

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING OF
APRIL 18, 2023

Commissioner Sheldon, acting as Chairman in Chairman Fox's absence, called the meeting to order at 5:21 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 and Robert E. Boyd, Jr., Commissioner – Present.

Board Members Not Present: Joshua M. Fox, Commissioner and Chairman.

Others Present: Vincent J. Roy, Executive Director; Thomas S. Travers, Treasurer; Renee M. Adams, Customer Service Manager; Karen A. Moretti, Assistant Treasurer; and David Rich, District member and Sudbury resident of 115 Puritan Lane. Mr. Rich only attended the meeting during the discussion of Item No. 3.

Virtually Present: No individuals attended virtually.

1. REVIEW THE MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS APRIL 4, 2023, MEETING:

The Commissioner deferred reviewing the Minutes from the Board of Water Commissioners April 4, 2023, meeting until the May 2, 2023, Board of Water Commissioners meeting, when all are scheduled to be in attendance.

2. REVIEW THE DIRECTOR'S MARCH 31st BI-WEEKLY REPORT:

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

MWRA Expansion Study:

Commissioner Sheldon opened the discussion by stating that a meeting with the MWRA is scheduled to be held in early June but that he would be unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Roy stated that Chairman Fox would be able to attend the meeting. Commissioner Sheldon asked Mr. Roy if he had met with Sudbury's Town Manager, Andrew Sheehan, to discuss the Town's position on the MWRA Expansion Study. Mr. Roy stated that he met with Mr. Sheehan last week. Mr. Roy stated that the meeting was positive and that he had requested the Town's support the District's effort in applying for Housing Choice Grant funding towards a future water infrastructure improvement project. Mr. Roy also stated that he and the Town Manger are working in concert to coordinate efforts on behalf of the District and Town relating to the MWRA Expansion Study. Commissioner Sheldon stated that the District and Town should distinguish their rolls for addressing questions and relaying information to the public about the Study. Commissioner Sheldon also asked that Mr. Roy contact Rebecca Weidman of the MWRA to clarify what she means by "framing Sudbury's position on the study."

Unidirectional Flushing:

Mr. Roy informed the Commissioners that the Unidirectional Flushing Program was scheduled to begin on April 19th and that flushing would be limited this year to dead-end water mains. Mr. Roy

stated that the District had posted flushing information on its website and had sent a Rave Alert to inform area residents that would be immediately impacted.

Leak Detection:

Mr. Roy stated that the contract for leak detection had been awarded and that the leak detection survey was underway.

3. ABATEMENT APPEAL 115 PURITAN LANE:

Mr. Roy informed the Commissioners that District member and Sudbury resident David Rich of 115 Puritan Lane was in attendance to support his request for a leak abatement appeal filed earlier in the week with the District. Mr. Roy provided the Commissioners with a summary of events leading up to Mr. Rich's appeal. Mr. Roy stated that high consumption was flagged for two accounts during the Q2 (August-November) billing process. Upon further investigation staff determined that the cause could be from a leaking service line, as meters for both accounts were located in a shared pit at the street connection. Mr. Roy explained to the Commissioners that a meter is installed in a pit close to the street connection when a building's setback is a significant distance from the street. Mr. Roy stated that both accounts were affected by the leak as they share a service line up to the point that it branches out to feed the individual homes. District staff alerted the homeowners and provided them with a list of approved licensed water contactors and a copy of the District's policy on homeowner side service leak repairs. Mr. Rich stated that Mr. Rich and his neighbor, Mr. Kang Lee, hired T. D'Amato Excavating to repair the broken service line immediately. However material shortages delayed repairs completed until the end of February.

The District agreed to an abatement for Mr. Rich and for Mr. Lee for Q2. Mr. Lee accepted that abatement, because he was on an extended vacation through most of Q3 and had shut his water off. However, Mr. Rich stated that he was requesting an abatement for two billing quarters (Q2 and Q3), because the delays prevented him from getting the service repaired quickly.

Mr. Roy noted the District's policy limits abatements to one billing period and that consideration for an extended period would require approval by the Commissioners. Mr. Rich emphasized that he had needed a continuous flow of water because he and his family were residing in the home for the entire time period.

Commissioner Sheldon moved to approve the additional abatement for Q3. Commissioner Boyd seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously.

4. REVIEW 87th ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING POWER POINT PRESENTATION:

Director Roy presented a Power Point Presentation to the Commissioners in preparation for the District's 87th Annual and Special District meetings. Attendees reviewed the presentations and made revisions as appropriate. Mr. Roy said that he will incorporate the changes for the final power point presentation.

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

The Open Meeting concluded at 6:39 p.m.