



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Cotuit Fire District

Water Department

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

06/15/2022

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 Superintendent Chris Wiseman were present.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. and was opened to public comment. There was none at this time.

The minutes were reviewed and approved with an edit to the spelling of the innovative septic solution (NitROE vs. NitROW).

The water quality report was given noting that there were no total coliform detects in either April or May. Asbestos tests were completed, and there were also no detections. Nitrate levels went from 2.3 to 2.4 (MCL is 10). Sodium levels were down as well as for PFOS. This could likely be based on the increased volume of water being pumped through the system. The district can now apply for annual testing. The board discussed the potential future need for a treatment plan and options including sharing a treatment plant with a neighboring district, in-home charcoal filters and using a reactive barrier that an EVO fluid (like a vegetable oil) to filter out PFOA/PFOS contaminants.

The board would like to do more public education on Nitrates and Sodium.

The Superintendent report was given for the prior months.

Monthly Pumpage Results are as follows:

	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>+/-</u>
April	10,478,000	10,148,000	+323,000
May	17,035,000	20,958,000	-3,923,000

Stats:

Replacement Services = 0; New Services = 0; Leaks = 2

The leaks were attributed to a type of plastic that installed in the early 80's and is now known to be defective (brittle/shatters easily).

Updates:

- Operator JR Gallagher completed the flushing program in mid-May.
- Operator Jon Medeiros successfully passed his T3 exam.

- Water table is at 50th percentile and is higher than this time last year. However, it is still not as high as previous years and a drought warning is likely.
- In response to the lead issues in Flint, Michigan, the DEP is implementing a revised lead and copper rule. The first component of the revision is that a complete inventory of the water system materials, both before and after the meter needs to be completed by October of 2024. Any services identified as containing lead will need to be eliminated at a rate of 3% per year. There are SRF Funds available to help with compiling the inventory and replacing services and the board gave the superintendent their approval to investigate and pursue this funding.
- There were two properties in the district identified to be in violation of the Irrigation Regulation implemented in August of 2021. The homeowners were notified and have 30 days to suspend use and disconnect the system or connect it to a private irrigation well. Commissioner Robinson will make an effort to meet with the plumbing inspector for the Town of Barnstable and would like the policy to be included in next year's CCR report.

The FAQ document was reviewed, and the board voted unanimously to post this document to the district website.

Commissioner Horsley met with Tom Cambareri regarding the Source Water Protection Program. He has agreed to assist the district and will assess the existing test wells to see if they are still able to be used, and to determine the location of additional wells. Once this is done, he can design a program and provide a cost for moving forward with a Source Water Protection Plan.

Outreach & Education was deferred to the next meeting as the letter that Commissioner Hoppensteadt composed was not included with the meeting documents.

The annual bid responses for service to sideline installation and emergency repairs were reviewed and the board voted unanimously to awarded it to the lowest bidder for FY2023. The board signed the award letter to Bortolotti Construction Inc. of Marstons Mills.

The board also voted unanimously to accept the contract from Muni-Link for the new billing software that was approved at annual district meeting and signed the contract.

Commissioner Robinson and Superintendent Wiseman noted that the State of Massachusetts is pursuing a class action suit, lead by Atty. General Maura Healy, for public water supply contamination of PFOA/PFOS from the use of firefighting foam. Mass Rural Water Association is also pursuing a suit. The board directed Superintendent Wiseman to connect Jen Pederson of MWWA with Mark Boudreau to determine if and how we should move forward with this.

The first round of the lien list was reviewed by the board, and it was noted that the next round of letters will go out next week. The board will review

the final list at the July meeting and any remaining unpaid accounts will be submitted to the town for lien in the next tax bill.

The board then nominated Tom Hoppensteadt to remain as the chair of the BOWC for the next fiscal year. Commissioner Hoppensteadt noted that he will be retiring in October of 2022 and that his availability may be limited after that time. Commissioner Robinson agreed to be Vice Chair and help in times with Commissioner Hoppensteadt was not available. The nominations were accepted and voted unanimously. The sub committee members will remain the same with Commissioner Robinson serving on the bylaw committee, Commissioner Horsley serving on the Policy Advisory Committee, and Commissioner Horsley serving on the School Committee. They will also continue to attend the District's long term planning board meetings as scheduled.

The meeting was re-opened to public comment, and again there was none.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Water Commissioners will take place on Wednesday, July 27th, at 5:30 pm. This meeting will take place in person at Freedom Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Tom Hoppensteadt, Chairman