



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Cotuit Fire District

Water Department

4300 FALMOUTH ROAD, P. O. BOX 451
COTUIT, MASS. 02635

04/22/2020

The monthly meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held via a public Zoom Video at 5:00 p.m. Chairman Mark Robinson, Commissioner Tom Hoppensteadt, Commissioner Scott Horsley, Superintendent Chris Wiseman and Jennifer Nash were present.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. and opened to public comment. Carol Zais asked for a recap of how the water rate increases that went into effect for FY20 would affect the FY21 budget and Fire District Tax Rate. Chairman Robinson recapped the Cost of Service Study and referred Mrs. Zais to address the tax rate question to the Prudential Committee.

The Superintendent report was given for the prior month.

Monthly Pumpage Results is as follows:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>+/-</u>
March	7,112,000	7,340,000	-518,000

Stats:

Replacement Services = 0; New Services = 0; Leaks = 0.

Project Updates:

- Annual Maintenance Flushing Program began on April 13, 2020. North of Route 28 is complete.
- Santuit Tank interior cleaning has been postponed until the Fall, West Street exterior cleaning can still take place and the superintendent will follow up with a completion date.
- The 671 Main Street Test Wells were discussed regarding the type of testing, location in relation to the Zone II at station #3 and whether the testing expense was reimbursable. Commissioner Hoppensteadt requested a copy of the latest test results from Tighe & Bond.
- Station #5 will be offline during the week of 4/24 for a vibration repair.
- Security/SCADA update - all stations have been converted. GHD needs to review and complete a punch list of items to finish the project. More follow up is needed for the amendment.
- Chairman Robinson asked if we could add an additional boulder at the end of Sampson's Mill Road to eliminate an entry point to the wellfield.

- There are miscellaneous trash items in the wellfield that need to be removed. The superintendent will follow up on this.

Commissioner Horsley discussed a proposed irrigation and conservation policy highlighting five recommended objectives:

- No new automatic irrigations systems on the Public Water Supply (PWS)
- Existing systems must install "smart" water saving controls and low flow heads
- All automatic systems must be disconnected with a sunset date of 3 years from implementation of policy.
- Handheld hose and manual systems must be used more carefully
- Fines for non-compliance

After discussion of all points, the commissioners agreed that they would start with the first two objectives but not mandate that existing irrigation systems be removed from the PWS. Commissioner Horsley will work with Jim Danhauser of the civic association to introduce this at a public hearing, to start by targeting the highest users and to continue working on the monitoring and fines for non-compliance pieces. The board voted unanimously to post the Irrigation Alternatives and Water Conservation advisory on the district website.

The commissioners discussed the general policy document, agreed to assess fees for lien processing and turn-ons for non-payment and voted unanimously to accept and post the policies.

The commissioners also reviewed the FY21 budget recommendations and agreed that they continue to support the final budget that was submitted to PruComm in March. Currently the annual district meeting is scheduled for June 24th.

The next regular meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, May 20th, likely to be held via video meeting. The time will be confirmed closer to the meeting date. The meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Robinson", written in a cursive style.

Mark Robinson, Chairman