

TRI TOWN BOARD
of Water Commissioners
Braintree, Holbrook, Randolph

MINUTES

Tuesday, October 17, 2023
Johnson Chamber - Braintree Town Hall

Present: Mayor Charles C. Kokoros, Chair, Town of Braintree, Bill Alexopoulos, Town of Randolph, Katherine Goldrick, Town of Holbrook.

In attendance: Helen Gordon, Lorraine See, Jim Arsenault, Brian Howard, Ed Spellman, Stephen DeFrancesco, Sophia Calandrello, Kate Naughton

Mayor Kokoros opened the meeting at 11:36 a.m.

Mayor Kokoros took roll call attendance –present: Mayor Charles Kokoros, William Alexopoulos. Katie Goldrick.

Approval of Minutes:

MOTION: To accept the minutes of July 27, 2023, August 25, 2023 and Sept 19, 2023 collectively.

MOTION: Mr. Alexopoulos

SECOND: by Ms. Goldrick

o No Discussion

Mayor Kokoros – Yes

Mr. Alexopoulos – Yes

Ms. Goldrick – Yes

Vote : Unanimous

Construction Schedule update

Ms. Gordon (EP) overviewed that construction team meets monthly. They meet today (10/17/23) before to the Tri-Town meeting. Leak testing is going on now. Leak testing the concrete tanks. Tests are running nicely. A few leaks, but that is anticipated. Nothing major.

Mr. Stephen DeFrancesco (AECOM) stated that the concrete quality is very good. The concrete sub (Gallagher) is doing a very good job.

Mr. Alexopoulos questioned the leak in concrete. Ms. Gordon explains that leaks are patched when they find them. Mr. DeFrancesco and Ms. Gordon explained that the leaks are from hairline cracks and sometimes seal themselves. Concrete continues to cure over time. If crack is large they inject epoxy in to the crack. Hairline cracks are found I never job.

Helen Gordon (EP) stated they are currently working on the water treatment plant footprint with rebar, concrete and piping. Cooler weather is coming, schedules have been rearranged to get leak testing done as soon as possible. Adjust some other schedule items. Making good progress since the shutdown. One budget - well within contingency. No major changes orders at the moment.

Mr. Alexopoulos questioned when it is anticipated that the building will start to go up.

Helen Gordon (EP) and Mr. Stephen DeFrancesco (AECOM) state the walls will not to go until spring. Mr. DeFrancesco continues that the walls will go up quick. Once the walls go up everything goes up quick. At that point there will be a lot of activity on the site with about twelve sub-contractors.

Mr. Alexopoulos questioned if the clear well gets covered. Mr. Stephen DeFrancesco (AECOM) stated that it does. Leaking test was done before it was covered because it creates a confined space if you don't, it is a little more dangerous. It was designed so that the cover does not need to be on for the leak test.

Mr. Alexopoulos questioned what kind of material covers the clear well. Mr. Stephen DeFrancesco (AECOM) answered – concrete.

Mr. Alexopoulos asked how the water gets pumped through and filtered. Mr. Stephen DeFrancesco (AECOM) noted – a raw water pump station takes water from intake – pumps it up the road and comes in to the rapid mix with clarifiers, dissolved air filtration clarifiers and then in to filters. After the filters comes down through piping in to chlorine contact and pumped out to the three different towns. Gravity take sit through the system until the final pumps.

Mayor Kokoros asked about the chlorination stage. How do we know the levels before it goes out? Mr. Stephen DeFrancesco (AECOM) noted there are a lot of sensors. The water comes through all of the baffles. Chlorine level doesn't need to be so high because of all of the contact. Disinfection is concentration times the time. If time is longer concentration doesn't need to be as high. PFAS will be tested manually.

Mr. Alexopoulos asked if all three communities are using the same chemicals. Mr. Stephen DeFrancesco (AECOM) – for corrosion control separate chemicals are used. Mr. Howard noted that a town change their corrosion chemicals and it took months for it to be cleared up.

Ms. Goldrick asked if the raw water will be continued to be tested. Mr. Stephen DeFrancesco (AECOM) – replied – yes

A. Walsh Time Impact Analysis:

Per Ms. Gordon (EP) reminded all that a work directive was sent to Walsh in the beginning of the construction. They had to stop excavation because the Corp permit was requiring additional tribal investigations. On August 31· 2023 Walsh presented a Time Impact Analysis to the team. Conversations

and negotiations have been going on since that date. Team agreed to look at the analysis from single impact. The domination impact on the schedule was the tribal excavation. They received notice on January 24, 2023 that they could not do excavation until they had certain approvals through the Corp that the tribes say they can do work again. They received notice that they could begin excavating again on May 12, 2023. As part of the analysis the critical path was looked at. The critical path on their base line schedule that was approved indicated that they would begin excavation of the water treatment plant footprint on February 2023. So that is the controlling date for the critical path. They were not able to start that until May 12, 2023 because of the date they were given that they could continue excavation. They did other work, but the excavation was the critical path. Your impacts are analyzed on the critical path. 79 days - work was stopped on excavation. Parties came to a fair and equitable agreement that parties think is fair for the towns and Walsh. AECOM weighed in as well. Dollars are always associated with time extensions.

Time extension is 79 days – which is equal to an additional \$642,600.50. A time extension with no additional cost was negotiated. However, AECOM and EP will have to be out there for additional time to cover project. Their time is estimated at \$437,250.00. EP is recommended that the contract is not amended now. The additional money is not needed now and IF additional time is NOT needed, there is no point in extending contact until it is needed.

Ms. Gordon (EP) is looking for a vote for the extension of TIME for the contract.

MOTION: A vote to approve an extension of time of the Substantial Completion date from November 11, 2025 to January 28, 2026, for work Change Directive #1 – Excavation Stoppage for US Army Corps Permit tribal investigation. This is an extension of time without compensation as negotiated with Walsh.

MOTION: Mr. Alexopoulos

SECOND: by Ms. Goldrick

o No Discussion

Mayor Kokoros – Yes

Mr. Alexopoulos – Yes

Ms. Goldrick – Yes

Vote: Unanimous

Mayor Kokoros asked for an update on a Tri-Town website. Ms. Gordon will get an estimate to the board.

Budget Update:

A. SRF Reimbursement Update

Ms. Gordon (EP) – comments on first drawn down received by DEP. They needed additional items added from Walsh. Draw down # 2 is ready to go once #1 is completed.

Mayor Kokoros read the following in to the record from Solicitor Huff:

The Tri- Town Regional Water District's appeal of MWRA's denial of its request for Reconsideration was filed on September 1,2023. A pre-hearing conference is to be held on October 20,2023; at that time the Adjudicatory Board will review the issues to be litigated and schedule a full hearing on the matter. I will inform you of the date on which the full hearing will be held.

Future Meeting Date:

November 16, 2023 9 a.m. - meeting and site tour

Adjourn:

MOTION to adjourn

MOTION: Mr. Alexopoulos

SECOND: by Ms. Goldrick

o No Discussion

Mayor Kokoros – Yes

Mr. Alexopoulos – Yes

Ms. Goldrick – Yes

Vote: Unanimous

*Respectfully Submitted,
Kate N. Naughton
Recording Secretary*

