EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN WATER TRUST

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday, March 26, 2020

Time: 12:30 PM **Location:** By Telephone

Notice: Due public notice given

Attendees Sue Perez, Executive Director, Trust

Maya Jonas-Silver, Director of Finance & Administration, Trust

Maria Pinaud, Director of Program Development, Trust

Also Present Nate Keenan, Deputy Director, Trust

Jonathan Maple, Policy Analyst, Trust

Sally Peacock, Controller, Trust

Ashraf Gabour, Environmental Engineer, MassDEP Michele Higgins, Environmental Engineer, MassDEP Gregory Devine, Environmental Engineer, MassDEP

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

1. State Revolving Fund – Intended Use Plan (IUP) Update: Ms. Pinaud notified the Committee that due to the Governor's Orders regarding COVID-19, MassDEP had to cancel the public hearing for the IUP that was scheduled for March 16, 2020. MassDEP has requested a waiver from the public hearing requirement, and confirmed receipt of written testimony from interested communities. The Committee noted that SRF will have to wait for guidance from EPA as it relates to IUP finalization.

Additionally, Ms. Pinaud noted that two projects have dropped from the Drinking Water SRF (DWSRF) totaling \$16 million and would like to advance two projects to substitute the dropped projects. Ms. Perez noted that the DWSRF IUP was listed at \$165 million assuming a 30% drop rate. She noted that there was a concern that substituting dropped projects may reduce the DWSRF's capacity to assist Emergency PFAS projects.

Ms. Pinaud and Mr. Gabour noted that some projects, such as Tri-Town, have already reduced project cost. Additionally, they noted with the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, MassDEP is uncertain how many projects will move forward. The Committee agreed to allow the two projects to advance and will monitor the IUP for additional dropping projects.

2. SRF Deadline extensions due to COVID-19 emergency: Ms. Pinaud asked the committee to consider extending the June 30 deadline 45-60 days into August, to allow municipalities more time to conduct meetings and finalize project requirements. She noted that this will require a revision to the 2019 Intended Use Plan. Ms. Perez noted, and the Committee agreed, that the Trust and MassDEP should put out a joint statement explaining the deadline extensions for additional subsidy and local authorization.

Other Business (Items not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting)

- 3. <u>Update on PFAS Emergency Projects</u>: Ms. Pinaud updated the Committee on the Littleton and Barnstable emergency PFAS projects. Littleton has chosen to move forward with a short-term solution to blend source water to reduce the overall PFAS concentration below the 20 parts per trillion. This project should cost less than \$1 million. Littleton will pursue a longer-term project with an updated water treatment plant. MassDEP will review project plans and update the committee on their status. Barnstable will also pursue a short-term solution that will likely cost less than \$1.5 million, and the district will pursue multiple water treatment plants in the future. Lastly, Ms. Pinaud noted that Braintree may have an emergency request for advanced filtration for PFAS but has not submitted the application. The Committee will continue to monitor the PFAS projects and bring them to the Board once ready.
- **4.** Next Board Meeting (April 1): Mr. Keenan asked if the Committee would like to postpone next week's Board meeting as there was little pressing business moving forward. The Committee agreed and determined that if an emergency project or something critical came up, a Board meeting could be scheduled as needed.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED:

1. PowerPoint Slide: Drinking Water Intended Use Plan - Potential for Emergency PFAS Capacity.

The meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Minutes Approved: <u>06/11/2020</u>