

**TRI TOWN BOARD
Of Water Commissioners
Braintree, Holbrook, Randolph
Braintree Town Hall**

MINUTES

March 20, 2014

PRESENT: Chairman, Joseph Sullivan, Mayor, Town of Braintree; Richard Brewer, Town of Randolph, Bill Phelan, Town of Holbrook.

IN ATTENDANCE: Lou Dutton, Barbara Mello, Marlene Michonski, Jim Taggart, Michael Walsh, Robyn LaFrance, recording secretary.

Chairman Sullivan opened the meeting at 10:05 am.

MINUTES: The minutes of the December 11, 2013 meeting were amended to include the name of Joe Favaloro, and accepted as presented.

MOTION: By Rich Brewer to accept Minutes of December 11, 2013

SECOND: by Mayor Sullivan

VOTE: 2:0

Infrastructure Grant: Barbara Mello, Michael Walsh

- Barbara Mello explained and discussed details of the Dam Infrastructure Grant to be available in April with a deadline of June to apply.
- It was agreed to apply for this grant as three financially strong individual municipalities and not a Tri Town entity. Barbara Mello will confirm with Bethany Card on this because there is some confusion.
- Each municipality should go to their respective funding source now to request funding contingent upon receiving this grant.
- Board needs a draft letter for Council and Selectmen approval. Barbara Mello and Mike Walsh will work on this.
- Randolph and Holbrook need a dual Town Board vote.
- Grant will cover most of the cost of the first dam and the second dam is estimated to be approximately \$800,000 to repair. It will be a combination of a grant and a low interest loan (2%).
- Mike Walsh discussed the Office of Dam Safety October 2013 letter and the Tri Town response letter. The update is that Mayor did not receive a follow up letter as promised so the issue is still open.
- There was a question of an inspection or a fine and CDM will call William Salomaa, Director, Office of Dam Safety, to confirm a letter.

MWRA: Mayor Sullivan

- It's clear that it's becoming harder to manage independent water supplies.
- Should Tri Town build the regional plant if it can secure funding?
- MWRA rate is higher initially but then evens out over time and Board must factor in all of the additional costs. The MWRA is appealing.

- The MWRA buy in fee is similar to building the regional plant.
- Senate Bill 1880 will become a vehicle to reduce initiation fees over time and save long term. This Bill is approximately 8 months away.
- Have Executive Session with the MWRA to consider dropping the Tri Town Board and hook up with the MWRA.
- Suggestion to get an offer from the MWRA that involves infrastructure improvement. What can they do to get the Tri Town business?
- Decision should be made by May 1, 2014.
- Tri Town Board will remain.
- MWRA has public meetings in April.
- Holbrook leaning towards the MWRA.
- Holbrook subsidizes Randolph's water now but uses less water than Randolph. With the MWRA Holbrook would lose that and it would be a better deal for Holbrook, worse deal for Randolph.
- Ponds and recreational use is something to keep in mind.

MOTION: By Bill Phelan to formally meet with the MWRA in April in Executive Session to discuss an option and enter into an agreement with the MWRA

SECOND: by Rich Brewer

VOTE: Unanimous

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 10, 2014 at 10:00 am at Braintree Town Hall.

MOTION: By Bill Phelan to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 am

SECOND: by Rich Brewer

VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,
 Robyn LaFrance
 Recording Secretary