

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

**MINUTES**

**October 3, 2014**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Bob Aicardi, John Clarkeson, Mike Coughlin, Lou Dutton, Ben Feehan, Barbara Mello, Steve Olson, Marlene Michonski, Mike Walsh, Jim Tagget, Dave Zecchini, Robyn LaFrance, recording secretary.

Chairman Sullivan opened the meeting at 2:00 pm.

**MINUTES:** The minutes of the April 10, 2014 meeting were accepted.

**MOTION:** By Rich Brewer to accept Minutes of April 10, 2014

**SECOND:** by Bill Phelan

**VOTE:** unanimous

**Dam Infrastructure Grant:** Barbara Mello, John Clarkeson, Fund Program Director

- Barbara Mello explained the Dam Repair Infrastructure Grant and distributed handouts.
- John Clarkeson explained the grant in detail and clarified that an additional \$20,000 cash is included making it a \$1 million dollar award grant.
- Votes will be needed by Holbrook first week in November and by Randolph at Town Meeting and contracts signed.
- Town Treasures need to contact Bond Counsel to review the wording. The Grant Fund wants to be sure the project gets completed. Money needs to be confirmed. Town Treasurers will have questions and John Clarkeson can be contacted to answer them.
- Estimated dates and deadlines were reviewed.
- CDM and Mayor reviewed the history and the Mayor indicated that Braintree is ready to move forward on the Dam project. A Dam design contract regarding this grant was mentioned.
- Discussion about available funds.

**Safe Yield Study:** Steve Olson, Environmental Partners

- Steve Olson presented the report explaining in detail and pointing out specific items. Firm Yield of 7.14 and registered volume at between 7.24-9.
- The last safe yield study was performed 25 years ago in 1989.
- Demand management. We are imposing water restructure.
- The current water ban was noted.

**MOTION:** By Bill Phelan to submit the Safe Yield Study to DEP

**SECOND:** by Rich Brewer

**VOTE:** Unanimous

**Tree Removal, Sanitary Survey, Meter, and Water Levels:** Lou Dutton

- The Tree bid was explained and the job is estimated at \$50-75,000. This will involve cutting down trees on the shore to prevent them from falling into the street.
- The DEP Water Management Act and Sanitary Survey were explained. It was noted that the repair and installment of a meter is needed because the current meter is outdated and the parts can't be replaced. The Board must decide on the Sanitary Survey items which include 1. Meter replacement and 2. Repairing the roof and floor of the Richardi Pump Station. Meter cost is expected to be approximately \$6000 including labor.
- Lou Dutton will get quotes on the Richardi Pump Station roof and floor repairs for the next Tri Town Board meeting.
- Lou Dutton reported on water levels and water phases and distributed a rainfall report.

MOTION: By Rich Brewer to move on item #1 from the Sanitary Survey

SECOND: by Bill Phalen

VOTE: Unanimous

**Cochato River Testing:** Rich Brewer

- It was recommended to expend Tri Town funds to sample the Cochato Reservoir water. It was explained that EPA sampled it in the mid 2000's and it got a clean bill of health then but needs verification from a current sample. It does not make sense to use the old dated reporting. The water sample testing cost will be \$3000/set.
- Bear McGuire and Cochato Reservoir 10 year history?
- It was suggested to hold off on this vote. Steve Olson will get Cochato information to the Board as soon as possible.

**New Plant Design Status:** Mike Walsh, CDM

- CDM has been hired to do a Tri Town Plant design and at this point 20% design is completed. Hand-outs were distributed to the Board.
- Submitted the SRF application in August as they have done in previous years. Notification will come at year end as to whether or not Tri Town is on the list for funding.
- Will find out whether or not to go forward with engineering.
- May want to dredge or at least it can be reduced.
- Estimated at \$50 million plant for the 3 communities including the plant and dredging.
- 20% contingency which should be reduced to 10%. As the design moves along there are fewer uncertainties.
- Design/Build is less common in water design in Massachusetts than in other parts of the country.
- Design/Build 20% drawings, RFQ and draft RFP were done prior to being put on hold four years ago.
- Paid to date: Engineering permitting \$600,000 and Other additional activities \$100,000 for a total of \$700,000 paid to date. The Tri Town Water Board owns the design documents.

**MWRA:** Mayor Sullivan

- It was noted that the MWRA does the Quabbin Reservoir and Blue Hills.
- Mayor acknowledged all Braintree, Holbrook and Randolph officials who have done some work on behalf of the Tri Town Board on this important endeavor.

- Mayor scheduled an October 8 meeting with Environmental Secretary Cheryl Bartlett and he is hopeful that the state will release funds to assist the three communities in building the Tri Town water plant.
- There is concern that if the towns decide to go with the MWRA they will lose the rate structure since the rates will be set by the MWRA.
- It was noted that the Board is very close to where they want to be with the MWRA option but they do want to wait to see if they can access \$25 million.
- Public hearings will take place in each community before a final decision is made.

MOTION: By Bill Phelan to do a more accurate Safe Yield Study with sonar of the Cochato Reservoir and a testing sample (one set)

SECOND: by Rich Brewer

VOTE: Unanimous

MOTION: By Rich Brewer to adjourn the meeting at 3:20 pm

SECOND: by Bill Phelan

VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,  
Robyn LaFrance  
Recording Secretary