



News & Notes

A publication of the MWRA Advisory Board
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Advisory Board testifies

at Ways and Means Budget Hearing at the State House

On Friday, March 8th, the Joint Ways and Means Budget Committee held its final hearing at the Gardner Auditorium in the State House on Governor Patrick's FY14 budget proposal. The weather filled with snow and rain that morning prevented many lawmakers as well as the general public from attending. Despite the difficult weather conditions, the Advisory Board's Executive Director Joseph Favaloro testified at the hearing that morning.

The hearing was a culmination of a series of budget hearings that lawmakers held around the state over several weeks. It was the first chance for members of the public to weigh in on Governor Patrick's budget, which includes \$1.9 billion in new revenue.

Mr. Favaloro spoke before House and Senate lawmakers to emphasize that Governor Patrick's budget proposal did not have any funding included for water and sewer infrastructure. Mr. Favaloro argued that infrastructure is more than roads, bridges and public transportation. It must include water and wastewater infrastructure into that discussion. In addition, the Sewer Rate Relief fund, which was once funded at \$50 million a year is now at zero due to 9c cuts. Mr. Favaloro stated that the MWRA is looking to be a part of the dialogue and stressed the importance of the Commonwealth becoming a partner with the MWRA by making an investment in water and sewer infrastructure. Mr. Favaloro noted that the MWRA is not looking for a bailout but asking the Commonwealth to once again be a partner. These dollars are critical in assisting the MWRA to manage rates in the years ahead. The Advisory Board hopes that the legislature takes this testimony into consideration as the budget process continues over the next few months.

Fond Farewell

MWRA Board of Directors Member,
Michael Gove, steps down

MWRA Board member Michael Gove has officially stepped

Upcoming Events

April 2nd-MWRA
Public Hearing on
CEB at Boston City
Hall at 6:30 pm

April 10th-MWRA
Board of Directors
Mtg. in Charlestown
at 10:00 am

April 12th-Advisory
Board Executive
Committee Mtg. in
Charlestown
at 8:30 am

April 18th-Full
Advisory Board Mtg.
in Chelsea
at 11:30 am

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down from his post as the representative of the Connecticut River Basin area after serving for five years.

At the February Board meeting, AB Executive Director Joseph Favaloro noted that Mr. Gove has made an immense commitment to attending and participating in the Board meetings. Mr. Favaloro presented a certificate to Mr. Gove on behalf of the MWRA Advisory Board in honor of his thoughtful representation for the residents of the Connecticut River Basin and the MWRA ratepayers. The Advisory Board wishes Mr. Gove continued success in the future.

The Advisory Board welcomes Jennifer L. Wolowicz who was appointed by the Governor to be the new representative in Mr. Gove's place. As of April 1st, Ms. Wolowicz will become the Assistant Town Administrator for the Town of South Hadley. Prior to that she was the Personnel Officer/Chief Procurement Officer for seven years. She also serves on the Water Commission for the City of Chicopee and is a member of the Chicopee Municipal Employees Credit Union Board of Directors.

DEP to Hold Information Session

on regulatory reform draft regulations

Upon request of the AB, DEP has decided to hold an informational session on the Draft Regulatory Reform Regulations as well as to extend the comment period. The session details are listed below:

Date: April 22, 2013

Time: 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Location: 1 Winter Street in Boston

If you would like to view the Regulatory Reform Package, go to:

http://www.mass.gov/dep/water/approvals/2012_rr.htm

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