



Thursday, January 11, 2024
Remote Connection via Zoom
10:00 AM

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

A. Roll Call Attendance

A commencing roll call voted as follows:

Name	Community	Vote
Michael Rademacher	Arlington	Here (remote)
David Manugian	Bedford	Here
John G. Sanchez	Burlington	Here (remote)
Cate Fox-Lent	Chelsea	Here (remote)
Yem Lip	Malden	Here (remote)
Maurice Handel	MAPC	Here (remote)
Elena Proakis-Ellis	Melrose	Arrived after vote
Nicholas J. Rystrom	Revere	Arrived after vote
Richard Raiche	Somerville	Here (remote)
Sam Stivers	Southborough	Here (remote)
John P. DeAmicis	Stoneham	(arrived after vote)

B. Office Update, by Matthew Romero

Nathan Coté is the Advisory Board’s co-op who started on January 2, 2024 and will be working full-time until June 28, 2024. He is a candidate for a Master’s in Public Policy through Northeastern University. Interviews for the full-time analyst position are complete and Christine Bennett will be joining the Advisory Board on January 22, 2024 after successful completion of her background check. She will also be joining the Advisory Board during the upcoming meeting on January 18, 2024 to introduce herself.

On legislative updates, Governor Healey used her 9c authority to remove debt service assistance from the Commonwealth’s FY24 budget.

C. Operations Committee Meeting Update

On January 5, 2024 the Operations Committee met to discuss the Local Water Supply Assistance Program (LWSAP) as well as the I/I Local Assistance Program. A Phase 4 for the LWSAP was discussed as well as a Phase 15 and 16 on the I/I program. Phase 4 of the LWSAP would total \$300 million. Phase 15 of the I/I program





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would be a loan-only stopgap for communities that have used all their Phase 14 funds. Phase 16 would be a grant/loan phase of \$125 million beginning in FY26. The previous grant/loan phase was \$100 million. The same 75%/25% grant/loan terms will apply. A motion was sought to add the following items to the omnibus roll call vote:

- to ask the full Advisory Board to recommend that MWRA authorize both a loan-only optional Phase 15 of the I/I program to begin in FY25 as well as to authorize a grant/loan Phase 16 of the I/I program to begin in FY26 at a total of \$125 million
- to ask the full Advisory Board to recommend that MWRA authorize Phase 4 of the Local Water Supply Assistance Program for the total amount of \$300 million

{Maurice Handel approved the motion to add these items to the omnibus roll call vote at the end of the meeting. David Manugian seconded the motion.}

D. Approval of the Advisory Board meeting agenda for January 18, 2024

Matthew Romero stated that the Advisory Board will be hearing from the MWRA's new Director of Regulatory and Environmental Affairs, Colleen Rizzi, who is moving into the position after Becky Weidman moves into the Deputy Chief Operating Officer role for the MWRA. This meeting will bring attention to the now completed MetroWest Expansion Feasibility study, in addition to updates on the Ipswich River Basin and South Shore studies. A motion was sought to approve the Advisory Board meeting agenda for January 18, 2024 and add it to the omnibus roll call vote.

{Maurice Handel approved the motion to add these items to the omnibus roll call vote at the end of the meeting. David Manugian seconded the motion.}

E. Approval of the Executive Committee meeting minutes from November 9, 2023

This item was asked to be tabled until the next meeting as Nathan Coté gets up to speed drafting meeting minutes.

F. New Business

Discussions between MWRA and Advisory Board staff are ongoing regarding revisiting TRAC fees. Three years ago, it was recommended by the AB to increase TRAC fees as they hadn't been adjusted since FY12. It was recommended to tie it to some sort of index, such as the consumer price index, but this was deemed unfeasible by MWRA staff. Instead, a five-year rate scheme was used so communities would know in advance what the rates would be. FY24 is the last of the previous five-year period, so now is the time to revisit and set TRAC fees for the next five years. This item will be brought forth to the Executive Committee in the future as more discussion takes place.

G. Omnibus Roll Call and Adjournment

{Maurice Handel moved for the approval of the roll call vote. David Manugian seconded the motion.}

Items being voted on:



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Matthew A. Romero
Executive Director



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- to ask the full Advisory Board to recommend that MWRA authorize Phase 4 of the Local Water Supply Assistance Program for the total amount of \$300 million
- to ask the full Advisory Board to recommend that MWRA authorize both a loan-only optional Phase 15 of the I/I program to begin in FY25 as well as to authorize a grant/loan Phase 16 of the I/I program to begin in FY26 at a total of \$125 million
- Approval of the January 18, 2024 Advisory Board meeting agenda
- Meeting adjournment

The roll call vote was as follows:

Name	Community	Vote
Michael Rademacher	Arlington	Yes (remote)
David Manugian	Bedford	Yes (remote)
John G. Sanchez	Burlington	Yes (remote)
Cate Fox-Lent	Chelsea	Yes (remote)
Yem Lip	Malden	Yes (remote)
Maurice Handel	MAPC	Yes (remote)
Elena Proakis Ellis	Melrose	Yes (remote)
Nicholas J. Rystrom	Revere	Yes (remote)
Richard Raiche	Somerville	Yes (remote)
Sam Stivers	Southborough	Yes (remote)
John P. DeAmicis	Stoneham	Yes (remote)

Respectfully submitted,

Rich Raiche, Advisory Board Secretary

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



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