



*Ian A. Bowles, Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs  
Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director, MWRA  
William Meehan, North Worcester County Quabbin Anglers,  
Quabbin Fishermen's Association  
Katherine Haynes Dunphy, Chair, MWRA Advisory Board  
Judith Eiseman, Swift River Valley Historical Society*

**Water Supply Protection Trust**  
May 19, 2010  
Southborough Maintenance Facility

**Attendees**

Trustees

Katherine Haynes Dunphy, Chairperson, Advisory Board  
Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director, MWRA  
Kathleen Baskin, EOEEA Secretary Designee  
Brigadier General William J. Meehan, North Worcester County Anglers and the Quabbin Fishermen's Association  
Judith Eiseman, Swift River Valley Historical Society

MWRA

Steven Remsberg, General Counsel  
Rachel Madden, Finance Director  
Dave Coppes, Director, Western Operations  
Michael Morris, Director, Public Affairs  
Pam Heidell, Policy and Planning Manager  
Stephen Estes-Smargiassi, Director of Planning  
John Gregoire, Reservoir Program Manager  
David Whelan, Budget Manager

DCR

Jonathan Yeo, Director, Division of Water Supply Protection  
William Pula, Regional Director, Quabbin/Ware Section  
John Scannell, Regional Director, Wachusett/Sudbury  
Dan Clark, Director Natural Resources  
Paul Lyons, Environmental Analyst  
Joel Zimmerman, Regional Planner  
Thom Kyker-Snowman, Environmental Analyst  
Scott Murphy, Assistant Regional Director  
David Small, Assistant Regional Director  
Paula Packard, Aquatic Biologist

MWRA Advisory Board

Joe Favaloro, Executive Director

Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee (WSCAC)

Lexi Dewey, Executive Director

Other

Kurt Tramosch, SUASCO Watershed Council

Meeting convened at 10:03.

In opening remarks, Trustee Meehan commented upon the remarkable and rapid response of the MWRA to the water main break, and how proud and pleased he was to work with MWRA. Trustee Laskey thanked the General for his kind words, and praised others involved in the response, including Governor Patrick, MWRA staff, and Mayor Menino.

#### Approval of the February 11, 2010 Minutes

Trustee Dunphy offered two corrections. After a motion was made and seconded, the minutes of the February meeting, as amended, were unanimously approved.

#### FY10 Spending and Program Updates – Eileen Honen (with input from other DCR staff - Jonathan Yeo, Bill Pula, John Scannell)

Prior to the meeting, the following items were distributed (and are appended to the minutes): *DCR Office of Watershed Management Monthly Expenditure Analysis, January 2010, February 2010, March 2010; FY10 Water Supply Protection Revenue Period 1 (July 2009) through Period 7 (January 2010)* and back-up.

The following was reported/discussed:

- There are 147 FTEs, and six vacancies.
- FY10 spending and encumbrances are at 69% of the FY10 budget. If ongoing projects are factored in, it is anticipated that final year spending will be at about 98% of the budget, excluding fringe (fringe is not being assessed at this time).
- The modular building on Lancaster Street is under construction, and the Response Trailer, including a sustainable rain garden, is near completion.
- The Parcel GIS update contract was awarded in April. Project is on track for completion by the end of the fiscal (?) year.
- The design of improvements to eliminate direct discharges (from the state highway abutting Wachusett Reservoir) is underway. The project is a priority for MWRA/DCR given concerns that the current road and drainage is not well designed, and the potential for spills and contamination is large. The actual cost to construct the drainage improvements is 1.5 million dollars, and federal funding is being sought. At same time, MHD has other priority highway projects for which it is also seeking federal funds. MWRA, EEA, and DCR will continue to push DOT to fund this project, and will explore other funding mechanisms. The Trustees resolved to keep this a continuing agenda item until the matter is resolved.
- Paving work at Quabbin slated for 2010 has been completed.
- A contract for construction of modular restrooms at Quabbin has been awarded.
- Renovation of the former residence at Blue Meadow Road is nearing completion, with a certificate of occupancy expected by end of June. The renovated building will include office space and a conference room.
- Numerous heating repairs at Quabbin are underway.
- Four Ford vehicles as well as a number of kayaks and canoes have been ordered.
- Public access plans for Sudbury/Foss Reservoir are being updated.
- A lawsuit related to the Watershed Protection Act will be heard in the Supreme Judicial Court.
- DCR is receiving an award from the American Water Works Association for its outstanding Water Source Protection Program.

- Elevated levels of giardia and crypto have been measured in Wachusett Reservoir; the levels do not constitute a violation of the Safe Drinking Water Act, but nonetheless are of concern to DCR/MWRA. Sanitary surveys are being undertaken.
- Many DCR Watershed Protection staff have been required to take furloughs despite their salaries being funded by the Trust (and removed from the state budgeting process).
- There are continuing efforts to try to reduce DCR's PILOT payments. DCR is seeking reimbursement from Fay School and others to pay their share of PILOT payments since they are on Sudbury watershed lands. At the mention of Sudbury Reservoir watershed lands, Kurt Tramosch from the SUASCO Watershed Association and the New England Water Works Association's Groundwater Committee spoke about his concern regarding metals leachate from artificial turf on certain ball fields surrounding Sudbury Reservoir. Further discussions with DEP regarding this issue will occur.

