



Advocacy & Accountability

Representing Over 3 Million People in Massachusetts Communities Since 1985

Friday, February 15, 2019

Advisory Board Office

8:30 AM

Attendees

Michael Rademacher	Arlington	Dick Johnson	Johnson Consulting Group
John Sullivan	Boston	Carolyn Fiore	MWRA
Jay Hersey	Brookline	Rebecca Weidman	MWRA
John Sanchez	Burlington	John Carroll	MWRA Board of Directors
Ralph Pecora	Lexington	Joe Foti	MWRA Board of Directors
Yem Lip	Malden	Andy Pappastergion	MWRA Board of Directors
Moe Handel	MAPC	Bruce Douglas	Natural Systems Utilities
Elena Proakis Ellis	Melrose	Joe Favaloro	Advisory Board staff
Lou Taverna	Chairman, Newton	Travis Ahern	Advisory Board staff
Nick Rystrom	Revere	Lenna Ostrodka	Advisory Board staff
Brendan O'Regan	Saugus	James Guidod	Advisory Board staff
John DeAmicis	Stoneham		

MINUTES

A. Approval of the Executive Committee Minutes for January 11, 2019

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee for January 11, 2019. The motion carried and the minutes were approved.

B. MWRA Sewer Discharge Permit and Non-Potable Water Reuse

Bruce Douglas of Natural System Utilities and Dick Johnson of Johnson Consulting Group gave a [presentation](#) on a potable water reuse project that would require modifications of the MWRA sewer use permitting policies. MWRA Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Carolyn Fiore, and MWRA Toxic Reduction and Control Director, Rebecca Weidman, updated the Executive Committee on the MWRA policy change process.

C. Nomination and Election of a New Member of the Executive Committee to Fill an Open Seat

A motion to approve the addition of Jay Hersey of Brookline onto the FY19 Executive Committee was made and seconded. The motion carried. Mr. Hersey explained that he was looking forward to better serving Brookline and the Advisory Board through his role on the Executive Committee.

D. Request by Crescent Ridge Dairy of Sharon to Connect to the Stoughton Sewer System

Executive Director, Joe Favaloro, briefed the Executive Committee on the ongoing process being undertaken by Crescent Ridge Dairy in Sharon, MA, to connect into the MWRA wastewater system. The connection would be through Stoughton for approximately 6,500 gallons daily of non-sanitary waste. There is no vote necessary at this time.

E. Harbor Cable Update

Executive Director, Joe Favaloro, highlighted the MWRA and Massport costs associated with the dredging of Boston Harbor by the Army Corps of Engineers. Massport is receiving state and federal funding to complete the dredging project. The project, however, requires the MWRA ratepayers to fund the relocation of the Deer Island cross harbor cable, in order meet the new standards created by the dredging. While the dredging will increase Massport revenues over time, it will not yield rate relief for the MWRA ratepayers.



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Mr. Favaloro asked the question, “Why shouldn’t the MWRA receive a percentage of the increased Massport revenues from dredging in order to pay for the cross harbor cable relocation?”

F. CEO Meetings

Executive Director, Joe Favaloro, explained that the Advisory Board staff, accompanied by MWRA Executive Director, Fred Laskey, have begun visiting communities to meeting with leaders and designees. The meetings have been helpful in discovering unidentified community needs and establishing stronger relationships. So far, staff has visited Malden, Needham, Newton, Revere, and Watertown.

G. Legislative Update

Executive Director, Joe Favaloro, noted that Governor Baker has kept the proposed \$1.1 million in the upcoming FY20 Commonwealth budget for debt service assistance. The Department of Revenue has also announced that it is processing debt service assistance from FY19. The MWRA share will be approximately \$850 thousand. Committee assignments have been announced in the state legislature. Advisory Board staff plan to make visits with legislative leadership in the upcoming months.

H. CEB Overview

Finance and Policy Director, Travis Ahern, gave a [presentation](#) highlighting the Advisory Board staff review of the proposed MWRA proposed Current Expense Budget, which will be transmitted to the Advisory Board for review next week.

I. Approval of the Advisory Board Meeting Agenda for February 21, 2019

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda of the Advisory Board meeting for February 21, 2019. The motion carried and the agenda was approved.

J. Adjournment

A motion was made **TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:45 A.M.**

Respectfully submitted,

Michael W. Rademacher, Secretary

These minutes reflect the discussion of the meeting. The Advisory Board maintains audio recordings of Executive Committee meetings that are available upon request.