



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS

Cotuit Fire District Water Department

4300 FALMOUTH ROAD, P. O. BOX 451
COTUIT, MASS. 02635

10/16/2024

The Board of Water Commissioners held their monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 16, 2024, at 5:45 p.m. at Freedom Hall. Present at the meeting were Chairman David Churbuck, Commissioner Mark Robinson, Commissioner Scott Horsley, Superintendent Chris Wiseman and Office Manager, Jen Nash.

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. and was opened to public comment. There were no comments at this time.

Superintendent Wiseman reviewed the results of the September Total Coliform tests. There were no detections. Perchlorate samples were also taken, and there were no detections in the water supply. Chlorine Byproduct (THM & HAA5) samples were taken, and all results were well below action levels. He also noted that there have been some dirty water complaints, which is largely due to the change in water flow. Flow has decreased substantially from prior months which can allow for sediment to settle in the water mains, causing dirty water.

The superintendent gave his report:

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>+/-</u>
September	18,521,000	22,186,000	+3,661,000

There was a water main leak (linear crack) on Bluff Point which will account for some of the increase in pumpage. It was an extremely dry month. Portions of the state (not the cape) are experiencing level 1 drought conditions.

New Service = 2; Replacement Services = 1; Leaks = 1 (see above).

PFOS Class Action Suit = No new update. Still in a waiting period.

MRWA & NEWWA classes are being offered. Sr. Operator, JR Gallagher has been OSHA certified in AC (Asbestos) water main removal. Our new Jr. operator, Tim Rodrigues, is currently taking the Intro to PWS on Fridays from 8am to 11am to prepare for his certification tests.

W2/Payroll Issues = One employee has filed his return (had previously filed for an extension, no amended return necessary). Two employees who had filed their returns online are still working to file an amended return through their provider. One employee has a firm to prepare his returns and is working with the firm on the amended return. No new update.

BLT/Conservation Restriction = MassDEP has approved the Conservation Restriction for 4609 Falmouth Road (a.k.a. Santuit Woodland). State approval is pending.

Staffing = Jr. Operator Timothy Rodrigues is currently training. He is making slow progress and needs a lot of additional instruction.

Lead Service Line Inventory - An inventory of all of the materials in the ground was due to MassDEP by October 16, 2024. Sr. Operator, JR Gallagher and Office Manager Jennifer Nash completed the draft inventory and sent it to our partners at Weston & Sampson for formatting into the state approved file, and assistance with filing requirements. We have 3 galvanized services that will require replacement, and 30 accounts with "unknown

- could be lead" services. Customer notifications to those 33 people will need to be sent within 30 days of filing (no later than 11/15/2024). Commissioner Horsley requested the inventory, the electronic workbook will be sent to the commissioners after the meeting.

Water Management Permit Renewal - Currently working with Tata & Howard. Even though we are billing semi-annually, we will be reading the meters quarterly to ensure that we are monitoring for any potential leaks and stuck meters. Our current permit allows for 640k gallons per day, which will be lowered to 630k gallons per day with the new permit. We may be able to add additional capacity once the Conservation Restriction for Santuit Woodlands has been completed and accepted.

Commissioner Horsley has been appointed to the CWMP Advisory Committee, which will be meeting next week. While meeting with Rob Steen from the Town, Mr. Steen urged Commissioner Horsley to have patience with the sewer installation for Cotuit as it may occur sooner than originally planned. Commissioner Horsley will have more information after the update meeting next week.

There is no update on the Conservation Restriction for the Cotuit Elementary School property. There is concern that it takes a long time to process this with the state, and that there is no deadline to complete this. The commissioners will continue to work with the town to be sure that it is completed.

Chairman Churback has reached out to Rep. Diggs regarding the filing for the Enabling Legislation. The House Bill was filed on 10/15/24 and a copy of the bill will be posted on the district website.

Sodium Workshop - Bruce Young of Mass. Rural Water Assoc. (MRWA) will be joining the commissioners and other Water District and Town officials for a discussion regarding the sodium levels across the cape.

The minutes for the September 18, 2024, meeting were reviewed and approved.

There was no additional public comment.

The next meeting date was set for Wednesday, November 20th at 5:45pm, to be held at Freedom Hall.

As there were no other matters to discuss and no additional public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm

Respectfully submitted,



David Churback, Chairman
Board of Water Commissioners