



*Ian A. Bowles, Secretary of 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**

September 24, 2010

DCR West Boylston Office

### **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

#### MWRA

Steven Remsberg, General Counsel  
Dave Coppes, Director, Western Operations  
Pam Heidell, Policy and Planning Manager  
Stephen Estes-Smargiassi, Director of Planning  
John Gregoire, Reservoir Program Manager  
Kathy Soni, Budget Director

#### DCR

Jonathan Yeo, Director, Division of Water Supply Protection  
William Pula, Regional Director, Quabbin/Ware Section  
John Scannell, Regional Director, Wachusett/Sudbury  
Eileen Honen, Budget Director  
Pat Austin, Environmental Analyst  
Dan Clark, Director Natural Resources  
Paul Lyons, Environmental Analyst  
Joel Zimmerman, Regional Planner  
Scott Murphy, Assistant Regional Director  
Jamie Carr, Aquatic Biologist  
Derek Liimatainen, Wachusett Chief Ranger  
Greg Buzzell, Wachusett Chief Forester

#### MWRA Advisory Board

Joe Favaloro, Executive Director

#### Water Supply Citizens Advisory Committee (WSCAC)

Lexi Dewey, Executive Director

The meeting convened at 10:02.

### Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the May 19, 2010 meeting were unanimously approved.

### FY10 Summary – Eileen Honen, DCR

Prior to and at the meeting, the following items were distributed (and are appended to the minutes): *DCR Office of Watershed Management Monthly Expenditure Analysis, May, June, July 2010; Water Supply Protection Revenue FY2010, 07/01/09-05/31/10; Water Supply Protection Revenue, FY10, 07/01/09-06/30/10; Water Supply Protection Revenue, FY11, 07/01/10-07/31/10; FY2010 Final Payments; Fishing Area III Restroom Replacement.*

Eileen Honen noted the following in her FY10 summary:

- 95.9% of the FY10 budget was expended, exclusive of fringe.
- 9 new vehicles were purchased (DCR's fleet manager has worked with State Office of Vehicle Management to purchase vehicles where possible; DCR now owns 32 vehicles, some of which were bought when five-year leases terminated).
- Wachusett storm discharges elimination project was completed in spring 2010 with DOT funding and bidding the project.
- A new Emergency Response Trailer was installed by MWRA and DCR in 2010.
- The Parcel Update Project was completed by the contracted Vendor in Spring.
- Heating upgrades as well as new carpeting were installed at John Augustus Hall, reducing energy consumption by 35%
- Quabbin Fishing Area Restroom Replacement project was completed, including new lighting, electrical service (photovoltaics), and water lines.
- Paving and drainage improvements were accomplished at Quabbin
- A contract was awarded for the repair of Brigham Dam.
- Purchase of canoes and kayaks.
- Watershed had 90% on-time payments, enabling prompt-pay discounts.

DCR also requested that the Trustees certify the final FY10 Expenditures; pursuant to the Watershed Protection Trust statute requirement that annually the Trust must certify that expenditures do not exceed revenues. In FY10, the Trust's operating costs were \$10,956,036.94, versus a budget of \$11,418,827 excluding fringe. The Certification was signed by the four Trustees present.

Since the budget provides for fringe, and since the Trust was not assessed fringe, MWRA has put the money allocated for fringe in Reserves. It was remarked by the Trustees that the Trust funding mechanism is providing the means to run an effective Watershed Protection program.

### FY11 Financial and Progress Reports – Eileen Honen, DCR

Prior to and at the meeting, the following items were distributed (and are appended to the minutes): *Wachusett Earthday Recycling Center Update; Science and Technical Advisory Committee Fact Sheet and minutes.*

Eileen Honen noted the following in her FY11 Update:

- Spending thus far this year is comparable to last year at this time.
- New contract solicitations include water quality multi-probe instruments; pre-cast structures to be used in repair of facilities; and renewal of two gull study contracts.

Asian Long-Horned Beetle at Wachusett Reservoir – John Scannell and Greg Buzzell, DCR

Three maps were distributed: *ALB Regulated Area within the Wachusett Watershed September 24, 2010*; *Asian Longhorned Beetle Regulated Area as of September 24, 2010*; and *ALB Regulated Area within the Wachusett Watershed September 24, 2010* (with polygon areas showing zones of high, Low, and Moderate Risk). There was a PowerPoint Presentation which is appended to the meeting minutes.

DCR noted that the ALB regulated zone continues to grow, with the zone creeping along the northern part of Wachusett Reservoir. Red Oak and Red Maple are host species. At this time, 34 acres of DCR property are being harvested (cutting and chipping the trees also kills the insects). In response to questions, DCR staff noted that both private citizens as well as DPW workers have identified recent locations of ALB infestation. It was also noted that there are research projects underway to develop control methods to halt the spread of the ALB. DCR is not incurring extra expenses, other than coordination, as Department of Agriculture heads up the ALB program.

Hydrilla Infestation near Wachusett Reservoir – Jamie Carr, DCR

Jamie Carr gave a PowerPoint presentation on Hydrilla, presenting pictures of the infestation (PowerPoint presentation is appended to the meeting minutes), and noting the eutrophic conditions that resulted from Hydrilla infestation. He noted that Hydrilla was found in some ponds north of and in close proximity to Wachusett Reservoir; these ponds are surrounded by private property.

Trustee Laskey, with the support of other Trustees present, suggested a preemptive strike to get a consultant on board to advise on a program of Hydrilla control. It was determined that initial study could be undertaken by DCR under Delegated Authority, but that should the Consultant's recommendations require significant expenditures, the Trust would need an Emergency meeting and a Budget Amendment may be required. Also discussed was the need to work with and educate various groups, including private landowners, fishermen, and other Advisory Committees and groups.

Boat Seal Update (in place of Update on Forestry) - Bill Pula

A handout, *Quabbin Boat Seal Program 2010*, was distributed and summarized by Bill Pula. It was noted that there were approximately 1000 boats that have been inspected and sealed, and that of these, only 49 had been washed and sealed a second time. Bill also noted that the number of boats sealed in 2010 (408) was less than those washed and sealed in 2009, and that he expects continued decline.

Also regarding the Zebra Mussel, two handouts, *Overview of Zebra Mussel Studies*, and *Calcium Released From Quabbin and Laurel Lake Rocks* were available and very briefly summarized. A key finding was that Zebra Mussels could not survive the Quabbin water. Zebra Mussel studies will be discussed at a subsequent Trust meeting.

5A Water Main Break- Fred Laskey, MWRA

Trustee Laskey stated that approximately 75 yards from the first break at Shaft 5A, MWRA staff observed water leaking. The leak is small and has remained steady, and MWRA and its contractors are expediting a portion of another project (the Hultman Interconnections Project), so that a section of the Hultman will be available to enable the MetroWest Tunnel to be taken out of service to accomplish the repair.

Presentation on Gull Harassment – John Scannell and Dan Clark, DCR

A PowerPoint presentation was made and is attached to the minutes of this meeting.

The meeting convened at 12:03.