

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

MINUTES

December 11, 2013

PRESENT: Chairman, Joseph Sullivan, Mayor, Town of Braintree; Richard Brewer, Randolph Town Council, District 3, Bill Phelan, Town of Holbrook.

IN ATTENDANCE: Fred Brandon, Lou Dutton, Ben Eccord, Joe Favaloro, Pam Heidel, Michael Hornbrook, Fred Laskey, Henry Lee, Rachel Madden, Ann Malenfante, Peter Morin, Jim Taggart, Tom Whalen, Robyn LaFrance, recording secretary.

Chairman Sullivan opened the meeting at 10:00 am. Correspondence

MINUTES: The minutes of the November 14, 2013 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

MOTION: By Rich Brewer to accept Minutes of November 14, 2013

SECOND: by Mayor Sullivan

VOTE: 2:0

Dam Inspection Status and DCR Response Letter: Mayor Sullivan

- The Board's response letter was sent to DCR and Mayor Sullivan followed up with a phone call to Mr. Salomaa. At some point in January feedback is expected from DCR.

MWRA: Fred Laskey

- Fred Laskey and other representatives from the MWRA were in attendance and gave a verbal presentation to the Board and provided hand-outs.
- MWRA is a great water supply. We are surrounded by communities that have serious water challenges and are looking for options. The MWRA is a great product and there is plenty of it even to last at least six years if the MWRA was to stop today.
- The treatment plant in Marlboro was discussed with regard to UV disinfection and two methods that do not require chlorine were explained.
- MWRA rates and rate increases and a cap were all discussed.
- Fred Laskey and Rachel Madden discussed the MWRA and finance aspects.
- Questions and discussion regarding why the MWRA charges new customers to join, and the entrance fee was discussed.
- There was explanation of the MWRA Advisory Board and its function.
- The Ashland emergency connection was brought up and discussed and it was noted that a vote was due on that next week.
- Discussion about the option of CDM and a new treatment plant at approximately \$50 million vs the cost of the MWRA entrance fee and the cost of a pipeline.
- The cost of a connection pipe was discussed.
- Operating costs of a new treatment plant were discussed as being about \$2 million/year.
- The booster station in Randolph was discussed.

- Changes in SRF funding were discussed.
- The Tri Town Board wants to make the best decision for the long term and consider all options before coming back to the MWRA. This is a lifetime decision.
- Braintree has 6-10 years of life left in its current treatment plant but Randolph does not have that amount of time.
- The Board will review and consider the entrance fee split between the 3 communities.
- Question was asked about the MDC and it was explained that the MWRA started in 1984 and at that time absorbed all of the MDC communities.

Other Business –S1880 update: Joe Favaloro, Chair, MWRA Advisory Board

- The Bill is in the Bond Committee at this point.
- Bill Phelan indicated that he testified for this and that he’s in favor of the MWRA. From Holbrook’s perspective, the MWRA takes a lot of headaches away from the town.
- The Bill has moved forward. Will give a 50/50 match and some relief on the connection cost.
- Mayor Sullivan discussed SRF funding.
- Could be good news for cities and towns to find more water supply and good for the MWRA.

Mayor Sullivan thanked Rich Brewer for his work on behalf of Randolph as he ends his term as Councilor and is optimistic that Rich will stay on the Tri Town Board.

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

MOTION: By Mayor Sullivan to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 am
 SECOND: by Rich Brewer
 VOTE: Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,
 Robyn LaFrance
 Recording Secretary