Thursday, October 22, 2026
Remote Connection Via Zoom
10:00 AM

ADVISORY BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

A. Roll call attendance

Attendance was recorded by roll call as follows as follows:

Name	Community	Vote
Michael Rademacher	Arlington	Here (remote)
Daniel Maurer	Ashland	Here (remote)
Jason Raposa	Bedford	Here (remote)
Jason Marcotte	Belmont	*Absent*
John Sullivan	Boston	Here (remote)
Jay Hersey	Brookline	Here (remote)
Brian White	Burlington	Here (remote)
Lucica Hiller	Cambridge	Here (remote)
Michael Trotta	Canton	Here (remote)
Chris Barrett	Chelsea	Here (remote)
Elizabette Botelho	Chicopee	*Absent*
Jason Mammone	Dedham	Here (remote)
Ernest Lariviere	Everett	*Absent*
Stephen Leone	Framingham	Here (remote)
Robert McCue	Holbrook	*Absent*
David Pavlik	Lexington	*Absent*
Joe Beauchesne	Lynn	*Absent*
James Finegan	Lynnfield Water District	Here (remote)
Yem Lip	Malden	Here (remote)
Amy McHugh	Marblehead	Here (remote)
Tim McGivern	Medford	Here (remote)
Elena Proakis Ellis	Melrose	Here (remote)
F. Thom Donahue	Nahant	*Absent*
Mike Retzky	Needham	Here (remote)

Name	Community	Vote
Thomas Fitzgerald	Newton	Here (remote)
Robert Donnelly	Norwood	Here (remote)
Margaret LaForest	Quincy	Here (remote)
Chris Cole	Reading	Here (remote)
Nicholas Rystrom	Revere	*Absent*
Brendan O'Regan	Saugus	*Absent*
Richard Raiche	Somerville	Here (remote)
Sam Stivers	Southborough	Here (remote)
John DeAmicis	Stoneham	Here (remote)
Christopher Bossi	Stoughton	Here (remote)
Gino Cresta	Swampscott	*Absent*
Joseph Conway	Wakefield	*Absent*
Patrick Fasanello	Walpole	Here (remote)
Michael Chiasson	Waltham	Here (remote)
Sean Harrington	Watertown	Here (remote)
David Cohen	Wellesley	Here (remote)
Kenan Connell	Weymouth	*Absent*
Jamie Dunbar	Wilbraham	Here (remote)
Joseph Lobao	Wilmington	Here (remote)
Matthew Shuman	Winchester	Here (remote)
John Westerling	Worcester	*Absent*
Maurice Handel	MAPC	*Absent*
J.R. Greene	Quabbin-Ware	*Absent*
Lexi Dewey	Ct. River Basin	Here (remote)

Board of Directors members:
Lou Taverna, Andrew Pappastergion

Advisory Board staff:
Matthew Romero, Nathan Coté, Christine Bennett, Abigail Bulman, Stephanie Ackley, Jogeashwini Srinivasan-Ramesh

MWRA staff:
Colleen Rizzi, Stephen Estes-Smargiassi, Michele Gillen, Jim Coyne, Carolyn Francisco Murphy, Matthew Horan, Mike Cole, Katie Ronan, Tom Durkin, Stephen Cullen, Stacie Marley, Kathleen Baskin, Sean Navin, Kathy Murtagh, Ethan Wenger

WSCAC
Moussa Siri (WSCAC)

WAC
Andreae Downs (WAC)

Also in attendance:
Catherine Woodbury (Cambridge DPW)

B. Executive Director's Report

Matthew A. Romero, Executive Director of the MWRA Advisory Board, reported that the MWRA Board of Directors had unanimously selected Jonathan Gulliver as MWRA's next Executive Director at its October 21, 2026 meeting absent Mr. Foti who recused himself at the outset of the meeting. Mr. Gulliver currently serves as Massachusetts Undersecretary of Transportation and State Highway Administrator and has served on the Lancaster Sewer District Commission since 1998, where he is currently Chair. Mr. Romero noted that he had spoken with Mr. Gulliver earlier in the week and was encouraged by his interest in strengthening MWRA's role as a resource for its member communities.

