

NORTH SAGAMORE WATER DISTRICT
MEETING MINUTES JUNE 16, 2021

The North Sagamore Water District Board of Water Commissioners held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, June 16, 2021 at 4:15 pm at the North Sagamore Water District office, 14 Squanto Road, Sagamore Beach, MA. Chairperson Mark Bergeron called the meeting to order at 4:15 pm.

Those in attendance at the start of the meeting were Chairperson Mark Bergeron, Commissioner Mark Melchionda, Commissioner George Sala who joined remotely, Superintendent Matt Sawicki, Treasurer Maureen Fruci and District resident Stephen Mealy.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS & DISTRICT MEMBERS

Commissioner Sala made a motion to nominate Mark Melchionda as Chairperson of the North Sagamore Water District Board of Water Commissioners. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Roll call vote: Commissioner Sala – yes, Commissioner Melchionda – yes, Commissioner Bergeron – yes. Commissioner Sala made a motion to appoint Matt Sawicki as Superintendent of the District. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Roll call vote: Commissioner Sala – yes, Commissioner Melchionda – yes, Commissioner Bergeron – yes. Commissioner Sala made a motion to appoint Attorney Robert Troy as legal counsel for the District. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Roll call vote: Commissioner Sala – yes, Commissioner Bergeron – yes, Commissioner Melchionda – yes. Commissioner Sala made a motion to appoint Maureen Fruci as Clerk of the District. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. The motion was accepted. Roll call vote: Commissioner Sala – yes, Commissioner Bergeron – yes, Commissioner Melchionda – yes.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES DATED 5/26/21 & ADM 5/26/21

Commissioner Sala made a motion to approve the meeting minutes dated 5/26/21 as written. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. All Board members were in favor. Roll call vote: Commissioner Sala – yes, Commissioner Melchionda – yes, Commissioner Bergeron – yes.

Commissioner Sala made a motion to approve the Annual District Meeting minutes dated 5/26/21 as written. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. All Board members were in favor. Roll call vote: Commissioner Sala – yes, Commissioner Melchionda – yes, Commissioner Bergeron – yes.

DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE VOTE ON WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES

Superintendent Sawicki said the voluntary water ban seems to be working so far. He said it appears that some residents are conserving water. Commissioner Melchionda said he thinks the ad in the newspaper and the rain has helped as well. The Superintendent said he isn't asking the Board for a vote on the conservation measures he just wants the Board to be aware that when the District's permit is up for renewal DEP will be pushing for the District to implement mandatory conservation measures. The Superintendent explained that currently DEP has included the District in the Cape Cod region which is in a mild drought. Based on guidance from DEP, in a mild drought they would only allow us to water one day a week which is stricter than what we did with the voluntary ban. The Superintendent said he doesn't think it's fair if DEP only considers drought status when implementing nonessential outdoor water use restrictions. He said he is not sure when or if this will happen. DEP will be asking for public comment. At that time Mass Water Works usually puts together a package to send to them. The District could also write a letter. The mandatory water ban signs are being made by a local person so changes can be made easily.

DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE VOTE ON RATES & REGULATIONS FOR SUPPLYING WATER

The Superintendent explained to the Board that at the last meeting there was a discussion about sending bills to contractors if it is necessary for the District to replace water services because of work the contractor is doing. He stated however he thinks that when residents pay their service installation fee they are buying into the property of the District. He said if the service is being relocated that's one thing, but if there is a leak or an emergency he doesn't think it's fair to charge the resident for that. After some discussion, Commissioner Melchionda said perhaps they should consider each situation on a case by case basis.

The Board also discussed the hourly fees the District charges for its employees and for backhoe service. Commissioner Melchionda suggested the fees may be too low. Commissioner Bergeron added that perhaps the way the current policy is written is unclear. In addition, maybe the District should add a minimum charge for work that takes less than an hour. Commissioner Melchionda asked the Superintendent to look at the rates and maybe adjust the language. Superintendent Sawicki said he will write something up for the next monthly meeting.

DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE VOTE ON ENGINEERING CONTRACTS – GHD INC. (WATER MAIN UPGRADES) & RESILIENTCE (TEST WELL PROGRAM)

The Superintendent explained to the Board that these are the contracts that were proposed at the Annual District Meeting. He said he is asking the Board to vote on the contracts and sign them.

Commissioner Sala made a motion to accept the contract from GHD Inc. for water modeling for the Norris Road transmission line for \$53,737. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. All Board members were in favor. Roll call vote: Commissioner Sala – yes, Commissioner Bergeron – yes, Commissioner Melchionda – yes.

