



# Water Supply District of Acton

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Commissioners Meeting  
Water Supply District of Acton  
Meeting Minutes  
March 31, 2014

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**Agenda:**

- A. Comments from Citizens
- B. Approve Minutes from the March 10<sup>th</sup> and March 19<sup>th</sup> Meetings
- C. OLD BUSINESS:
  - 1. Update on Projects in Progress.
  - 2. Annual Meeting Wrap-Up.
  - 3. Town of Concord's Land Acquisition on Knox Trail in Acton
  - 4. Proposal for Amendment to the Groundwater Protection District By-Law.
- D. NEW BUSINESS:
  - 1. 1,4-Dioxane and the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR).
  - 2. Discussion of Site Review Process and Management of the WR Grace Superfund Site in South Acton.

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 p.m. on Monday, March 31, 2014 at the Acton Water District Office by Mr. Stephen Stuntz.

**Present at Tonight's Meeting:**

Commissioners: Ronald Parenti, Leonard Phillips, and Stephen Stuntz (Chairman)  
District Manager: Chris Allen  
Treasurer/Collector: Mary Jo Bates  
District Counsel: Mary Bassett  
Environmental Manager: Matthew Mostoller  
Commissioners Secretary: Lynn Protasowicki  
Finance Committee Member(s): William Guthlein and Charles Bradley  
WLMAC: Barry Rosen

**A. Comments from Citizens**

No comment from citizens at tonight's meeting.

**B. Approve Minutes from the March 10<sup>th</sup> and March 19<sup>th</sup> Meetings.**

Mr. Stuntz moved to accept minutes of the meeting held on March 10, 2014 and Mr. Phillips seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Mr. Stuntz moved to accept minutes of the meeting held on March 19, 2014 and Mr. Phillips seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**C. OLD BUSINESS:****1. Update on Projects in Progress.**

Mr. Allen provided an update to the Commissioners on the South Acton Water Treatment Plant project. He stated that the earthwork to shape the lagoons is 75% complete. The sub-base for gravel road around and to the lagoons is 75% complete. There was 23 loads, 18 c.y./truck used from gravel pit. In addition the 6" DI sludge pipe from the lagoons to the operations building is 80% complete. And, the over flow structure that was started

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last fall will soon start up again. There were 2 test pits conducted on site to verify size and location of existing yard piping. He informed the Commissioners that the concrete footings for the pump room and tanks are 100% complete. The concrete base slabs, electric conduits, communication conduits for tank floors and pump room floors are 100% complete. The concrete walls and baffles for tanks and pump room are 100% complete. The contractor started forming and shoring the elevated slabs. He informed the Commissioners that floc #1, floc #2, overflow and recycle #2 have passed the 72 hour leak tests and the rapid mix and recycle #1 tanks are currently being tested.

As for Hayward Road and Stow Street project, Mr. Allen stated that he was having a progress meeting with J.P. Cardillo on Tuesday, April 1<sup>st</sup> and it is their goal to start next week. He also stated that he had a progress meeting last week with Onyx and they are starting to work on the connection intersection at Liberty & Stow and they plan to move back toward Hayward Road once the work on Stow Street is complete.

## 2. Annual Meeting Wrap-Up.

Mr. Allen mentioned that he put this item on the agenda in case there was a necessity for any follow up discussion by the Commissioners relating to the annual meeting and the outcome of the “no” vote on the cell tower. He informed the Commissioners that he has received calls from concerned citizens and he reassured them that the cell tower would not be built.

## 3. Town of Concord's Land Acquisition on Knox Trail in Acton AND Proposal for Amendment to the Groundwater Protection District By-Law.

Mr. Allen displayed a map showing 55 Knox Trail and 37 Knox Trail. The 37 Knox Trail parcel is much smaller than 55 Knox Trail, 7-acres vs. 1-acre. The Commissioners agree that it is improbable that the Town of Concord could park 40 buses on this property, given there is less land area, and an existing office building on the premises. Mr. Allen showed another aerial map showing the Tennessee Gas Company easement that is a “No Build” zone, and the WR Grace land (in Concord) that the Town of Concord may acquire and would, most likely, build their bus depot on this property.

Mr. Parenti stated that the Town of Concord was unsuccessful in buying #55 Knox Trail and the time is running out for the special town meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup> which is tomorrow so the Town will need to hold another special meeting to request permission from voters to buy #37 Knox Trail. Currently, as it is understood, that meeting will be held on May 5<sup>th</sup>, concurrent with Concord's Annual Town Meeting

Mr. Allen mentioned that he received an email from Janet Adachi who would like to receive an update on the Commissioners' desire for Article 28 on the warrant for Acton's Annual Town Meeting. It was decided at the meeting of March 19<sup>th</sup> that “No Action” would be taken on this article, the proposed amendment to the Groundwater Protection District bylaw.

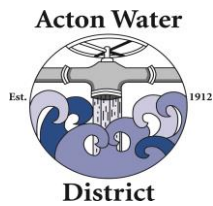
Mr. Parenti would like to know how to resolve the confusion with the Selectmen and Planning Board about the article that the Commissioners are now tabling until the fall.

Mr. Allen will send an update to Janet Adachi, Acton Town Manager and Planning Director to explain the reasons why the Commissioners want to table the article until the fall.

Mr. Allen will also schedule another meeting with the Board of Health.

## **D. NEW BUSINESS:**

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## 1. 1,4-Dioxane and the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR).

Mr. Mostoller provided for the Commissioners an overview of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) and how it impacts the Acton Water District and testing for 1,4-Dioxane. The slideshow is available for review at the Acton Water District.

## 2. Discussion of Site Review Process and Management of the WR Grace Superfund Site in South Acton.

Enclosed in tonight's packet to the Commissioners is a copy of the WR Grace Acton Plant Newsletter. Mr. Allen and Mr. Mostoller are concerned that the Acton Water District (AWD) was not asked to review or comment on the newsletter. He mentioned that this document is a preliminary overview to the final five year site review. Mr. Mostoller stated that there will be a 5-year review and hopefully the AWD will be a part of it. He stated that the EPA is becoming more hands-off with the goings-on with the WR Grace Superfund Site. Over a two-year period there has been less outreach to the public from the EPA. There is a strange relationship developing between the EPA & AWD. Mr. Mostoller and Mr. Allen spoke and agree that, in this vein, the District may benefit from involvement of Senator Nikki Tsongas and our local legislators to keep them up-to-date on this site. The group feels it is imperative that AWD push back on EPA. Mr. Mostoller and Mr. Allen are compiling a list of their concerns, questions and suggest that the Commissioners do so as well and they will put together a letter to be sent to state Senator Jamie Eldridge and US Senator Tsongas.

## 3. Other New Business

Ms. Bates informed the Commissioners that there is a health insurance change that will apply only to the eight retirees. The change is to MedEx plan whereby the monthly payment will go from \$600/month down to \$336/month. That is a \$675/year savings for the retirees and a \$21,000/year savings for the District. Ms. Bates stated we will see that savings in 2015. The change will go into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>. The provider, MIIA, will hold an information Q&A session with current retirees to provide information, and answer questions. The date and time are TBD.

Mr. Stuntz made a motion to adjourn 9:15 p.m. and was unanimously approved.