Andrew Pappastergion, Advisory Board representative to the MWRA Board of Directors and member of the Executive Director Search Committee, provided an overview of the selection process. The nationwide search attracted approximately 47 applicants, which were narrowed to eight candidates for initial interviews, four semifinalists for in-person interviews, and ultimately two finalists. Mr. Pappastergion noted that the candidates were highly qualified and that Mr. Gulliver had presented a strong long-term vision for MWRA, building upon the legacy of former Executive Director Fred Laskey. He also highlighted Mr. Gulliver's proposed goals and measurable performance benchmarks, which would allow the Board of Directors to evaluate his progress at six months, one year, and 18 months into his tenure. Mr. Pappastergion expressed enthusiasm for Mr. Gulliver's appointment, noting that the Board of Directors had selected him unanimously.

Lou Taverna, Advisory Board representative to the MWRA Board of Directors, added that both finalists were highly qualified. He noted that Mr. Gulliver had demonstrated a strong vision for MWRA's future, including ideas related to employee recruitment and retention. Mr. Taverna expressed his support for the selection and looked forward to working with the new Executive Director.

Mr. Romero also noted that Joe Foti, Advisory Board representative to the MWRA Board of Directors, had recused himself from both the search committee and the final selection vote due to his professional relationship with Mr. Gulliver, to avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest. Mr.

Romero indicated that he would forward a draft congratulatory letter from Advisory Board Chair Richard Raiche for his review and approval.

Mr. Romero welcomed two new Advisory Board representatives, Sean Harrington of Watertown, who joined over the summer, and Matt Shuman of Winchester, whose appointment had been received the previous day. He also thanked members who had responded to staff requests to update their contact information and encouraged those who had not yet responded to do so.

Mr. Romero reminded members of the Advisory Board's upcoming holiday gathering on December 10, 2026, and encouraged attendance. He noted that members were welcome to suggest MWRA staff they would like invited for informal discussions and to invite other representatives from their communities who might benefit from learning more about the Advisory Board's work.

Finally, Mr. Romero reminded members to complete and return their Annual Water and Sewer Retail Rate Survey “Beyond the Numbers” questionnaires as soon as possible. He noted that Advisory Board staff were finalizing data collection in preparation for the publication of the annual survey in January.

The report was informational, and no action was required.

C. Draft Advisory Board Comments on the Updated CSO Long-Term Control Plan

Mr. Romero provided an overview of the draft Advisory Board comments on the Updated Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Long-Term Control Plan (LTCP). He began by highlighting the progress made by MWRA and its partner communities, noting that approximately 88% of the original modeled CSO volume has been eliminated, while approximately 94% of the remaining volume is treated. Together, more than 99% of the original modeled CSO volume has either been eliminated or is now treated, based on historical 1992 typical-year rainfall conditions.

Mr. Romero explained that the partners' proposed plan, estimated at approximately $1.29 billion, would eliminate modeled CSO discharges during a projected 2050 typical year. He emphasized that the Advisory Board's recommendation supports this level of control while recognizing the significant financial obligations facing MWRA communities and ratepayers. He noted that the Advisory Board's financial analysis extends community-level obligations through 2072, with modeled costs increasing from approximately $2.2 billion under the proposed plan to $6.7 billion under a higher level of control. More than half of the additional obligations would occur after 2050.

Mr. Romero emphasized that these costs would affect residential, commercial, institutional, and other ratepayers, while communities continue to face substantial investments in sewer rehabilitation, stormwater management, drainage, and flood resilience. He explained that the comment letter supports the partners' proposed level of control without providing blanket approval of individual projects, financing arrangements, or expenditures. The letter also calls for continued attention to other sources of water pollution and additional state and federal financial assistance if regulators require more stringent CSO controls.

Mr. Raiche opened the floor for discussion.

Michael Rademacher, Arlington representative, acknowledged the extensive work undertaken by the partners and Advisory Board staff in developing the plan and comment letter. He thanked staff for their outreach to Arlington officials but stated that the Town remained concerned that the proposed level of control would not sufficiently protect Alewife Brook and the surrounding community. He indicated that Arlington would not support the letter as drafted.

Mr. Raiche reminded members that they represent their respective appointing authorities and encouraged them to consider that responsibility when casting their votes.

