

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

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 20, 2021
Time: 1:30 PM
Location: Remote
Notice: Due public notice given
Attendees Sue Perez, Executive Director, Trust
Maria Pinaud, Director of Program Development, Trust
Timur Yontar, Director of Finance & Administration, Trust
Also Present Nate Keenan, Deputy Director, Trust
Sally Peacock, Controller, Trust
Jonathan Maple, Policy Analyst, Trust
Joshua Derouen, Program Associate, Trust
Keelan Baldwin, Intern, Trust
Robin McNamara, Deputy Director of Municipal Services, MassDEP
Ashraf Gabour, Program Manager, MassDEP

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS	
	<u>Open the Meeting:</u> Ms. Perez opened the meeting after confirming the attendees present.
1.	<u>Minutes:</u> The Committee approved meeting minutes from the 10/13/2021 meeting of the Executive Committee.
2.	<u>2022 Intended Use Plan (IUP) Capacity:</u> 2021 IUP Totals Ms. Pinaud said that the deadline for 2021 IUP loan applications was on October 15 th . MassDEP is working to review and gather information from these applications to determine which 2021 IUP projects will be moving forward. Mr. Gabour said that the total 2021 Drinking Water (DW) IUP cost was approximately \$184 million which is lower than the approximately \$219 million that was listed on the 2021 DW IUP. The emergency projects being financed total more than \$5 million. The \$15 million cap per applicant was kept intact. The actual total 2021 Clean Water (CW) IUP cost was approximately \$512 million which is lower than the approximately \$622 million that was listed on the 2021 CW IUP. The \$40 million cap per applicant was removed because capacity allowed for it.

Ms. Pinaud said that the cap has been as high as \$50 million for applicants on past CW IUPs. There was initially a cap of \$40 million for the 2021 CW IUP because of the number of projects that were initially expected to be financed.

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Mr. Keenan said that all three member communities will be borrowing separately for the project. Separate loan agreements will also be issued to each member community.

Mr. Keenan asked MassDEP how they would like to handle the disbursement requisitions.

Ms. Pinaud said there is a call scheduled with Tri-Town's consultant for next week and the details would be resolved then. The Trust will be invited to the call.

Determining 2022 IUP Capacity

Ms. Pinaud said that MassDEP would like the Clean Water Trust to calculate the 2022 IUP capacity in the next couple of weeks to help determine projects that may advance to the IUP and determining the dollar amount cap per applicant. The desired caps are \$15 million for DW IUP and \$50 million for CW IUP.

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

Project Evaluation Forms (PEFs) for 2022 IUP Asset Management Planning (AMP) Grant

Program Projects: Ms. Pinaud said that all the PEFs MassDEP received during the 2022 IUP solicitation for AMP projects are worthy of financing. There is even one for a cybersecurity plan.

The total project cost for AMP projects based on the PEFs received is approximately \$3.8 million, of which, 60% would be funded by a grant from the Trust.

The Trust will be sent a list of the projects and communities that applied.

Ms. Perez said that the Trust's Board of Trustees would need to vote on the amount allocated to AMP projects because this is above the amount previously approved by the Board. The vote will be added to the agenda for next month's Board meeting.

School Water Improvement Grant (SWIG) Program: Mr. Maple said that there was a meeting yesterday with MassDEP and UMass associates about the timeline, program activities, and other details for the second round of SWIG.

A PowerPoint presentation will be brought to next week's Executive Committee meeting with information on this second round.

A press release is being drafted and it will be sent to MassDEP, A&F and the Governor's office for a quote and their input.

Subrecipient Monitoring Meeting with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA): Ms. Perez said that there was a meeting yesterday with the EPA to go over how the Trust communicated the equivalency requirements of federal funds for the 2019 Drinking Water grant based on the Federal Funding Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) reporting for 2019.

The EPA said that for the Trust to comply with requirements, all communities that have projects entered on the FFATA reports need to be notified that any loan proceeds they are disbursed for those projects are federal awards for the purpose of being required to undergo a Uniform Guidance's Single Audit, even if the funds did not come from the federal grant.

This should not lead to any significant changes for the Trust nor communities with projects on FFATA reports since many communities in Massachusetts have a Single Audit conducted each year since they are disbursed funds for multiple federal programs.

Small System Financing: Ms. Perez said that there are many small wastewater systems that are privately-owned throughout Massachusetts. There are also many homes in smaller communities with private septic systems for wastewater. Private centralized wastewater systems are not eligible for State Revolving Fund financing.

Making publicly owned small system financing available through American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds is something to consider once ARPA funds are awarded.

ARPA Funds: Mr. Yontar said that there is no update at this time on when an ARPA bill will be filed with the State Legislature.

Adjourn the Meeting: 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.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED:

1. Final 2021 Clean Water Intended Use Plan Costs
2. Final 2021 Drinking Water Intended Use Plan Costs

Minutes Approved: October 27, 2021