



**BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS**

**Cotuit Fire District**

**Water Department**

4300 FALMOUTH ROAD, P. O. BOX 451

COTUIT, MASS. 02635

06/19/2019

The monthly meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held at Freedom Hall at 5:30 p.m. Chairman Tom Hoppensteadt, Commissioner Mark Robinson, Commissioner Scott Horsley and Office Manager, Jen Nash were present.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. and opened to public comment.

Mr. Manny Roderick petitioned the board to nulify the annual service bid submitted by Bortolotti Construct due to an addition error that was discovered during the bidding process. The members of the board reviewed the bid documents and the written opinion of the district's legal council, Mark Boudreau and voted to re-bid the project.

The minutes from the 05/15/19 were reviewed, a motion was made to accept them and it was so moved and approved. The warrants were reviewed and approved.

Commissioner Robinson noted that he sent a letter to Julian Cyr on behalf of the Board of Water Commissioners in support of the PFOA/PFOS panel being assembled.

Commissioner Robinson asked if the Chairman had been made aware of any changes to the employee benefit package, specifically the implementation of Paid Family Medical Leave, which if implemented needs to be funded by either July 1<sup>st</sup> or October 1<sup>st</sup>. They made a motion to recommend to the Prudential Committee that if the district were to participate in this program they recommend that the district make a contribution to subsidize the employee payroll deduction. The commissioners voted unanimously in favor and asked Mrs. Nash to notify the Prudential Committee of their decision.

Water Quality was discussed noting that all water districts in the Town of Barnstable were invited to a meeting to discuss the PFOA/PFOS testing requirements. Superintendent Wiseman will review this further at the next meeting.

The Superintendent report was given.

Monthly Pumpage Results is as follows:

	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>+/-</u>
May	16,986,000	16,522,000	+464,000

May Stats:

There were no new services or service replacements during the month of May.

The flushing program was completed two weeks ahead of plan. The commissioners discussed a public education program and how to better inform the district residents next year. They would like to discuss this further at the next meeting when the superintendent is present.

Truck Update - The new truck is going back to Rhode Island on Thursday for work on the idler for the hydraulics. The cage painting is still pending.

TowerNorth Update - This project is at a stand-still until the osprey leave the nest.

Security Project Update - The planning team met today and will be starting at station #3 during the first week of August.

Per the vote noted above, the annual bid will be resubmitted and due on Monday, July 15<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. The board can then review and award the bid at their next regular meeting.

The current list of past due accounts (lien list) was reviewed by the commissioners and certified letters will be sent to the remaining account holders. Nineteen accounts have been collected since the last review. Approximately 39 letters will be sent via certified mail in July. The final lien list will be submitted to the town after the August board of water commissioners meeting.

Commissioner Horsley discussed some of his work on the drawdown rate of cold water fisheries in other districts and wants to apply the same models to Little River and asked for information on the districts pumpage. He also relayed his conversation with the management of Cotuit Grocery regarding the rate increase and would, at some point in the future, like to review the structure in place for excess use in commercial/restaurant type businesses vs. excess use fees for irrigation purposes. Commissioner Robinson also noted that the board still had work to do on a policy for financial

hardship relief, if public comments and concern become evident that this is an issue.

The commissioners reviewed a PDF version of the rate brochure that will go out with the July invoices.

The board voted unanmously to financially support the Cotuit-Santuit Civic Association with a \$25 membership as they support the Water Department with communication and facilitating district wide meetings. Commissioner Robinson wants to ensure that there are periodic updates in the Cotuit Currents regarding the department's activities.

The following positions were nominated and voted unanimously:

Chairman - Mark Robinson

Policy Advisory - Tom Hoppensteadt

Bylaw Committee - Scott Horsley

The next regular meeting of the board was set for Wednesday, July 17th at 5:45 p.m. at Freedom Hall. The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas Hoppensteadt".

Thomas Hoppensteadt, Chairman