

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

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday, January 19, 2021
Time: 3:00 PM
Location: By Telephone
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
My Tran, Treasurer, Trust
Joshua Derouen, Program Associate, Trust
Jonathan Maple, Policy Analyst, Trust
Ashraf Gabour, Program Manager, MassDEP
Michele Higgins, Environmental Engineer, MassDEP
Greg Devine, Environmental Engineer, MassDEP
Michael Celona, Drinking Water Specialist, MassDEP
Yvette DePeiza, Director of Drinking Water Program, MassDEP

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

	<u>Open the Meeting:</u> Ms. Perez opened the meeting after confirming all attendees were present.
1.	<u>Minutes:</u> The Committee approved meeting minutes from the 11/12/2020 and 11/24/2020 meetings of the Executive Committee.
2.	<u>Update on the Expanded School Water Improvement Grant (ESWIG) Program:</u> Mr. Maple said that the EPA has not sent terms and conditions for the new ESWIG program since following up with them in December. MassDEP is currently developing a Quality Assurance Project Plan for ESWIG. The Trust is working on developing recommendations for implementation of this new program. Once the EPA responds, a list of qualifications for ESWIG will also need to be developed with MassDEP. Recommendations for both the SWIG and EWSIG programs are being developed. The Trust will reach out to EPA for an estimated date of when they expect to be able to award the grant. Ms. Jonas-Silver asked for more details on the 99 fixtures that have been installed with funds from the SWIG Program. Mr. Maple said that the closeout process is underway. Due to backorders from November, many fixtures have yet to be installed. School districts are being asked for more details. Post-installation testing for lead needs to be done before results are published. Although 99 fixtures have been installed in over a dozen school districts, the Trust is still waiting on post-installation test results. Executive Committee members will be given details on installed fixtures and post-installation testing as the data becomes available.

3.	<p><u>Reviewing the Asset Management Planning Grant Program:</u> Ms. Perez said that a list of Trust and MassDEP staff members should be developed for a working group that meets weekly, or as often as necessary, by the end of January.</p> <p>The Trust should also send MassDEP a list of grants for review so that more updates and recommendations can be provided at the next Executive Committee meeting. Procedures such as sending a survey to grant recipients after project completion should be considered.</p> <p>Ms. Pinaud said that MassDEP already has recommendations for the program that can be discussed amongst the working group. So far, the program has produced what was intended.</p>
4.	<p><u>Updates to the Financing Agreement:</u> Mr. Keenan said that updates are being made to the Financing Agreements that are sent out for loans. These updates are to show compliance with the EPA grants by listing required information all in one place. Currently this information is covered in multiple documents that the borrowers execute. Mr. Keenan asked that Executive Committee members review the Financing Agreement and provide any comments before it goes to the Board of Trustees for approval.</p> <p>Ms. Pinaud said that MassDEP's crosscutter memo has been updated accordingly and confirmed that she would provide that information to the Trust.</p>
5.	<p><u>Applying for an Additional 2019 Drinking Water Grant:</u> Ms. Perez said that the State of Wyoming rejected their 2019 Drinking Water grant and these funds are now being reallocated to all the states. Massachusetts is allocated an additional \$237,000. States must apply to receive the funding by either amending the 2019 grant or adding it to the 2021 grant. The Trust intends to amend the 2019 Drinking Water grant since it will be easier to manage the grant under the 2019 terms and conditions. The largest difference is that the 2019 grant has different terms for loan forgiveness than the 2021 grant. Projects that are to receive funding from the small increase have already been identified. The Executive Committee members agreed with the approach of amending the 2019 Drinking Water grant.</p>
6.	<p><u>Scheduling the 2021 Annual Board Meeting:</u> Mr. Keenan said that more details will be provided when a date is finalized. Schedulers for the three Board members have been contacted about scheduling.</p>
<p>Other Business (Items not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting)</p> <p><u>Drinking Water Program Updates.</u> Mr. Celona said that expanded assistance for school and education facility efforts are below expectations at the moment. However, outreach is under way and applications are being received from assorted childcare facilities. An e-mail for soliciting applications was sent to over 8,000 contacts. Training, testing, and taking action are the main themes for expanding drinking water testing for lead in schools and childcare facilities.</p> <p>Ms. DePeiza said that the revised Lead & Copper Rule was published in the federal register on Friday. With the revisions, schools will need to be tested for lead and copper by public water suppliers. The installation and use of filtered water bottle filling stations will be a big part of Lead & Copper Rule compliance. Trainings will discuss the revisions to the Lead & Copper Rule.</p> <p><u>Springfield Water & Sewer Commission's Participation in Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) Program.</u> Mr. Keenan said that there will be internal discussions now that their application for EPA's Water Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (WIFIA) financing has been accepted. There will then be talks with Springfield Water & Sewer Commission about their plans for using the State Revolving Fund for their upcoming projects.</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.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED:

1. Draft of the Terms and Conditions to Financing Agreement
2. Comparison with the Terms and Conditions to Financing Agreement

Minutes Approved: January 28, 2021