

BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF
MAY 14, 2024

Chairperson Boyd called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m., announced that the virtual version of the meeting was being recorded, and asked those in attendance to state their name and title for the record by roll call:

Board Members Present in Person: Robert H. Sheldon, Commissioner - Present; Joshua M. Fox, Commissioner - Present; and Robert E. Boyd, Jr., Commissioner and Chairperson - Present.

Board Members Present Virtually: None.

Others Present in Person: Vincent J. Roy, Executive Director; Thomas S. Travers, Treasurer; Craig E. Blake, Moderator; Renee Adams, Customer Service Manager; Michael Abbondanzio, Foreman; and Karen A. Moretti, Assistant Treasurer.

Others Present Virtually: None.

1. REVIEW THE MINUTES FROM THE BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS APRIL 30, 2024, MEETING:

The Commissioners approved the minutes for the Meeting of April 30, 2024, as amended. The motion for approval was made by Commissioner Fox, duly seconded by Commissioner Sheldon, and approved by unanimous roll call:

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

2. REVIEW THE DIRECTOR'S MAY 10th BI-WEEKLY REPORT:

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

- **RAYMOND ROAD WATER TREATMENT PLANT/PFAS PROJECT**

Director Roy informed the Commissioners that start-up testing of the PFAS system began on May 9th and was completed the following day. Mr. Roy stated that Amy LaPusata of MassDEP performed a site visit on Friday, May 10th, and noted that she was satisfied with the testing, and that she had provided him with a punch list of items that needed to be addressed. Mr. Roy stated that the punch list items are minor in nature and mostly pertained to labeling pipe and equipment within the facility. Mr. Roy emphasized that full operation of the new filtration system is contingent upon satisfactory analytical results and MassDEP's final approval. Mr. Roy also stated that he anticipates final approval to be within thirty days of completing the testing period.

- **BRUCE FREEMAN RAIL TRAIL**

Commissioner Sheldon provided the Board with a brief overview of the May 6th Bruce Freeman Rail Trail virtual meeting, which he and Director Roy attended along with the project's engineer (Fuss & O'Neil) to discuss Phase 3. Commissioner Sheldon stated that he and Director Roy had provided information regarding Well No. 7 Zone I protection area as well as information regarding two District water main easements. Director Roy informed the Commissioners that Well No.7 is approximately fifty-feet from the former rail corridor, and that the proposed rail trail is therefore within the Zone I protection area (400-foot

radius around the wellhead). Mr. Roy stated that the District does not own or control the rail corridor, and that it is owned by the Town. Mr. Roy also presented information that had been conveyed to him from MassDEP. MassDEP allows passive recreational activities within Zone I if there is no impact to drinking water quality, and they define passive recreation as “walking, hiking, cross-country skiing, and bicycling.” Anything that would encourage people to spend a longer time in one place, such as benches, picnic tables, a pavilion for birdwatching, etc., must be located outside of the Zone I protection area. MassDEP also recommended that the District consider posting “Water Supply Protection Area” signs where the rail trail enters Zone I. Furthermore, MassDEP recommends that the portion of the rail trail within Zone I not be paved, but if paving cannot be prevented, the following practices must be observed during the paving process:

- There should be no staging of vehicles or equipment within Zone I;
- Refueling of vehicles or equipment should be done outside Zone I, at a location where any potential spillage would not go into the wetlands adjacent to Well No. 7 and;
- Absorbent pads and booms must be on hand in case any spillage of fuel, hydraulic fluid, etc., is released from paving vehicles or equipment.

Mr. Sheldon had also requested that the engineers designing the trail do whatever they can to discourage people from approaching the well. He noted how some rail trails have a raised bed with a drop off to the side towards wetlands, and that makes venturing off the trail at that point unappealing. Perhaps something along those lines could be done within Zone 1.

Mr. Roy also informed the Commissioners that he had forwarded to Fuss & O’Neil the following District information and project requirements within Zone I:

- Plans showing Well No. 7 and the two water mains that intersect the rail corridor;
- Requirements for soil testing for contaminant material;
- Requirements for removal of contaminated soil if found on site;
- Requested fencing along the Zone I protection area with gate access to Well No. 7;
- Preservation of an access road to Nobscot Road;
- Posting “Water Supply Protection Area” signs where the rail trail enters Zone I and;
- Exclusion of any turn-around areas or rest areas within Zone I.

Commissioner Sheldon requested that Director Roy research District files for information regarding the two easements between CSX, the Town of Sudbury, and the District, to which Mr. Roy concurred.

There was no further discussion on the Director’s bi-weekly report.

3. REVIEW 88th ANNUAL & SPECIAL MEETING POWER POINT PRESENTATIONS:

Director Roy presented the 88th Annual and Special District Meeting Power Point presentations and motion explanations to the Commissioners and Moderator for their review. Minor corrections were made on both the PowerPoint presentations and motion explanations during the review.

There was no further discussion on the PowerPoint presentation.

Conclusion of Open Meeting:

Commissioner Fox moved to conclude the open meeting and to move into executive session under Exception 1 of the Open Meeting Law, to review and vote to approve Minutes from the March 24th, April 2nd, April 22nd, and April 30th Executive Sessions and not to return to open meeting at the conclusion of the executive session. The motion was duly seconded by Commissioner Sheldon and unanimously approved by roll call:

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

There being no further discussion the meeting adjourned at