EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN WATER TRUST

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date:	Thursday, August 29, 2019
Time:	12:30 PM
Location:	Massachusetts Clean Water Trust 1 Center Plaza, Suite 430 Boston, Massachusetts 02108
Notice:	Due public notice given
Attendees	Sue Perez, Executive Director, Trust Maria Pinaud, Director of Program Development, Trust Maya Jonas-Silver, Director of Finance & Administration, Trust
Also Present	Nate Keenan, Deputy Director, Trust Jonathan Maple, Policy Analyst, Trust
Absent	

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

- 1. <u>2018 Principal Forgiveness Discussion:</u> Ms. Perez noted that the Trust was working on the 2018 Principal Forgiveness (PF), and monitoring projects that up until 2018 were allowed to receive PF as a carryover. This practice will no longer be allowed for projects on the 2019 IUP and moving forward. Mr. Keenan agreed to finalize and circulate the 2018 numbers before the Board vote in September.
- 2. <u>Cherry Valley Sewer District:</u> Mr. Keenan presented an update on Cherry Valley Sewer District (CVSD) request to refinance loans the CVSD has with US Department of Agriculture (USDA), based on CVSD's annual reports and impact the Trust could have by refinancing their USDA loans. Additionally, Mr. Keenan provided the Committee with CVSD's annual report and a letter sent to the committee from State Representative David H.A. LeBoeuf. The Committee discussed the issue and noted that refinancing of the USDA loans would have a marginal impact on the district's annual shortfall.

The Committee is not convinced that CVSD's long-term fiscal outlook will allow for the repayment of the loan to maturity to the Trust. The Committee has four questions to explore.

- 1. What happens if CVSD runs out of money? What would MassDEP's response be?
- 2. What are the terms for defaulting on an unsecured USDA Rural Development loan, or capability to restructure the loan in more favorable terms for CVSD?
- 3. What is the Trust's "perpetuity" requirements as it relates to financial risk?
- 4. What does the MassDEP operations line item (2200-0100) that carved out \$100,000 for the development of a water and sewer economic infrastructure feasibility study and master plan for Leicester entail for the Town and CVSD?

The Trust and MassDEP will work on answering these questions and responding to Representative LeBoeuf's letter.

- 3. <u>Asset Management Planning Grant Program Document Update:</u> MassDEP provided the updated documents earlier in the week and the Trust has accepted their changes. The Asset Management Planning Grant documents have been finalized.
- 4. <u>2020 Intended Use Plan Goal Setting:</u> Mr. Keenan proposed to the Committee that MassDEP and the Trust hold a meeting to establish annual goals for the 2020 IUP. The Committee largely agreed and will review the matter before the 2020 IUP is finalized.
- 5. <u>MassDEP 2020 Project Evaluation Form Update:</u> Ms. Pinaud reported on the results of the 2020 Solicitation. MassDEP received a total of 104 projects, 62 Clean Water project totaling \$360 million and 40 Drinking Water projects totaling \$227 million. Ms. Pinaud confirmed that Clean Water is continuing a downward trend. The Committee discussed the potential of expanded outreach such as following up with communities that have dropped out of the process.
- 6. <u>NIMS Reporting Procedures:</u> Ms. Perez brought up the procedures for annual NIMS reporting. An issue arose right before the reporting deadline and the Trust and MassDEP will need to discuss what needs be reported and by which organization. The Committee discussed the issues and will work on creating a process that both organizations will work on and follow next year.

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

7. <u>EPA Non-Point Source Consultant Offer:</u> Mr. Keenan notified the Committee about an opportunity EPA is offering related to Non-Point Source Consulting services offered by Northbridge Consultants. The Trust would need to submit a request for EPA's consideration by August 30. The Trust was only notified this morning which may make it impossible to submit a request in the given timeframe.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED: Cherry Valley presentation

The meeting adjourned at 1:35p.m.

Minutes Approved: <u>10/24/2019</u>