



News & Notes

A publication of the MWRA Advisory Board
April 2013

House Legislative Update

Budget includes funds for Debt Service Assistance

On April 10th, the House Ways and Means Committee released its budget which included an appropriation of \$600,000 for the Sewer Rate Relief fund, also known as Debt Service Assistance. This is an increase in funding of \$100,000 from prior years. The Advisory Board and MWRA have been tirelessly advocating the Legislature to keep this line item alive after it has been eliminated in prior budgets and most recently 9c'd by Governor Patrick at the end of 2012. The AB and MWRA are appreciative that the House has included this line item in the budget, as it is a critical statewide program that provides rate relief for cities and towns across the Commonwealth.

The AB and MWRA will continue to advocate for this line item as it moves through the budget process in the upcoming months.

Advisory Board Honors Former members

at April meeting at the MWRA Chelsea Facility

At the April Advisory Board meeting, retiring and former AB members were recognized with a certificate in their honor for their dedicated years of service to the Board. Those former members included: Eugene Brune, former mayor of Somerville; Richard Warrington of Bedford; Wiff Peterson of Natick; Ed Maguire of Ashland; and Chuck McCollum of Marblehead.

The AB thanks these members for their commitment and participation over the years. The AB wishes them continued success in the future.

Process and Timeline for the Election of an Advisory Board Representative to the MWRA Board of Directors

The current term of Joseph Foti as an Advisory Board representative on the MWRA Board of Directors expires on June 30, 2013. He has informed the Advisory Board that he will seek re-election.

Upcoming Events

May 10th-Advisory Board Executive Committee Mtg. in Charlestown at 8:30 am

May 15th-MWRA Board of Directors Mtg. in Charlestown at 10:00 am

May 16 -Full Advisory Board Mtg. in Lexington at 11:30 am

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The Executive Committee has instructed staff to initiate the process for the election of an Advisory Board representative to the Board of Directors. The term of this seat will be from July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2016.

- The Executive Committee will serve as the Nominating Committee, as it has in the past.
- **Wednesday, May 8, 2013** is the deadline for candidates to submit a letter of intent to seek election for the position.
- **Friday, May 10th, 2013**, the Executive Committee will be interviewing potential candidates and nominate a candidate to the full Advisory Board.
- **On Thursday, May 16th 2013**, at the Advisory Board meeting in Lexington, nominations will be accepted and an election will be held. All candidates will be allowed an opportunity to address the full Advisory Board. An election will follow. **Please note that the election for the Board of Directors is one vote for each community. It is not a weighted vote. A quorum of 33 voting members is necessary to validate the election.**

Upcoming Operations Committee Meeting

Prior to the start of the May 16th AB meeting in Lexington, the Advisory Board will hold an Operations Committee Meeting to discuss and make a recommendation regarding the Authority's proposal to update community wastewater connection information, which would conduct field tests in order to update community sealing factor calculations. If you would like to access the draft recommendation, please click [here](#).