



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Cotuit Fire District
Water Department

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

03/24/2021

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 Office Manager, 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. Having none, they moved on to regular business.

The commissioners voted to approve the meeting minutes for the 02/24/2021 meetings with a revision to the paragraph related to private onsite wells. The commissioners also voted to approve the minutes for the 03/11/2021 budget meeting with no revisions.

The Superintendent gave the water quality report noting that there were no total coliform detections. The Sodium test for the blended water supply were conducted in January and showed results of 18 mg/L at the Main Street tap, 20 mg/L at the West Street Tank and 25 mg/L at the Santuit Tank. The DEP office of Research and Standards has established a guideline limit of 20 mg/L based on an eight-ounce serving. Superintendent Wiseman has contacted the Town of Barnstable and the property management company for the Cotuit Meadows neighborhood to request that a salt alternative be used for treating the road to help manage the sodium levels detected at the Santuit Tank and will do so again this coming Fall. Samples were taken again in March, results are pending.

The Superintendent report was given for the prior month.

Monthly Pumpage Results is as follows:

	<u>2021</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>+/-</u>
February	6,353,000	6,124,000	+229,000

Stats:

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

Project Updates:

- Security/SCADA system - Pricing pending for backup PC's to run Win911.
- Leak Detection - completed, only one hydrant found to be leaking by - adjustments have been made.

- Flushing - the annual maintenance program will begin on April 6, 2021. JR Gallagher will take the lead on this project.
- Training & Education - the Superintendent and Staff have enrolled in several training courses this spring which include topics such as Backflow Testing Certification (JR) and Recertification (Chris); Iron & Manganese Removal, Preparing for and Responding to Customer Water Quality Complaints, Lead & Copper Sampling and PFOA/PFOS.

Moving forward with the old business, Chairman Horsley turned the discussion over to Tom Cambareri who gave a project update on the hydrogeological review for the district. Mr. Cambareri reviewed sections of his draft report. This included a USGS Water Table graph for a test well in Barnstable (nearest to Cotuit). This indicated the extreme high and low for this test well, and demonstrated the effect of the 2020 drought on the water table. The test well was at a near record low. He then went on to show graphs and tables that demonstrated the effects of pumpage in the Cotuit wellfields on Little River and the surrounding wetlands. Scenarios included average annual pumping conditions, off-season pumping conditions, and summer peak pumping conditions as compared to no-pumping conditions. The charts, in both gallons per minute and cubic feet per second show the impact of district pumping on the flow of various segments of Little River and on the entire river. The draft report will be delivered to the commissioners next week. After an opportunity to review, the commissioners will submit any questions or need for additional research and will intend to have a final draft for the April board meeting. Chairman Horsley asked Mr. Cambareri to also recommend any additional studies that may be for the future protection of the water supply.

Based on the continued study and pending recommendations, the commissioners voted to extend the moratorium on adding any new automatic inground irrigations systems connected to the public water supply for an additional 3 months, expiring on June 23, 2021. Chairman Horsley will work with the office to create an informational mailer to notify district residents.

The commissioners then reviewed the leak adjustment policy and the request from Mrs. Michael that was carried forward from last meeting. They agreed that in certain circumstances that an alternate calculation should be applied. They voted unanimously to provide relief in this case, as calculated and presented by Mrs. Nash and to review the amended policy language at the April meeting. Mrs. Nash will draft the amendment based on this discussion.

Commissioner Robinson will draft a revised hardship policy for consideration at the April meeting which will incorporate the considerations and mitigation ideas as discussed. Mrs. Nash will notify Mr. Todd that the review of his request is still pending, and will provide a revised calculation, based on these discussions, to the board for their review at the next meeting.

Commissioner Hoppensteadt reviewed his proposed changes to the CIP Policy Document as discussed at the Policy Advisory and Prudential Committee meetings. The board voted unanimously to strike "subject to Prudential Committee concurrence" from the fourth paragraph. The revised paragraph would read as follows:

Currently the two operating departments - fire and water - maintain separate Capital Budgets (CBs) under the supervision of their respective commissioners. These commissioners are charged with the responsibility of sustaining the operation of their respective departments and are thus best positioned to compile and evaluate the needs of their respective departments, subject to district approval.

Commissioner Hoppensteadt will bring this revision forward to the Policy Advisory Committee at their next meeting.

Commissioner Hoppensteadt gave a brief update from the School Sub-Committee, noting that there will be a district wide presentation on Thursday, March 25th at 6pm to seek input from district residents on the acquisition of the property. Chairman Horsley and Commissioner Hoppensteadt will be present during the zoom meeting.

Superintendent Wiseman noted that the application period for the Field Operator position will close on Friday, March 26th at 4:30pm. Having received approximately 15 resumes, with approximately 8 viable candidates, he will begin scheduling interviews during the first week of April.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners will take place on Wednesday, April 21st at 5:45p online via zoom. The meeting adjourned at 7:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Horsley, Chairman