

**Minutes**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**Massachusetts Clean Water Trust**

**DATE:** May 10, 2017

**START TIME:** 1:35 p.m.

**PLACE:** State House, Room 327

**NOTICE:** Due public notice given

**MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE –**

**PRESENT:** Sue Perez, Executive Director of the Trust  
Rachel Madden, Director of Finance & Administration of the Trust  
Steve McCurdy, Director of Program Development of the Trust

**ALSO PRESENT:** Bernard Greene, Senior Legal Counsel of the Trust  
Nate Keenan, Deputy Director of the Trust  
Kristin LaCroix, Budget Director, MassDEP  
Sean Cronin, Senior Deputy Commissioner of Local Services, DOR

**MINUTES APPROVED:**

January 11, 2017

February 15, 2017

April 25, 2017

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS (INCLUDING DECISIONS MADE/ACTIONS TAKEN/ VOTES):**

1. Disadvantaged Business Enterprise. Ms. LaCroix passed out a revised draft of the letter to the EPA that will submit proposed MBE and WBE Objectives for projects financed by the Trust. Mr. McCurdy said that if there are no objections after the Committee had a chance to review, DEP will finalize and sign the letter by end of week so that it can be included in the Board's packet and available for approval by the Board at its Wednesday meeting.
2. Department of Revenue Financing Programs. The Committee invited Mr. Cronin to the meeting to discuss community initiatives of the Department of Revenue, Local Services Division. Ms. Perez stated that in past Committee meetings there has been discussion of whether there is anything that can be done to assist communities with water related economic development. The Trust has also been hearing about smaller grant programs in the Commonwealth and wanted to better understand what those programs are and whether they are related to water infrastructure.

Mr. Cronin said that among the concerns he hears in many parts of the state are water and sewer issues, especially on the Cape. The underlying problem is always money because investment is expensive. An additional problem is that many communities do not do capital planning or long-range planning that would help

reduce the uncertainties of budgeting for the necessary capital expenditures. He is involved with some state programs that can be useful in addressing these problems. The Community Compact program can help with capital planning, long range planning, financial policies, and other needs. Grants are given in amounts up to \$30,000 for water planning for communities. These grants save communities significant costs as such planning can cost in the range of \$100,000 to \$250,000, depending on the size of the community. The grants are monitored to make sure they get results. In addition, the grant is disbursed 75% up front and 25% upon completion. The Trust could have a role in connection with Community Compact efforts. The MassWorks program that is administered by the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development is also a resource that could work alongside the Trust. MassWorks is the state's largest grant program for municipalities, including water and sewer infrastructure assistance, which is often necessary before new business can come into a community. Mr. McCurdy noted that the Trust could not finance new growth infrastructure but could finance improvements to existing infrastructure. Mr. Cronin also discussed the data that the Division of Local Services compiles that could be useful to the Trust.

3. Barnstable County. Mr. Keenan reported on ideas that Barnstable County is discussing for the use of the earnings on their Title V loans. He said that he would like to have some more information on their plans and wants to ask the county a series of questions, including how they will repay their original Title V loans to the Trust.
4. Town of Plymouth. Mr. Keenan reported that the Town of Plymouth has a \$48.5 million loan outstanding from the Trust for emergency sewer and pump repairs. The repairs were related to alleged faulty operation of the town's waste water treatment plan that resulted in discharge of raw sewage last year into Plymouth Harbor. The town expects to recover some of the costs of this incident through litigation against the plant's operator, Veolia Water North America. In the meantime, the town wants some form of additional forbearance from the Trust. Ms. Perez said that we should review the town's proposal to determine what is appropriate for the Trust to do.

**LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED:**

Draft Letter to EPA regarding fair share objectives for MBE/WBE firms

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

**Approved:** August 9, 2017