



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Cotuit Fire District

Water Department

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

12/16/2020

The monthly meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners was held via a public Zoom Video at 5:45 p.m. Chairman Scott Horsley, Commissioner Tom Hoppensteadt, Commissioner Mark Robinson, Superintendent Chris Wiseman and Jennifer Nash were present. Also in attendance is Water Resource Specialist and Hydrogeologist, Mr. Tom Cambareri, from Sole Source Consulting, LLC.

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. and was opened to public comment. There was no public comment at this time.

The commissioners deferred the approval of prior meeting minutes to the next meeting.

The Superintendent gave the water quality report noting that there were no total coliform detections. Sodium results have been received and will be circulated to the commissioners, per their request, after the meeting. The second round of PFOA/PFOS sample results have been received. Station #1 results were the same, Station #2 had a slight detect (2.1 vs. a detection level of 2.0). The Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent will be attending a conference on Thursday on this topic and will have more to report at the next meeting. They will also circulate the PowerPoint from the conference if it is available. The detection levels do not require action at this time and the district will be required to do quarterly testing beginning in 2021. Commissioner Hoppensteadt inquired about possible treatments or mitigation plans, and Mr. Tom Cambareri responded that treatment will require an activated carbon filtration system.

The Superintendent report was given for the prior month.

Monthly Pumpage Results is as follows:

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>+/-</u>
November	8,881,000	7,468,000	+1,413,000

Stats:

Replacement Services = 0; New Services = 0; Leaks = 1.

Project Updates:

- Roosevelt Road - No new update on this property. Both parties have agreed to be present when taking water samples and to share results.
- Vehicle - Chevy Colorado 4 door truck has been delivered. It will be going to a place in Bourne for the installation of a RhinoLiner, and we

have ordered a magnetic sign for the door so that it can be removed when the vehicle is removed from useful service.

- DEP has lowered the drought level for the cape to level one (mild) as of Monday, December 14th. Although the levels are better due to recent weather, there is still some catching up to do.

Moving forward with the old business, Chairman Horsley introduced Tom Cambareri who discussed his proposal to conduct modeling and investigation of hydrogeologic conditions for the Cotuit wellfields. The purpose of this work is to evaluate water table drawdown impacts on Little River and its associated wetlands under various pumping scenarios and to determine a safe yield based upon no impacts. This model can also be used to evaluate alternative pumping scenarios using various wells. After discussing the scope of the project and reviewing the diagrams introduced at the previous meeting, the commissioners voted unanimously to move forward with Mr. Cambareri's proposal, recognizing that there will be some cost savings and efficiencies as this project has some overlap with the work that Mr. Cambareri is already performing for the Town of Barnstable study. The estimated cost of the project is \$6,900 plus \$150 hourly rate for reconfiguration and finer discretization. Mr. Cambareri will send the formal contract to the Superintendent for signature.

Commissioner Hoppensteadt attended the December meeting of the Cotuit Elementary School sub-committee. Fran Parks and Jim Danhauser were elected as co-chairs of the committee. They agreed to draft a letter to David Anthony formally expressing their interest in the property. The town will maintain the 7 acres of recreational field and would be interesting in offloading the 5 acres from the building out to Old Oyster Road. Commissioner Robinson noted the importance of maintaining the surrounding forest with healthy white pine and walking trails. Ms. Park's noted that it will be important to accurately capture the long-term financial impact to the district for the operations and management of the facility. Chairman Horsley presented a few ideas for water quality improvement and preservation such as an enhanced I&A Septic System, Fertigation wells and a Woodchip Bioreactor PRB to treat stormwater and pumped groundwater. Commissioner Hoppensteadt made a motion that the BOWC send a letter to the town in support of the transfer/acquisition of the property, and the commissioners voted unanimously to do so.

The board then continued their discussion regarding the water rates. Mrs. Nash noted that discussions with the software developer indicate that it would be possible to bill an irrigation meter at a separate rate tier. Chairman Horsley would also like to continue discussions regarding a separate rate for commercial food production facilities in the district. As previously identified, under the new quarterly billing structure, bills are produced 10 out of 12 months of the year and with the existing payment due dates billing periods are overlapping. To remedy this and in consideration of the new payment options, the board voted unanimously to reduce the payment period from 60 days to 45 days. This will take effect beginning with the January billing.

Mrs. Nash reviewed a request for a financial hardship consideration that was received from a district resident. Commissioner Robinson agreed to draft a policy as discussed during the rate evaluation/study for review at the next

meeting. The request for relief will be tabled until the policy is drafted and approved.

The next meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners will take place on Wednesday, January 20th at 5:45p online via zoom. The meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'S. Horsley', written over the text 'Respectfully submitted,'.

Scott Horsley, Chairman