

WLMAC MEETING NOTES OF APRIL 12, 2011

Present: Greta Eckhardt, John Cipar, Chuck Olmstead, Barry Rosen

Note Taker(s): Greta Eckhardt, Barry Rosen

Chairperson: Barry Rosen

Called To Order: The meeting was called to order on Tuesday, April 12, 2011 at 8:35 PM (ET).

New Business:

1. Approval of Minutes:

- 1.1. Greta asked that a correction be made to the minutes of March 1, 2011.
- 1.2. Greta made a motion that the minutes of March 1, 2011 be accepted as amended. John Cipar seconded the motion. The motion passed with 3 in favor and 1 abstention (due to not being present at the meeting in question).

2. Deferral of March 8 Minutes: The Committee agreed that the minutes of 3/8/2011 discussion and approval (continuation of the 3/1 WLMAC meeting) should be deferred until the next meeting of the WLMAC. It is expected that the “work-in-progress” revisions will be completed by that time and be included in the minutes.

3. Summary of AWD Meeting of 3/28/2011: (John and Barry)

- 3.1. The Commissioners heard an appeal from a rate payer for an abatement of his water bill. The Board’s decision was not to abate since the water meter had proven to be accurate in independent testing. They felt that they had to rely on a meter’s accuracy until it had been proven otherwise.
- 3.2. The “final wording” of the Inter-Municipal Agreement between AWD, Town of Acton and Town of Boxborough was approved.
- 3.3. The Flagg Hill water storage tank could not be fully drained due to a failure of the drain system. Divers were being used instead. The tank’s condition appeared a little better than first thought. Chris is investigating water circulation systems for the tank. He expects to have the tank repaired by year’s end.
- 3.4. The District is expecting to institute a phased approach to get Assabet Sand & Gravel to remove their encroachment of AWD property.
- 3.5. There was a water main break on Notre Dame around 4:00 AM on Sunday morning (3/28). Chris stated it was at a T-intersection. [Think it was a 4 inch pipe.]

4. Summary of AWD Meeting of 4/11/2011: (John and Barry)

- 4.1. Chip Orcutt swore-in the District officials. *A WLMAC member asked if we needed to be sworn-in. Our terms begin expiring next year.*
- 4.2. Matt Mostoller explained that the W.R. Grace Superfund site will substantial construction activity shortly. They will be dredging Sinking Pond, installing some trailers containing equipment to remove 1,4 dioxane, heavy metals, per-

forming dewatering, filtration, etc. The EPA is going to conduct (likely with other participants) a community awareness/update explaining what is taking place at the site on 5/18/2011.

- 4.2.1. There will be removal from the site of various hazardous materials.
- 4.2.2. As a result of the 1,4 dioxane destruction process, toluene will be produced as a byproduct. It too will need to be removed from the site. Matt believed that there will be less and less toluene produced as the 1,4 dioxane removal process continues and there is less of the substrate to remove.
- 4.3. The District will be making “minor” revisions to its Rules & Regulations in the short term and will review and possibly re-work them at a later date.
- 4.4. Chris has heard back from Assabet Sand & Gravel. They do seem to be trying to slow the process down. NSTAR is going to replace an older transformer that could be leaking PCV’s. EPA is supposed to inspect the encroachment site at some future date. There seemed to be a sense that the AWD was going to have to file in court to get encroachment relief moving forward.

Old Business:

5. Continue Discussion/Workshop on AWD Capacity Study:

- 5.1. The WLMAC continued its discussion on what should be included in the table of contents of the capacity study.
- 5.2. The members also continued to outline the components that will be considered as capacity.
- 5.3. The sense of the Committee is that we will examine capacity utilizing the various “cuts” listed as the primary mission. Load will be a consideration. The members also felt that if possible, we will also look at utilizing water resources outside the current AWD boundaries. This could include things like MWRA and regionalization.
- 5.4. The goal is to complete the “outline” of the study and then to sit with the Commissioners to get their thoughts, feedback and approval before proceeding to the next stage.
- 5.5. The current outline iteration is attached. [For brevity, some pages that are not needed at this time have been removed.]

Adjournment:

On a motion to adjourn made by Chuck Olmstead and seconded by John Cipar, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 PM (ET) by a unanimous vote.

Next WLMAC meeting: 10 May 2011 at 8:00 PM at the AWD HQ

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Human-Engineered Infrastructure

Input

- Groundwater
- Surface water
- Rain barrels
- Septic systems
- Water supply systems outside the District

Storage

- Reservoirs
- Storage tanks
- Residence within distribution system

Flow Paths

- Pumped distribution system
- Leaks

Loads

- Base level use by **existing** residences, institutions and commercial entities within District
- **Estimated use by anticipated or planned new development.**
- Fire protection
- Seasonal demands for landscape maintenance and pools
- Leakage and loss
- Water provided to entities outside District

Water Supply Capacity
A Report to the Acton Water District Commissioners

Also need to consider:

- Water quality requirements
- Government (MA DEP) limits on withdrawal
- Methods of measurement

WATER SUPPLY CAPACITY TIME SCALES

Daily Capacity at Peak Demand

How much water can be **made available to ratepayers** ~~withdrawn~~ from system on a single day?

-

Effect on natural resource:

- No measureable direct impact:

Impact on infrastructure:

- Primary relationship to storage and flow capacity of system.
- **Immediate practical impact of exceeding daily capacity: reduction of ability to fight fires**

Regional considerations:

Financial considerations

Short-Term Capacity

How does continuous withdrawal for a period of days impact the water supply capacity of the system?

-

Effect on natural resource:

-

Impact on infrastructure:

-

Regional considerations:

Financial considerations