Christopher Bossi, newly appointed Stoughton representative, asked whether his appointment documentation had been received and whether he was eligible to vote. Mr. Romero indicated that his vote would be recorded provisionally, pending confirmation of his appointment letter. Mr. Bossi subsequently expressed concern about the continued occurrence of CSO discharges under the proposed plan and indicated that he would not support the letter, favoring more aggressive controls.

Christopher Cole, Reading representative, stated that Reading's Town Manager and Select Board had discussed the proposal and concluded that achieving zero modeled CSOs under projected 2050 conditions was financially unrealistic. He also raised concerns regarding the methodology used to project future conditions and the equitable treatment of communities that had previously paid MWRA entrance fees. He indicated that Reading would vote against the letter.

Robert Donnelly, Norwood representative, noted that Norwood had submitted its own comments opposing more stringent and costly alternatives. Although the Town remained concerned about the cost of the approximately $1.3 billion proposal, he indicated that Norwood would support the Advisory Board's letter as a means of opposing substantially more expensive levels of control.

In response, Mr. Romero explained that the Advisory Board had considered supporting the earlier, less expensive $870 million alternative. However, MassDEP had previously raised concerns regarding whether that alternative would satisfy applicable water quality requirements. He stated that supporting the Partners' revised proposal represented a strategic decision intended to balance environmental progress with affordability and regulatory feasibility. He further noted that the differing positions expressed by individual communities would help regulators understand the full range of environmental and financial concerns.

Mr. Raiche acknowledged the complexity of the vote, noting that opposition to the letter could reflect either a preference for less expensive controls or support for more stringent environmental protections. He clarified that the comments would be submitted to the plan's authors, MWRA, Cambridge, and Somerville, but would also inform MassDEP and EPA as they reviewed the draft plan.

During additional discussion, Quincy's representative indicated that the City would abstain pending an upcoming presentation and discussion with its Department of Public Works leadership. Lucica Hiller, Cambridge representative, acknowledged that the Cambridge City Council had supported a different level of control but indicated that she would vote in her capacity as an appointee of the City Manager's Office.

Mr. Bossi requested clarification regarding the meaning of zero CSOs in a 2050 typical year. Mr. Raiche explained that the proposed level of control is designed to eliminate modeled discharges under projected typical-year rainfall conditions in 2050, although larger or less frequent storms could still result in overflows.

A motion was made to approve and authorize the submission of the Advisory Board comments on the Draft Updated CSO Long-Term Control Plan. The motion was made by Robert Donnelly of Norwood and seconded by the Elena Proakis Ellis of Melrose. The motion passed by roll call vote, with 20 representatives voting in favor, four opposed, and ten abstaining. The 34 participating representatives accounted for 77.6% of the Board's total voting strength, with affirmative votes representing 81.4% of the voting strength present. A complete breakdown of the roll call vote, including individual votes and their respective voting weights, is attached at the end of these minutes.

Following the vote, Mr. Raiche acknowledged the differing perspectives among member communities and noted that a divided vote was appropriate given the complexity of the issue. Mr. Romero agreed, emphasizing that the Advisory Board represents communities with varying priorities and that differing viewpoints are an important part of its deliberative process.

At the request of Quincy's representative, Mr. Romero indicated that staff would verify and distribute the final assessment-weighted voting percentages and the number of representatives voting in favor, opposed, and abstaining. He also reiterated that Advisory Board staff remained available to assist communities preparing their own comment letters.

Mr. Raiche reminded members that the public comment period would close on October 30, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. He noted that written comments could be submitted online and that verbal comments could be provided at an upcoming public hearing, either in person at Somerville City Council Chambers or remotely, with a two-minute limit per speaker.

D. Action Item: Approval of Advisory Board meeting minutes from September 24, 2026

A motion was made to approve the Advisory Board meeting minutes of September 24, 2026, as presented. The motion was made by Michael Rademacher of Arlington, seconded by Lucica Hiller of Cambridge, and added to the omnibus roll call vote at the end of the meeting without objection.

E. New Business

None.

F. Adjournment + Omnibus

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and was added to the omnibus roll call vote, which also included approval of the September 24, 2026 Advisory Board meeting minutes. It was moved by Robert Donnelly of Norwood and seconded by Lucica Hiller of Cambridge.