### DCR Forestry Update- Jonathan Yeo

Prior to the meeting, the following item was distributed: *Water Supply Protection Forestry Update, May 19, 2010.*

Jonathan Yeo noted highlights from the update, including EEA's decision that there would be a scientific review of DCR's forestry practices before any new timber sales would be released. Habitat management practices will be reviewed with Division of Fish and Wildlife. It was also noted that there are 32 forestry projects that have been sold, but that have not yet started and have been put on hold.

Discussion between DCR and the Trustees ensued. Varying views of forest management were expressed, with questions raised concerning clear-cutting, best measures to assure forest diversity (including active management versus natural processes), and what forestry practices best assured water supply protection.

There were also questions raised regarding the 32 forestry lots that had been sold. DCR staff indicated that these lots represented about \$500,000 worth of sales and that decisions on the lots would be made soon. It was noted that perhaps DCR would move forward with lots in South Quabbin and Ware, with some modifications, whereas decisions regarding contracts in North Quabbin were more challenging. Trustee Laskey asked whether contracts had an escape clause that would allow DCR to cancel the contracts. Trustee Dunphy cautioned that the forests in effect comprised MWRA's filtration plant, and that MWRA communities should be considered as stakeholders in deliberations regarding forestry.

### Approval of FY11 Work Plan and Budget – Jonathan Yeo

The *Fiscal Year 2011 Work Plan, May 2010, Final Draft* was distributed prior to the meeting.

Jonathan noted key components of the Work Plan, including the budget, revised revenue projections, and a list of major projects. It was noted that a big issue is fringe, and that the FY11 Budget provides for fringe payments, in the event that fringe is assessed in FY11. Jonathan indicated there had been few changes between the draft work plan presented in February and the Final Plan, and that the bottom line for the budget was unchanged.

Questions/concerns included:

- What are the implications regarding the decrease in NN (non-land capital budget) between FY10 and FY11? Answer: DCR was able to accomplish some big items in FY 2010, so projects slated for FY11 are smaller projects.
- What is the appropriate course of action for Brigham Pond Dam (it has been declared unsafe) The dam presents a dilemma for MWRA; it is not critical for watershed protection and repair of the dam would be costly; alternatively, removal of the dam would be problematic, as it impounds a big pond on which many homes have lakefront property.

The following motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved:

**To approve the proposed Fiscal Year 2011 Watershed Protection Work Plan and FY11 Water Supply Protection Trust Work Plan Budget and proposed operating expenditures of \$13,721,254.00.**

Quabbin Fishing – Aquatics Invasives Program – Jonathan Yeo (and Bill Pula)

It was reported that the fishing season started April 17, and about 500 season passes had been sold to date, versus 700 sold last year. Between this year and last year, an even larger number of boats have been sealed (after the decontamination process that is required for boats to be allowed on Quabbin Reservoir, a seal is placed on the boats). This year, the decontamination of boats occurs two days per month; for these two days, DCR staff engaged in the decontamination process are diverted from their other duties.

It was also noted that an Aquatic Species Plan had been added to the Water Supply Protection Plan, and that such plan emphasizes public education, surveys, brochures, and signage.

Joe Favaloro asked that staff costs associated with decontamination of boats be quantified.

Appalachian Mountain Club – Proposed Quabbin Trail Designation – Paul Lyons

Paul Lyons presented a PowerPoint on AMC's proposed Quabbin Trail. He noted that the Trail extends from Long Island up to New Hampshire, with some gaps in between due in part to landowner issues. The proposed trail traverses part of the Quabbin Reservation; DCR staff indicated that in initial conversations with AMC, DCR has made it clear that any trail through Quabbin would contain restrictions on type of use and signage, and that DCR would reserve the right to close the trail.

A number of concerns were expressed by the Trustees, including concern that DCR would have to give up control where the trail was located on watershed lands. EEA Trustee designee Kathy Baskin felt that there were alternative alignments that did not include DCR watershed land. Trustee Judith Eiseman noted that the Swift River Historical Society was concerned and not supportive. Trustee Meehan also noted that at one point, the North Quabbin Anglers considered, but did not act upon, a motion to oppose the Trail.

Ultimately, the Trust decided to leave the Trail an open issue.

Shaft 5A Water Main Break and Response – MWRA staff (Fred Laskey, Dave Coppes, and Stephen Estes-Smargiassi)

MWRA staff presented a PowerPoint (attached) on the Shaft 5A break. The PowerPoint included an incident overview, information on the emergency back-up supply, the pipe break and repair, water quality, emergency response preparation, the preliminary investigation, the Hultman rehabilitation, and Redundancy Initiatives.

The meeting convened at 1:45pm.