

Board of Water Commissioners
Meeting Minutes
693 Massachusetts Avenue
Monday, September 18, 2017

- A. Comments from Citizens
- B. Approve Minutes of July 17th and August 14th meetings

C. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Presentation of 1,4-dioxane Risk Assessment from MA Office of Research and Standards (ORS) and Marie Rudiman of EnviroRisk Solutions, LLC.
2. Request from Town of Concord for Reconsideration of Water Supply from the District's System to its Bus Maintenance Facility off Knox Trail
 - Recommendation from WLMAC
 - Email from EPA Superfund site manager
3. Update on Indian Village & Littlefield Road water main improvement project.
 - Review progress for water main improvements on Agawam, Mohegan, Quaboag, Sioux, Seminole and Littlefield using Aquapipe re-lining technology
4. Update on Nuclear Metals Superfund site.
5. Surplus Revenue Certification from MA Department of Revenue

D. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Execute loan documents for short-term borrowing for Indian Village Water Main improvement

Present at Tonight's Meeting:

Commissioners: Ron Parenti, Leonard Phillips, Stephen Stuntz

District Manager: Chris Allen

District Treasurer: Mary Jo Bates

District Environmental Manager: Matthew Mostoller

District Counsel: Mary Bassett

WLMAC: Barry Rosen and Paul Malchodi

Janet Adachi, Acton Board of Selectmen

Marie Rudiman, EnviroRisk Solutions, LLC

David Butler, Finance Committee joined the meeting via telephone.

Also in attendance, Debra Simes, Green Acton, Mary Lynn Miller, Ron Beck, Kim Kastens and Carolyn Kiely.

The Board of Water Commissioners meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM on Monday, August 14, 2017 at the Acton Water District office by Mr. Phillips.

A. Comments from Citizens:

No comments at tonight's meeting.

B. Approve Minutes:

Mr. Stuntz made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 17 meeting. It was seconded by Mr. Parenti and unanimously approved.

Mr. Parenti made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 14 meeting as amended. It was seconded by Mr. Stuntz and unanimously approved.

C. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Presentation of 1,4-dioxane Risk Assessment results from MA Office of Research & Standards (ORS) and Marie Rudiman of EnviroRisk Solutions, LLC

Mr. Mostoller presented a graph of the 1,4-dioxane concentrations at the South Acton Water Treatment Plant (attached). The graph compared the current levels to the original 0.3 ug/L Mass DEP guidance level, the AWD VOC Action level of 1.0 ug/L and the recently calculated Mass DEP Risk Assessment level of 2.7 ug/L.

The MassDEP Risk Assessment was requested by the District due to the location of the two Superfund sites and the levels of 1,4-dioxane that have been detected in groundwater monitoring wells in South Acton. In the absence of an established Maximum Contaminant Level, the District was using the DEP guideline of 0.3 ug/L to evaluate and monitor the progress of this emerging contaminant.

Marie Rudiman of EnviroRisk Solutions, LLC was hired by the AWD to review the findings of the MassDEP Risk Assessment and advise the District on issues related to the public health impacts of 1,4-dioxane. Ms. Rudiman explained that MassDEP used a widely accepted methodology that is protective of human health and agreed with most of the assumptions made. The only assumption that could have been more protective of human health was that only 1,4-dioxane would be present in the water. Ms. Rudiman also explained that the 0.3 ug/L guideline value is not an enforceable drinking water standard but is set at approximately an order of magnitude less than what would be a health protective drinking water concentration in the absence of other potentially carcinogenic compounds. It is set at this low concentration so that further evaluation and, if necessary, mitigation, can be performed prior to reaching a concentration that may have the potential to cause a health risk.

The District could revise its current Rules and Regulations for the VOC Action level that would include 1,4-dioxane. Mr. Mostoller briefly outlined what the VOC Action Level requires for VOCs and said much of that work is already being done for 1,4-dioxane. Ms. Rudiman concurred that a concentration lower than 2.7 ug/L would be effective in determining if additional steps need to be taken to monitor, assess, and communicate with customers. It was noted that the AWD had set a 1 ug/L limit for VOCs.

MassDEP believes that continued quarterly monitoring for 1,4-dioxane done by the District as well as the actions being taken at the Superfund sites to monitor and intercept the plumes should be effective measures at this time.

Mr. Allen indicated that the South Acton Water Treatment Plant was designed with room for 1,4-dioxane treatment, but at this low level there is currently no proven technology approved for use in Massachusetts.

2. Request from Town of Concord for Reconsideration of Water Supply from the District's System to its Bus Maintenance Facility off Knox Trail.

Recommendation from WLMAC

Concord drilled a deep rock well on site to provide water to their bus maintenance facility located off of 37 Knox Trail. Due to 1,4-dioxane being detected in the well and concerns with the impact on the Superfund cleanup process, it is not being used. Concord is currently looking for a connection to the AWD for that facility. The WLMAC reviewed the new request at their last meeting. Paul Malchodi reported that the WLMAC concluded that there was no new information presented that would warrant a change in the original denial of the request.

Email from EPA Superfund site manager

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that the EPA has requested a meeting with the AWD to discuss providing water to Concord.

3. Update on Indian Village & Littlefield Road Water Main Improvement.

Mr. Allen indicated that the temporary mains are in service on Agawam, part of Mohegan, Quaboag, Sioux, Seminole. The other side of Mohegan will be connected across the street this week. Mr. Allen stated that Onyx has started the excavation of the pits for the re-lining. Both Onyx and Sanexen have indicated that they will provide 2 crews in order to get the project completed on-time, by mid-October.

4. Update on Nuclear Metals Superfund Site.

Mr. Mostoller reported that this is the second full month of monitoring at the 20 gallon per minute pumping rate. Concentrations currently appear to be stable or decreasing. This might indicate effective capture of the 1,4-dioxane at that flow rate. Operating parameters for the pilot 1,4-dioxane treatment system are still to be determined.

5. Surplus Revenue certification from the MA Dept. of Revenue.

Ms. Bates reported that the Free Cash certification was received from the DOR. It was certified at \$1,608,276.

D. NEW BUSINESS:

Execute loan documents for short-term borrowing for Indian Village Water Main improvement

Mr. Stuntz made a motion to award the bid for the \$1M short term borrowing to Eastern Bank at a rate of 1.3%. Mr. Phillips seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved. The Commissioners executed the documents.

Mr. Phillips moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 PM and it was unanimously approved.