EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN WATER TRUST

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday, May 9, 2019

Time: 12:30 PM

Location: Massachusetts Clean Water Trust

1 Center Plaza, Suite 430 Boston, Massachusetts 02108

Notice: Due public notice given

Attendees 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 Sue Perez, Executive Director, Trust

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

- 1. Minutes Approval. Tabled until following meeting.
- 2. Asset Management Planning (AMP) Grant Program Discussion for 2020 IUP. Mr. Keenan ask Ms. Pinaud, if there are any updates on the AMP grant program. For 2019, Ms. Pinaud confirmed that the projects are following the standard SRF planning project process and that MassDEP was waiting on the loan applications to be completed. For 2020, Ms. Pinaud responded that she is waiting for notes from the Trust, but the current draft is still a work in progress. Mr. Keenan responded that he would review the document and respond to MassDEP.
- **3.** <u>Updates on DEP Status for Regulation Changes: AMP and HC Loans.</u> Mr. Keenan asked if there were any updates on regulation changes Ms. Pinaud informed the committee that she is waiting for the permission to publish the changes and notice to hold a public hearing by the end of May with the intention of having the regulation finalized later in the summer.
- 4. Refinancing of USDA loan to wastewater utility. Mr. Keenan informed the committee that the Cherry Valley Wastewater District (CV), located in the Town of Leicester, has reached to the Trust regarding refinancing three USDA loans, totaling approximately \$2.8 million, that have an interest rate of 4.5%. By the Trust's estimates, refinancing the loan will saving CV approximately \$27,000 a fiscal year. Mr. Keenan said the Trust has a call with Cherry Valley scheduled and will update the Committee at the next meeting.
- **6.** Update Bottle Filling Station (School Water Infrastructure Grants (SWIG)): EPA Letter, Legislation, and Moving Forward. Mr. Keenan noted that request for having the legislature to adopt the Trust Contract Assistance amendment has not moved forward in the recently released Senate budget for FY20. The Treasury was working to get an amendment filed to the Senate FY2020 budget. The committee discussed if the Trust should move

forward with sending a deviation request to the EPA. The concern remains that sending the request to the EPA may make it more challenging to get state support if there was an open question of EPA approval. The Executive Committee would discuss with their respective agencies and report back next week.

- 7. <u>Update DWSRF Disadvantaged Communities.</u> Mr. Keenan informed the committee that the Trust has completed the public comment period for Disadvantaged Communities related to the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF). The Trust has created a webpage describing the updated program. Ms. Pinaud asked the Trust for updated language for the 2019 DWSRF Intended Use Plan. Mr. Keenan agreed and said the Trust would forward language.
- **8.** <u>Update 208 and Martha's Vineyard</u>. Ms. Pinaud noted that there has been little progress on this plan. DEP met with representatives from the towns and was working on a plan that would be acceptable. According to the Towns, the largest hurdle appears to be funding, but DEP and the Trust are awaiting a formal request before proceeding any further on funding discussions.

Other Business

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

- **9. PFAS** and **Emerging Contaminants.** Mr. Keenan brought the topic of PFAS before the committee for discussion because Commissioner Suuberg, during the Board meeting on 05/08/2019, noted that this issue was becoming more urgent as information about these contaminants is released. Mr. Keenan would like to know how the Trust can help. Ms. Pinaud will discuss the issue internally with DEP and the Commissioner. Ms. Jonas-Silver noted that there are a number of groups working on this issue, and that she can reach out to these groups for input.
- **10.** The Trust and Environmental Working Groups. Mr. Keenan noted that there are a number of working groups tackling issues such as climate resiliency and other water infrastructure project and programs where the Trust could be helpful. Mr. Keenan asked that as these programs move forward that the Trust be updated to provide assistance where appropriate. The Committee agreed and will work on establishing communications and including the Trust in the future.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED:

The meeting adjourned at 1:21 p.m.

Minutes Approved: ____05/24/2019___