



# Water Supply District of Acton

693 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE  
P.O. BOX 953  
ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01720

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Board of Water Commissioners  
Meeting Minutes  
693 Massachusetts Avenue  
Monday, June 12, 2017

- A. Comments from Citizens
- B. Approve Minutes of May 22nd Meeting
- C. OLD BUSINESS
  - 1. Nuclear Metals Superfund Update
    - Update from EPA Public Information session held on 5/25
    - Update on site operations and extraction system
    - Meeting with MA DEP on Monday, 6/26
- D. NEW BUSINESS
  - 1. Results of M36 Water Audit
  - 2. District Manager's Contract

### **Present at Tonight's Meeting:**

Commissioners: Ron Parenti, Stephen Stuntz  
District Manager: Chris Allen  
District Treasurer: Mary Jo Bates  
District Counsel: Mary Bassett  
Commissioners Secretary: Lynn Protasowicki  
WLMAC: Barry Rosen  
Finance Committee: David Butler

Citizen:

Ben Lieberman, Mass Ave, Acton

The Board of Water Commissioners meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM on Monday, June 12, 2017 at the Acton Water District office by Mr. Ronald Parenti.

### **A. Comments from Citizens:**

Mr. Lieberman commented and asked some questions regarding the Nuclear Metals Superfund clean-up. He stated that he had an opportunity to look through the PDFs that are posted online and he doesn't see a plan B if there is not a treatment technique for 1,4-dioxane to scale. It does not seem like an easy engineering task and the PDF does not show a new plan, what is the plan? He mentioned that he was a soccer coach in Maynard and he knows that they drilled deep wells in Acton, but was wondering if Acton has considered doing this. Mr. Allen responded stating that the District had a fractured trace study done in 2000. We've looked at contingency plans if wells were needed to be taken off line. Hoping the remediation by *de maximis* will fix the issue. They've started pumping the extraction wells and will see results in couple months. If necessary, Plan B would be an Advanced Oxidation system at the South Acton Water Treatment Plant (SAWTP) if there proves to be available technology

### **B. Approve Minutes of May 8th Meeting:**

Mr. Stuntz made a motion to approve the minutes of May 22, 2017. It was seconded by Mr. Parenti and unanimously approved.

All documents referred to in meeting minutes are available for inspection at the office of Acton Water District, 693 Massachusetts Avenue, Acton, MA 01720 (978) 263-9107.



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## **C. OLD BUSINESS:**

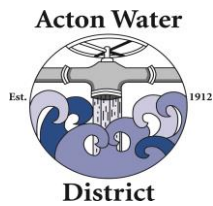
### *1. Nuclear Metals Superfund Update*

- Update from EPA Public Information session held on 5/25: Mr. Allen provided an update to the Commissioners regarding the EPA public session that was held on 5/25/17. He mentioned that there was a good turnout and lots of questions regarding the 1,4-dioxane being discharged into the Assabet River as the effluent from the treatment system located at 16 Knox Trail. He stated that the EPA and *de maximis* did a good job in explaining how it happened, where they are currently with cleaning up, and what the plan is moving forward. Mr. Allen mentioned that he has not seen any results from sampling prior to extraction. He stated that *de maximis* is sampling weekly to start, and then will sample less frequently once baseline data is established. Not sure how many years it will take to clean-up? If other sources start to rise above the state guideline of .3-Parts per Billion (ppb), and blending of the sources became ineffective at reducing the output of the SAWTP, we would investigate installing an advanced oxidation system in the South Acton Treatment. Mr. Parenti mentioned that there was a good write-up in the Acton Beacon this past weekend about the public information session.
- Update on site operations and extraction system: Mr. Allen mentioned that the site is in full operation after there was a bit of an issue starting it up. He informed the Commissioners that the town was hauling spoils from the Parker Street bridge project into 16 Knox Trail so Town DPW had to be contacted to cease this activity and get the material removed from the site. *De maximis* had raised concerns about the constituency of the spoils, and what could potentially leach into the local aquifer that could impact the treatment system.
- Meeting with MA DEP on Monday, 6/26: Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that he will be attending this meeting at Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection Central Regional Office to receive our case-specific risk assessment for 1,4-dioxane based on our historical, and potential future concentrations.
- Addendum to Land Lease: had a meeting with the EPA and the land lease is done and approved. Enclosed in tonight's packets is a draft of Emergency Response Plan (ERP) which is pretty standard and will be finalized once there is agreeable wording and procedure.

## **D. NEW BUSINESS:**

- 1. Results of M36 Water Audit:* enclosed in the Commissioner's packets is a preliminary report of the M36 water audit comparison from the past 4-years. Mr. Allen mentioned that M36 references a number in an American Water Works Association (AWWA) manual that is an in-depth statistical accounting of water pumped to system vs billed. He mentioned that Mr. Mostoller applied for a grants in three of these years and the District was one of the first case studies ... progress made is evident by increase in efficiency accounting for water that is withdrawn from the ground, pumped to the system and metered has become much more accurate. The most recent effort, the District scored 79 out of 100 grading. This report is helping the District to do things more efficiently. Biggest impact is when the SAWTP came online; the District metering of water into the system was much more accurate. Ms. Bates informed the Commissioners that the 2015 reflects 6 months of water coming out of SAWTP and 2016 is a full year...these are the most accurate numbers that they've seen. The District has received grant three of the past four years to take part in this study. Ms. Bates mentioned that she did the 2015 reporting but the state covered 2013, 2014 & 2016. It was a worthwhile exercise. The District will continue with same procedures and protocols to get these stats, as they are required to be reported to MA DEP annually.
- 2. District Manager's Contract:* Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that his contract expires at the end of June (3 year term). He mentioned that he has already been with the District for 10 years. Mr. Stuntz stated that he will do the written evaluation to have on file. Mr. Stuntz moved to accept the District Manager's

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contract as drafted. Mr. Parenti seconded the contract and it was approved. The Commissioners signed the District Manager's contract.

*Other New Business:*

1. Email from Janet Adachi (of Acton Board of Selectmen) regarding Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC): Ms. Adachi is looking for the Commissioner's input of what the charter should be for WRAC. Mr. Allen mentioned that Mr. Mostoller sits on the WRAC as the District's representative. Mr. Parenti asked Mr. Allen to respond to Ms. Adachi with a response that the Commissioners are happy to have Mr. Mostoller continue to serve on the committee.

*Mr. Parenti moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM and it was unanimously approved.*