



# NEWS & NOTES

A PUBLICATION OF THE MWRA ADVISORY BOARD  
APRIL 2012

## MAKING THE CASE FOR PRIMACY

At the April Advisory Board meeting, Vice President of AECOM Tom Tilas made a presentation for DEP primacy for wastewater issues. Mr. Tilas explained that currently, 46 states have delegated authority over NPDES; Alaska is the most recent. Massachusetts is one of the few states in the country that does not have primacy. Primacy in Massachusetts would be an effective use of federal and state resources to help cities, towns and districts. At the local level, primacy would help with consistent and quicker decisions; use of sound localized science; provide task forces and advisory groups with a direct link to the process; give public officials and utility managers a better seat at the table; and reduce the number of lengthy legal battles. If the MWRA and the state are able to assist with this, there would be tremendous benefits to the Commonwealth. This is an important matter for the MWRA Advisory Board as it is a featured subject in the FY13 Comments and Recommendations. If you are interested in learning more about the presentation made at the April Advisory Board meeting on EPA NPDES Delegated Authority to Mass DEP, please click [here](#).

## HULTMAN REHAB

From 1939-2003, the Hultman was the sole deliverer of water to Metro Boston. Once the MetroWest Tunnel came on line, the initial plans to rehabilitate the Hultman were developed. In 2009, the Hultman was taken off line and rehab began. As a result of the MetroWest Supply Tunnel shaft 5A pipe break in May 2010, MWRA developed and executed a plan to expedite the timeline for the Hultman Aqueduct.

MWRA is pleased to announce that the Hultman Aqueduct was activated one year sooner than the original schedule. Congratulations to the Authority's contractor Barletta Heavy Division and to the MWRA staff for their efforts in expediting this critical project.

## HOUSE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

On April 11<sup>th</sup>, the House Ways and Means Committee released their budget which included an appropriation of \$500,000 for Debt Service Assistance. The Advisory Board's primary goal in FY13 was to keep the DSA line item funded. The MWRA and AB acknowledge the difficult decisions the Legislature is facing and appreciative that the line item has remained alive. The MWRA and AB will continue to advocate for these funds through the rest of the budget process.

## FAREWELL TO ADVISORY BOARD MEMBER JAY FINK

Jay Fink, a 13-year member of the Advisory Board is leaving at the end of the month and becoming the new Public Works Director in Miami Beach, Florida. On behalf of the MWRA Advisory Board and its members, we thank Jay for his dedicated service over the years and wish him the best of luck in his new position.

*From Left to right: AB Chair Katherine Dunphy, AB Executive Director Joe Favaloro & AB member Jay Fink*



## UPCOMING MEETINGS

May 11th	AB Executive Committee Mtg. in Charlestown
May 16th	MWRA Board of Directors Mtg. in Charlestown
May 17th	AB Mtg. at 11:30AM at the Chelsea Facility
May 28th	Memorial Day-Office Closed