Commissioner Bergeron made a motion to accept the contract from ResilientCE for test well work, not to exceed \$223,000. Commissioner Sala seconded the motion. All Board members were in favor. Roll call vote: Commissioner Bergeron – yes, Commissioner Sala – yes, Commissioner Melchionda – yes.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Superintendent Sawicki presented a new water pumping trend spreadsheet to the Board. He explained that nearly 17 million gallons of water was pumped in May. He said the leaks on Phillips Road and residents watering definitely contributed to such a high number. The trends show water usage has even increased in the winter.

The Superintendent said it was recently brought to his attention that a small parcel of land (a bog) near the Church Lane water treatment plant, located in the middle of District owned land, was inherited by somebody from out of state. According to the deeds obtained by the Superintendent, the majority of property was originally given to the District in a land swap in 1988. However, the land was never surveyed and the bog was never drawn on the plan. The owner of the property has been cutting down branches on the property and has told neighbors he plans to put a campground on the land. The Superintendent has been in communication with the town of Bourne regarding the parcel of land. District resident Stephen Mealy asked if the property is a wet land. The Superintendent said it is. Commissioner Sala said he doesn't think the bog can be filled in. Superintendent Sawicki said he will try to locate the owner of the property and speak with him to find out his intentions. Commissioner Melchionda said it may be a good idea to speak with Attorney Troy after he speaks with the property owner.

Superintendent Sawicki told the Board the PSC Group submitted plans to the Town of Bourne Planning Board for a garage they intend to build on State Road for their trucks and an office space. The property is not in Zone 2, however he just wanted the Board to be aware of their plans to build the garage. Commissioner Melchionda suggested the Superintendent speak with the Planning Board regarding the project.

The Superintendent said they have been adding chlorine to the beach well and lowered the chlorine at the treatment plant. The chlorine residual is still low out of both locations, and there has not been an increase in complaints.

Superintendent Sawicki informed the Board he has completed the AWIA report for the EPA which is a risk and resiliency report. The report identifies any weaknesses that could make the District vulnerable to natural disasters, cyber-attacks etc. The plan is to then work these things into the District's emergency response plan. The report will not be publicized; it will remain in the office. Superintendent Sawicki suggested maybe the District should install a camera at the Bournedale tank because of its isolated location.

The chemical bid is out.

Jon Devine's truck is still at the body shop. The new truck has been ordered but it is uncertain how long it will take for it to come in.

Commissioner Melchionda asked how the work was going at Weldon Park. The Superintendent said Geoff Ray has done all of the work to get things ready for Scada to be installed, with the exception of the electrical and SCADA programming. The total for all of that work was just over \$20,000. The cost probably would have been approximately \$80,000-\$90,000 if Geoff hadn't done all of the work himself.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer Fruci informed the Board there are approximately 59 accounts with outstanding balances from the January water bills totaling \$10,374.77.

The audit package was sent to the new audit firm Korbey Lague. They are supposed to contact the District next week to begin working on the FY20 audit.

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

-CAPE VIEW WAY

The Superintendent told the Board he attended a meeting with Deputy Fire Chief Pelonzi and the fire engineer from Cape View Way regarding the fire flow for the project. Mr. Pelonzi explained that when the state of Massachusetts adopted the federal fire code, Chapter 18, which includes minimum hydrant flows, water requirements were removed from the regulation. According to the applicant's engineers, the current required fire flow is 450 gpm. The original fire flow usage presented to the District for the project was 1,125 gpm and is based on the calculations set forth in Chapter 18 of the federal fire code. The Superintendent said in order to protect the liability of the District he thinks the developers should be held to their original number as presented in their application. In addition, he explained that if they don't hold the developers to this number there could be issues with other projects in the future. There was a discussion about whether the town of

Bourne has adopted this law and if so does the District have to follow it. The Board said the District should have Attorney Whitten look at this. Commissioner Melchionda suggested waiting until after the ZBA meeting in July. He said the engineers from Cape View Way and the District's engineer Kristen Berger should attend the District's next monthly meeting and then everything should be given to Attorney Whitten to review.

-CHURCH LANE WELL PUMP FAILURE

The Superintendent said there was nothing new to report.

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS/SELECT NEXT MEETING DATE

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 21, 2021 at 4:15 pm.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Sala made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:32 pm. Commissioner Bergeron seconded the motion. All Board members were in favor. Roll call vote: Commissioner Sala – yes, Commissioner Bergeron, Commissioner Melchionda – yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Fruci,
District Clerk