An omnibus vote took place on the following items:

- *Approval of the September 24, 2026 Advisory Board meeting minutes*
- *Adjournment of the meeting*

The following roll call vote took place:

Name	Community	Vote
Michael Rademacher	Arlington	Yes (remote)
Daniel Maurer	Ashland	Yes (remote)
Jason Raposa	Bedford	Yes (remote)
Jason Marcotte	Belmont	*Absent*
John Sullivan	Boston	Yes (remote)
Jay Hersey	Brookline	Yes (remote)
Brian White	Burlington	Yes (remote)
Lucica Hiller	Cambridge	Yes (remote)
Michael Trotta	Canton	Yes (remote)
Chris Barrett	Chelsea	Yes (remote)
Elizabette Botelho	Chicopee	*Absent*
Jason Mammone	Dedham	*Not present*
Ernest Lariviere	Everett	*Absent*
Stephen Leone	Framingham	Yes (remote)
Robert McCue	Holbrook	*Absent*
David Pavlik	Lexington	*Absent*
Joe Beauchesne	Lynn	*Absent*
James Finegan	Lynnfield Water District	Yes (remote)
Yem Lip	Malden	Yes (remote)
Amy McHugh	Marblehead	Yes (remote)
Tim McGivern	Medford	Yes (remote)
Elena Proakis Ellis	Melrose	Yes (remote)
F. Thom Donahue	Nahant	*Absent*
Mike Retzky	Needham	Yes (remote)

Name	Community	Vote
Thomas Fitzgerald	Newton	Yes (remote)
Robert Donnelly	Norwood	Yes (remote)
Margaret LaForest	Quincy	Yes (remote)
Chris Cole	Reading	Yes (remote)
Nicholas Rystrom	Revere	*Absent*
Brendan O'Regan	Saugus	*Absent*
Richard Raiche	Somerville	Yes (remote)
Sam Stivers	Southborough	Yes (remote)
John DeAmicis	Stoneham	Yes (remote)
Christopher Bossi	Stoughton	Yes (remote)
Gino Cresta	Swampscott	*Absent*
Joseph Conway	Wakefield	*Absent*
Patrick Fasanello	Walpole	Yes (remote)
Michael Chiasson	Waltham	Yes (remote)
Sean Harrington	Watertown	Yes (remote)
David Cohen	Wellesley	Yes (remote)
Kenan Connell	Weymouth	*Absent*
Jamie Dunbar	Wilbraham	Yes (remote)
Joseph Lobao	Wilmington	Yes (remote)
Matthew Shuman	Winchester	Yes (remote)
John Westerling	Worcester	*Absent*
Maurice Handel	MAPC	*Absent*
J.R. Greene	Quabbin-Ware	*Absent*
Lexi Dewey	Ct. River Basin	Yes (remote)

Respectfully submitted,

David Manugian

David Manugian, Secretary

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

Roll Call Votes for Advisory Board Meeting on October 22, 2026

Quorum	77.611%
Quorum Count	34

	Vote #1	Omnibus
Yes	81.405%	100.000%
No	4.495%	0.000%
Abstain	14.100%	0.000%
Quorum?	77.611%	76.862%

