

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF November 30, 2021

(Meeting held virtually via Zoom, but five attendees were in person in the District Conference Room. No participants attended via Zoom.)

Chairman Sheldon called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m. and announced that the virtual meeting was being recorded and asked for each of the Board members to state their name for the record by roll call:

Board Members Present: Robert H. Sheldon, Commissioner and Chairman - Present, and Robert E. Boyd, Jr., Commissioner - Present.

Board Members Absent: Joshua M. Fox, Commissioner

Others Present: Thomas S. Travers, Treasurer, Vincent J. Roy, Executive Director, and Karen Moretti, Assistant Treasurer.

1. REVIEW THE MINUTES FROM THE NOVEMBER 16th COMMISSIONERS MEETING:

The Commissioners approved the Minutes for the Meeting of November 16, 2021, as amended. The motion for approval was made by Chairman Sheldon and duly seconded by Commissioner Boyd, and approved by unanimous roll call:

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

2. REVIEW THE DIRECTOR'S NOVEMBER 26th REPORT:

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

PFAS Mitigation Project:

Director Roy informed the Commissioners that the District was still waiting on MassDEP's approval for the design plan for a temporary treatment system at the RRWTP. Chairman Sheldon asked Mr. Roy if he knew the reasoning for the long delay, to which he responded that he had spoken with Amy LaPusata of MassDEP and that the delay was attributed to a staffing shortage and heavy workload in their office. Mr. Roy also stated that Ms. LaPusata was hopeful that a decision would be made before the end of December.

Mr. Roy stated that the PB meeting is scheduled for December 15th, and that there was a pre-PB meeting scheduled with the Town's Department Managers to review the plan and provide comment in preparation for the meeting. Mr. Roy also stated that a Design Review Board meeting scheduled on December 8th to discuss the plans.

Mr. Roy informed the Commissioners that the District had provided S&P Global Rating with the information they requested regarding the District's bond rating in applying for construction funding for the PFAS Mitigation Project. Mr. Roy also stated that he would be scheduling a conference call with S&P and the District's Auditor, Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer to discuss the District's bond rating.

Dutton Road Bridge Project:

Chairman Sheldon asked Mr. Roy when the official bridge opening date was scheduled to take place. Mr. Roy responded that the official date from the Town was December 1st. Mr. Roy also stated that he would verify the bridge opening date with the Town Engineer.

OPEB Trustee Committee:

There was discussion by the Commissioners, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer on committee members and scheduling the next committee meeting. Further discussion on this subject was set for a later meeting.

Other Water Related Topics:

Director Roy informed the Commissioners that the District had entered into an agreement with the engineering firm Environmental Partners to conduct a comprehensive water audit of the District's water system. Mr. Roy stated that the audit is scheduled to be completed by the end of April. Mr. Roy also stated that the audit is a regulatory requirement under the MassDEP's Water Management Act.

3. PRESENTATION OF FY 2021 FINANCIAL AUDIT REPORT:

Director Roy stated that the presentation of the FY 2021 Financial Audit Report was postponed until sometime in January.

Chairman Sheldon moved to conclude the open meeting and to move into executive session under Exception 2 of the Open Meeting Law, to conduct a strategy session in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with union personnel, or anything relative thereto, and Exemption 3, to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigation position of the public body and the chair so declares 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 E. Boyd, Jr., Commissioner. - Aye

Robert H. Sheldon, Commissioner and Chairman - Aye

There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.