Sheldon, Commissioner - Aye  
Robert E. Boyd Jr. Commissioner – Aye  
Joshua A. Fox, Chairman - Aye

There being no further discussions the meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM