



Chelmsford Water District

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CHELMSFORD WATER DISTRICT REGULAR COMMISSIONERS' MEETING March 20, 2024

PRESENT:

Commissioners

Richard Romano

John G. Harrington

Marc Gibbs

Business Director/Treasurer

Lisa Quatrala

Superintendent

Brandon Cannata

AECOM

Steve DeFrancesco, PE

AECOM

Bryan Sadowski, PE

Consultant

Robert Delaney

Recording Secretary

Michaela Thompson

Chairman Rick Romano called the meeting to order at 1:02pm with all reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

Open Sessions

AECOM - PFAS Project Status Update:

Bryan Sadowski handed out a GIS map of the transmission route from the Smith Street WTP to the Crooked Spring WTP. The map showed boring and probe points along the route where the geotechnical investigations took place in order to obtain information about the subsurface of the route. The preliminary results showed mixed results with some areas showing granular deposits and other areas showing rock. At the Crooked Spring WTP and the Riverneck Treatment WTP the results showed favorable granular deposits. The investigations will continue and the data collected will help in the bidding process.

Commissioner Romano asked if this route is still the most cost-effective approach as opposed to using Davis Road. Steve DeFrancesco assured him it was. Commissioner Gibbs asked if the treatment plants would be able to handle an increase in District customers. Mr. DeFrancesco stated an increase in customers would be a pumping capacity issue and would not affect the PFAS treatment facility that is being built.

Business Director/Treasurer's Report – Lisa Quatrala

Ms. Quatrala presented her report titled "**March 20, 2024 – Commission Meeting Business Director Report**" which included reports on FY2024 Expense and Revenue, Capital Account Balances, Enterprise Investment and OPEB accounts.

Ms. Quatrala provided a letter to the BOWC from PFAS litigation Attorney Paul J. Napoli regarding a proposed revision to the retainer agreement with the District. Settlement payments are being handled differently between Dupont and 3M. Dupont will pay one lump sum, whereas 3M will have a structured payment plan over ten years. The change to the retainer agreement states that the Attorney Contingency Fees will be paid in full from the first installment and from subsequent installment payments, if necessary, until the full amount is paid in full. Recommendation from the District's attorney is to move forward with the revised retainer agreement. The settlement also provides the possibility for the District to claim any expense that has incurred related to the remediation. Meeting scheduled for Friday to discuss further.

Cell Rental Agreements:

- Dish – All documents received. Waiting for preconstruction meeting to be scheduled.
- ATT Generator – Waiting for draft 2nd Amendment to lease to present to BOWC.
- T-Mobile – District's attorney is reviewing contract terms and will advise in April.

43 Riverneck Road:

Met grant deadline of 3/8/2024. Change order AECOM to manage process. Meeting held with Brandon Cannata, Doug Denatale from AECOM and Vanessa Farny, Forest & Land Grant Program Manager, Division of Conservation. Awards of Grant should be announced in July 2024 timeframe.

Election & Annual Meeting: Updated timeline handed out.

Insurance:

Hillside Insurance Claim – Brandon Cannata contacted Marty's Landscaping. Plan to spread loam and seed once weather allows. Notice will be sent to homeowner when work will begin.

36 Cambridge Street – Claim submitted to Town. Homeowner notified by insurance adjuster that claim cannot be processed because claim was submitted to the Town and not the District. Claim closed.

Superintendent Report – Brandon Cannata

Brandon Cannata distributed to the Board his report titled "Chelmsford Water District Superintendent Report March 20, 2024."

Leak Detection Program and 1st round of Backflow testing started.

Distribution:

- 4 service leaks and 4 main breaks
- Hydrant replacement on Pilgrim Road
- Fire line break @ 255 North Road
- New 6" fire line tap and sleeve 13 Kidder

Treatment:

- Meadowbrook 2 well – house painting
- Boiler repair at CSWTP – waiting on part
- Generator maintenance
- Replace ½ backflow for boiler
- Quarterly, Monthly and PFAS sampling completed
- Replace pressure gauges on CSWTP permanganate fill line, Locke Rd booster intake line
- Replace test port valve on Aerator RNWTP
- Assist Maher Services with cleaning/inspection of wells (5)
- Met with AECOM at Smith Street plant

Environmental Compliance/GIS:

- **PFAS Sampling Results**
RNWTP – 13.7
CSWTP – 18.0
Quarter 1 will be the average of February and March.
- Sodium violation. Notification submitted to BOH. DEP notice on CWD website. No further action needed.
- Lead and Copper Rule – Continue to work on. Due by October 2024

- Working with Water Management Act (WMA) on withdrawal permits
- CCR draft sent to Gemini group and ASR completed/submitted.
- Backflow testing started.

Riverneck Test Wells: AECOM completed test well process. Three potential sites showing decent results. Waiting for official report.

93 Brick Kiln Road: GeoHydroCycle (GHC) completed their study. Mr. Cannata provided a map showing the sampling sites and results. Sampling came back with high levels of PFAS. Owner of property, DND Homes, is required to hire a Licensed Site Professional (LSP) to assess and remediate. LSP is Jonathan Higgins. Awaiting his assessment.

South Row School: Increase in water usage discovered during water readings review. Data download showed consistent leak. Met with Town plumber and discovered it was a heating boiler.

Westford Street Bridge (495): Bridge to be rebuilt in near future. Scope of work provided to bidding contractors. Better timeline expected next month.

Water Management Act (WMA): Multiple meetings and provided all records from Town sewer project with dates and land purchases by District. WMA request a separate meter for Mill Road 2 well. Quotes obtained to complete this and crew will be able to do most of work to add an underground vault.

RRWTP Aeration Balls: Retest completed. Once lab tests are complete a cost estimate for disposal will be available. Pennsylvania landfill will most likely be the disposal site.

10 Hildreth Street: Property abuts Zone 1. Commissioners voiced concerns over use of the potential use of private septic systems.

Commissioner Marc Gibbs made a motion to restrict all private septic systems that abut District Zone 1. Commissioner John Harrington seconded the motion. Commissioners voted as follows: Commissioner Romano, Aye, Commissioner Harrington, Aye. Commissioner Gibbs, Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

Staff: All staff completed flagger training. Joe Furey and Jake Kostro started the CDL course hosted by the Town of Chelmsford Highway Department. New hire interview done on March 1st.

Richard Romano: Commissioner Romano asked the following:

- 1) Is the District in communication with the Board of Health and Conservation Committee. Mr. Cannata stated he was in constant communication and answers any calls or emails promptly.
- 2) Is there update on the Rte. 3 Tanker spill? Mr. Cannata stated he was in contact with Amy Roth of Wilcox and Barton and gave permission for them to do any testing needed. The District will receive a report with the testing results. They are also going to test at Canal Street, as well.
- 3) Is the District protected against Cyber attacks? Lisa Quatralle stated the District is fully protected using Stratus Point and the Government CISA program (Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency).

John Harrington: Commissioner Harrington suggested future work sessions so the Commissioners could dig further into some of the topics discussed.

Marc Gibbs: Commissioner Gibbs asked if there was any information on 270 Billerica Road. Mr. Cannata stated he had not heard anything as of yet. Mr. Gibbs also asked if Monitoring wells could be installed over by the Rt.3 tanker spill. Mr. Cannata stated he would send a map to the Commissioners showing the existing monitoring wells.

Commissioner John Harrington made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 21, 2024 Regular Commission Meeting. Commissioner Marc Gibbs seconded the motion. Commissioners voted as follows: Commissioner Romano, Aye, Commissioner Harrington, Aye. Commissioner Gibbs, Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting Scheduled: April 10, 2024 at 1:00pm.

Commissioner John Harrington made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Marc Gibbs seconded the motion. The Commissioners voted as follows: Mr. Romano, Aye, Mr. Gibbs, Aye, Mr. Harrington, Aye. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned 4:30pm

Respectfully submitted,

**Michaela A. Thompson
Recording Secretary**