

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN WATER TRUST**

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Wednesday, May 15, 2024
Time: 1:30 PM
Location: Remote
Notice: Due public notice given
Attendees Sue Perez, Executive Director, Trust
Timur Yontar, Director of Finance & Administration, Trust
Maria Pinaud, Director of Program Development, Trust
Tim Jones, Deputy Director of Program Development, Trust
My Tran, Treasurer, Trust
Also Present Nate Keenan, Deputy Director, Trust
Pam Booker, Accountant, Trust
Sunkarie Konteh, Accountant, Trust
Kathryn Armour, Data Analyst, Trust
Joshua Derouen, Senior Program Associate, Trust
Kailyn Fellmeth, Program Associate, Trust
Julian Honey, Program Associate, Trust
Rachel Stanton, Investor Relations and Communications
Graphic Designer, Trust
Robin McNamara, Deputy Director of Municipal Services,
DEP
Jessica Sibirski, Drinking Water Analyst, MassDEP
Jennifer Pederson, Executive Director, Massachusetts Water
Works Association

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

	<u>Open the Meeting:</u> Ms. Perez opened the meeting after confirming the attendees present.
1.	<u>Review and approval of minutes from the 4/10/2024 meeting of the Executive Committee:</u> The Committee approved meeting minutes from the 4/10/2024 meeting of the Executive Committee.
2.	<u>Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grants (OSG) Program Update:</u> Ms. Pinaud stated that since 2020, MassDEP and the Trust has been awarded EPA's OSG grant annually. The grant funding is approximately \$1 million per year, totaling approximately \$5 million over the past five years. MassDEP and the Trust planned to use the funding to provide loan forgiveness to combined sewer overflow (CSO) or stormwater projects listed on the annual Intended Use Plans (IUPs). To date, none of the grant funds have been drawn down.

	<p>Accordingly, EPA recommended that a separate solicitation be opened for an OSG grant program, with a focus on small, rural, or Disadvantaged Communities to meet the EPA requirement that 25% of the grant be given to these communities.</p> <p>2025 SRF Project Solicitation Ms. Pinaud stated that the 2025 SRF project solicitation opened today which included the application for an OSG grant program.</p> <p>The Executive Committee unanimously agreed that the \$5 million in unused grant funds be applied to the projects selected from the 2025 solicitation.</p> <p>Ms. Perez agreed with the approach. The Trust will reach out to Senator Gobi and A&F's Federal Funds Office, as they will be good resources. Additional updates will be provided at a future meeting.</p>
3.	<p><u>School Water Improvement Grant (SWIG) Extension Request and Program Update:</u></p> <p>2023 SWIG Grant Program Update Mr. Honey stated that there were fewer grants approved in 2023 than in previous years. However, collaborative outreach efforts with MassDEP have increased the number of applicants in 2024, particularly those that are private schools and childcare facilities. It is expected that participation in SWIG will continue to increase. To date, the SWIG has awarded over \$1.8 million to 284 schools, serving over 117,000 students.</p> <p>Springfield Public Schools (SPS) Grant Extension Request Mr. Honey stated that last summer, SPS was awarded the largest grant in SWIG history. It has since been completing replacement and retesting activities on an ongoing basis.</p> <p>Through this work, SPS officials identified five problemed fixtures, which would require high-cost renovations. Accordingly, SPS requested the reallocation of grant-eligible fixtures to other schools in their district. SPS also requested a 90-day extension to allow time to complete the work. The reallocation plans would lead to exceeding the program cap of one fountain per 100 students. However, waiving the cap would allow SPS to complete grant-funded work in the most cost-efficient way.</p> <p>The Executive Committee unanimously agreed with the recommendation to issue the extension and allow the reallocation.</p>
<p>Other Business (Items not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting): None.</p>	
<p><u>Adjourn the Meeting:</u> Ms. Perez requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Pinaud moved the motion. A roll call was held, and all members approved the motion.</p>	

LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED:

1. School Water Improvement Grants Update Presentation

Minutes Approved: July 17, 2024