

Commissioners Meeting
Water Supply District of Acton
693 Massachusetts Avenue
Acton, MA 01720

March 3, 2008

Agenda: Comments from Citizens
 Accept Minutes of February 11, 2008

OLD BUSINESS

Filed Sub-Bid Results for Kennedy-Marshall Treatment Plant

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of DEP Mandated Chemical Injection System Alarms and Interlocks
Stantec for Hydraulic Model Demonstration and Silver Hill Findings

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Minutes of March 3, 2008 Commissioners Meeting

Regular bi-monthly meeting. Present were Commissioners Parenti, Phillips, and Stuntz. Also in attendance were District Manager Chris Allen, District Counsel Mary Bassett, and Finance Committee Member Charles Bradley. Stantec was represented by Thomas Mahanna and Ryan Allgrove and ACES by Mary Michelman and George Johnston.

The meeting was called to order at 7:31 P.M.

Approve Minutes of February 11, 2008

Mr. Parenti motioned to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 11, 2008 and Mr. Stuntz seconded the motion. The Commissioners were all unanimously in favor of approving the minutes.

Comments from Citizens

There were no comments from Citizens at tonight's meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Filed Sub-Bid Results for Kennedy-Marshall Treatment Plant

Included in tonight's Commissioners package was the list from Wright-Pierce of filed sub-bids for the Kennedy-Marshall Treatment Plant. The deadline for bids will be Wednesday, March 5, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. After the bids have been received, a decision will be made as to the need for the scheduled Commissioners Meeting on March 10th. Mr. Allen stated that he will be unavailable for the Commissioners Meeting scheduled on March 24, 2008.

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of DEP Mandated Chemical Injection System Alarms and Interlocks

Mr. Allen discussed a memo the AWD received from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regarding the mandate chemical injection system alarms and interlocks. He sent an email to DEP regarding the testing of chemicals and stated that monthly testing will be required. Mr. Parenti questioned how much time will be needed for this testing and Mr. Allen replied that DEP will be taking inputs from public water suppliers and there is a monthly requirement for paperwork. Mr. Parenti also asked if there may be a problem with false alarms and Mr. Allen responded that false alarms are prevented by a timer in the control logic. Should the timer expire, the alarm is activated. Should the alarming condition subside, the timer will reset. Generally these timers are set for 30 seconds.

Stantec for Hydraulic Model Demonstration and Silver Hill Findings

Mr. Mahanna and Mr. Allgrove from Stantec gave a demonstration on the Hydraulic Model they created and stated that the Mohawk Drive, Seneca, and Oneida Road's water service project has been advertised and will go out to bid on Wednesday, March 5, 2008. They informed the Commissioners that the first version of the model was released over 20 years ago and it has gone through several upgrades since then. They are using the most current software, which is Bentley WaterCAD. Mr. Allgrove gave an overview of the model and said that it calculates results based on conditions within the distribution system, consisting of 787 pipes. Mr. Mahanna has spoken to Mr. Allen regarding running C value testing, which is a measure of the relative smoothness/resistance to flow within a pipe.

Mr. Allgrove and Mr. Mahanna gave an overview of the Silver Hill Road findings and stated that the problem seems to worsen when demand decreases (late fall/early winter). Mr. Mahanna said that when the valve at the bottom of Silver Hill Road was closed, the water main on Silver Hill became a dead end and that this seemed to have helped the problem. He said that he ran several different scenarios; under conditions of high demand, water was fed from High Street to Silver Hill Road and under conditions of low demand, the direction of flow changed and water travelled up Silver Hill Road. The average day demand is 27 gallons per minute. He stated that hydraulically, Silver Hill Road (8 inch line) runs parallel to High Street (12 inch line). Another scenario they ran was closing a valve on Concetta Road and Silver Hill Road. Mr. Mahanna said that water flow direction could be reversing several times a day on Silver Hill Road and that this

could be scouring the precipitate inside the water main causing the color problem and resulting in the problem of clogging filters.

Stantec ran a fire flow event on Broadview Street with the Silver Hill Road valve opened which used 1900 gallons of water per minute and when the valve was closed, the gallons per minute were reduced to 1300.

Mr. Mahanna said that there is 30-40 years worth of build up in the pipes in this area and recommended mechanical cleaning to remove build up in the line on Silver Hill Road. He said that this would be less expensive than replacing the pipes. He stated that Silver Hill Road consists of 2300 feet of pipe and 700 feet on Broadview Street. He described how the mechanical cleaning works which includes a “pig” or plastic bullet that is launched in one end of the pipe and pulls everything out. The water main being cleaned must be shut down, and the system would have to be on bypass and that the cleaning would be done in sections which would take several days to do a section. He said that the C value test would run tons of water out of the hydrant and that this process is commonly used in sewer lines.

Mr. Phillips said that forcing the flow to go in one direction (dead end) seems to be the solution, but that periodic flushing would then be required. He inquired about the complaints from residents with what is coming out of the faucets in their homes and Mr. Mahanna replied that he felt flushing was very successful in getting the material out of the pipes.

Mr. Stuntz moved to go into Executive Session to discuss strategy with respect to the pending MTBE litigation and then to reconvene in open session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Parenti. By a roll call vote, Commission Parenti voted aye, Commissioner Stuntz voting aye, and Commissioner Phillips voting aye, it was unanimously approved. The Commissioners entered into Executive Session at 8:50 pm.

The Commissioners reconvened in open session at 9:07 pm.

Mr. Stuntz moved to adjourn the meeting and Mr. Parenti seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.