

WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION TRUST

September 29, 2016 Meeting Notes

Environmental Affairs
Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director, MWRA
William Meehan, North Worcester County Quabbin Anglers,
Quabbin Fishermen's Association
Louis Taverna, Chairman, MWRA Advisory Board
Fred Heyes, Swift River Valley Historical Society

Attendees

Trustees

Louis Taverna, chairman, MWRA Advisory Board

Frederick a. Laskey, Executive Director, MWRA

Brigadier General William J. Meehan, North Worcester County Anglers and the Quabbin Fisherman's Association

Fred Heyes, Swift River Historical Society

Vandana Rao, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

MWRA

Kathy Soni, Budget Director Louise Miller, Budget Manager Christopher Lam, Assistant Finance Manager John Gregoire, Reservoir Program Manager Jami Walsh, Construction Coordinator Sean Navin, Director, Intergovernmental Affairs

DCR

Jonathan Yeo, Director, Division of Water Supply Protection
Bill Pula, Regional Director, Quabbin/Ware Region
John Scannell, Director, Wachusett/Sudbury Region
Dan Clark, Director, Natural Resources Section
Lisa Gustavsen, Assistant Regional Director, Quabbin/Ware Region
Trish McNally, Acting Budget Manager
Dan Crocker, Environmental Analyst, EQ Section, Wachusett/Sudbury Region
Patricia Austin, Environmental Quality Section Supervisor, Wachusett/Sudbury Region

MWRA Advisory Board

Joseph Favaloro, Executive Director

WSCAC

Lexi Dewey, Executive Director

The meeting convened at 10:04 a.m.

1. Approval of Minutes – May 26, 2016 meeting

A motion to approve the May 26, 2016 minutes was made and seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

2. FY16 End of Year Report – Jonathan Yeo, DCR

A hard copy of a PowerPoint entitled FY16 Annual Report was appended to the minutes of the meeting.

Jonathan Yeo presented the highlights from FY16 including: Watershed Land Acquisition, Land Stewardship, Wildlife Management, Equipment Purchases, Capital Improvements (Clinton labor yard fencing, new exhaust system, UST removal, and installation of above ground fuel station), Railroad Emergency Response Field Exercise, Watershed Maintenance (mowing and elimination of illegal mountain bike trails), and the Direct Discharge Project.

3. Water Quality Data Reporting – Wachusett – Dan Crocker, DCR

Dan Crocker presented on water quality monitoring and the newly acquired Aquarius software that will be used to collect and analyze stream flow data. This system will help streamline the data collection process and enable DCR to have real-time reporting of discharge into tributaries. Additionally, the Environmental Quality staff has created a data base for water quality data. They have already entered more than 200,000 records of tributary data and are in the process of entering more complex reservoir data.

4. Update on FY17 Capital Budget and Projects – Jonathan Yeo, DCR

Jonathan Yeo summarized the status of several FY17 capital budget projects including Framingham Dam #2 toe drain repair, boat acquisition, Quabbin maintenance garage design and the Quabbin Administration Building renovation project. MWRA and DCR Watershed were preparing to meet within next month or so on the Quabbin Admin Building project.

5. Drought Update – Vandana Rao, EEA and Jonathan Yeo, DCR

Trustee Rao introduced the drought update by providing an overview of the multiple factors of drought considered by EEA and MEMA. The entire state is in some level of drought across all six regions, including three regions that are in level 4. EEA and MEMA are spearheading the response for all agencies. Additionally, aid is being provided for those most impacted by the drought in the form of loans and grants through HED, SBA, USDA, etc. The next Drought Task Force meeting is on 10/5.

Jonathan Yeo echoed Trustee Rao's comments regarding the six regions across the Commonwealth and clarified that MWRA has a separate Drought Management Plan. Several contributing factors of drought are being monitored in the watersheds including precipitation, stream flow, and groundwater. All three clearly show the impact of the drought. Currently Quabbin is projected to be at normal/slightly below normal.

6. Certification of FY16 Trust Expenditures

Jonathan Yeo circulated the FY16 Trust Expenditure memo for signature by the board.

7. Other Updates

- Quabbin Power - Jami Walsh, Construction Coordinator, MWRA

Jami Walsh provided a brief update for the Quabbin Power, Communication, and Security Improvements project – Contract No. 7338. The project is being performed by Ewing Electrical Co., INC. It began on 2/11/2016 and has an expected completion date of 4/10/2017. Completed work includes installed conduit from the Windsor Power Station to the Quabbin Administration Building, poles installed at Boat Cove, underground conduit at Boat Cove, and security devices installed at Shaft 12. DCR Staff raised the point that it would be beneficial to have electricity at Boat Cove. Trustee Laskey committed to looking into the additional scope.

- Construction Updates - John Gregoire

John Gregoire presented information regarding a large void that was discovered at the CVA intake as part of the Quabbin Power project. The void has been filled and repaired to prevent any structural concerns to the dam. The void was caused by the settling of the dam and was not due to erosion.

- Fish Hatchery - Jami Walsh, Construction Coordinator, MWRA

Jami Walsh provided a brief update on the Fish Hatchery Pipeline and Hydroelectric Project — Contract No. 7235. The project, being constructed by Waterline Industries Corporation, began on 5/18/2016 and is scheduled to be completed by 9/4/2017. To date, more than 2400LF of 20" pipe has been installed, the Wet Tap of the CVA has been completed and the concrete for the base slab and walls of the valve vault have been placed. Upcoming work includes the installation of the remaining 20" pipe on the east side of the Swift River, excavation and demolition of slabs at the Swift River Bridge, the bridge crossing, and the placing of the concrete roof of the valve vault.

- Other - Jonathan Yeo, DCR

Jonathan Yeo provided a brief update on a plane that made an emergency landing on a sandbar located in the middle of the Quabbin Reservoir. A video of the plane's removal by helicopter was shown.