Vote Share	Advisory Board Member	Official Designee	Official Alternate #1	Official Alternate #2	Today's Proxy?	Open Roll	Vote #1: Draft AB Comments on Updated CSO LTCP	Omnibus
1.673%	**ARLINGTON**	Michael Rademacher				Here	No	Yes
0.326%	**ASHLAND**	Daniel Maurer				Here	No	Yes
0.414%	**BEDFORD**	David Manugian			Jason Raposa	Here	Yes	Yes
0.988%	**BELMONT**	Jason Marcotte	Mark Mancuso					
28.411%	**BOSTON (BWSC)**	John Sullivan				Here	Yes	Yes
1.133%	**BRAINTREE**							
2.403%	**BROOKLINE**	Jay Hersey				Here	Yes	Yes
1.028%	**BURLINGTON**	Brian White				Here	Yes	Yes
3.580%	**CAMBRIDGE**	Kathy Watkins	Jim Wilcox	Lucica Hiller		Here	Yes	Yes
0.864%	**CANTON**	Michael Trotta				Here	Yes	Yes
1.787%	**CHELSEA**	Cate Fox-Lent			Chris Barrett	Here	Abstain	Yes
0.469%	**CHICOPEE**	Elizabette Botelho						
0.052%	**CLINTON**							
0.749%	**DEDHAM**	Jason Mammone				Here	Abstain	
1.861%	**EVERETT**	Ernest Lariviere						
2.748%	**FRAMINGHAM**	Stephen Leone	Stephanie Tarves			Here	Yes	Yes
0.228%	**HINGHAM S.D.**							
0.236%	**HOLBROOK**	Robert McCue						
0.000%	**LEOMINSTER**							
1.916%	**LEXINGTON**	David Pavlik	Jamal Jones					
0.036%	**LYNN**	Joe Beauchesne						
0.108%	**LYNNFIELD W.D.**	James Finegan				Here	Abstain	Yes
2.553%	**MALDEN**	Yem Lip				Here	Yes	Yes
0.350%	**MARBLEHEAD**	Amy McHugh				Here	Yes	Yes
0.782%	**MARLBOROUGH**							
2.360%	**MEDFORD**	Timothy McGivern	Scott Brinch			Here	Yes	Yes
1.128%	**MELROSE**	Elena Proakis Ellis				Here	Yes	Yes
1.248%	**MILTON**							
0.065%	**NAHANT**	F. Thom Donahue						
0.724%	**NATICK**							
1.050%	**NEEDHAM**	Mike Retzky				Here	Abstain	Yes
4.413%	**NEWTON**	Thomas Fitzgerald				Here	Yes	Yes
0.171%	**NORTHBOROUGH**							
1.534%	**NORWOOD**	Mark Ryan	Robert Donnelly			Here	Yes	Yes
0.359%	**PEABODY**							
4.163%	**QUINCY**	Margaret LaForest				Here	Abstain	Yes
0.805%	**RANDOLPH**							
0.876%	**READING**	Chris Cole	Michael Kessman			Here	No	Yes
2.154%	**REVERE**	Nicholas Rystrom						
0.576%	**SAUGUS**	Brendan O'Regan						
3.077%	**SOMERVILLE**	Richard Raiche				Here	Yes	Yes
0.094%	**SOUTH HADLEY F.D. #1**							
0.157%	**SOUTHBOROUGH**	Sam Stivers	William Cundiff			Here	Yes	Yes
1.036%	**STONEHAM**	John DeAmicis				Here	Yes	Yes
0.614%	**STOUGHTON**	Christopher Bossi				Here	No	Yes
0.269%	**SWAMPSCOTT**	Gino Cresta						
1.097%	**WAKEFIELD**	Joseph Conway	Eric Sherman					
0.504%	**WALPOLE**	Patrick Fasanello				Here	Abstain	Yes
3.038%	**WALTHAM**	Michael Chiasson	Ian McKenzie			Here	Yes	Yes
1.311%	**WATERTOWN**	Sean Harrington				Here	Abstain	Yes
1.160%	**WELLESLEY**	David Cohen				Here	Yes	Yes
0.313%	**WESTON**							
0.316%	**WESTWOOD**							
1.512%	**WEYMOUTH**	Kenan Connell						
0.108%	**WILBRAHAM**	Jamie Dunbar	Tonya Capparello			Here	Abstain	Yes
0.449%	**WILMINGTON**	Joseph Lobao				Here	Abstain	Yes
0.879%	**WINCHESTER**	Matthew Shuman				Here	Yes	Yes
0.670%	**WINTHROP**							
2.046%	**WOBURN**	Anthony Blazejowski				Here	Yes	Yes
0.027%	**WORCESTER**	John Westerling	Sean Divoll					
0.716%	**Metropolitan Area Planning Commission**	Maurice Handel						
0.714%	**Gubernatorial Appointee (Quabbin-Ware)**	J.R. Greene						
0.714%	**Gubernatorial Appointee (Wachusett Watershed)**	Barbara Wyatt						
0.714%	**Gubernatorial Appointee (Connecticut River Basin)**	Lexi Dewey				Here	Abstain	Yes
0.714%	**Gubernatorial Appointee**							
0.714%	**Gubernatorial Appointee**							
0.714%	**Gubernatorial Appointee**							
99.998%								

Yes	20	33
No	4	0
Abstain	10	0