

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN WATER TRUST

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday, January 2, 2025

Time: 12:00 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
My Tran, Treasurer, Trust
Bridget Munster, Deputy Director of Program Development, Trust

Also Present Nate Keenan, Department Director, Trust
Nicole Munchbach, Assistant Controller, Trust
Sunkarie Konteh, Accountant, Trust
Joshua Derouen, Program Manager, Trust
Kailyn Fellmeth, Senior Program Associate, Trust
Jonathan Maple, Senior Policy Analyst, Trust
Aidan O’Keefe, Program Associate, Trust
Ray Leconte, Program Associate, Trust
Esther Omole, Program Associate, Trust
Rachel Stanton, Investor Relations and Communications Graphic Designer, Trust
Kathleen Baskin, Assistant Commissioner, MassDEP
Robin McNamara, Deputy Director of Municipal Services, MassDEP
Michele Higgins, Program Manager, MassDEP
Michael Celona, Drinking Water Specialist, MassDEP
Janine Bishop, Regional Planner, MassDEP

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

Open the Meeting: Ms. Perez opened the meeting after confirming the attendees present.

1. **2025 Intended Use Plans (IUPs) Update:** Ms. Pinaud stated that over the past week, MassDEP has been working closely with the Trust to confirm available funding for the 2025 IUPs. MassDEP does not yet have the complete figures necessary to determine capacity and finalize the IUPs.

Available project funding for the 2025 Drinking Water IUP has been reduced to \$100 million for new projects due to constraints from carryover projects from previous IUPs, such as costly PFAS projects. To compound this matter, Congress has not yet voted on the budget, and the EPA is still working on the allotment formula for the Lead Service Line Grant. Presently, there are only allotments for the Supplemental and Emerging Contaminants Grants.

Available project funding capacity for the 2025 Clean Water IUP is \$835 million. Of this amount, \$450 million will be offered for new projects, while over \$350 million will be allocated to fund carryover projects from previous IUPs.

	<p>Ms. Pinaud suggested that the best path forward is to not offer carryover funds for new projects on future IUPs. Borrowers will have the option to apply for additional funding on subsequent IUPs for any project that cannot be fully funded in one IUP.</p> <p>Ms. Perez stated that the amount committed to a project will be limited to the cost specified in the IUP. It is not possible to guarantee that the Project Approval Certificate will increase if costs increase once a project goes out to bid. Cost increase requests will be evaluated as they come in, considering capacity.</p> <p>Ms. Pinaud stated that MassDEP will conduct an agency review of the draft IUPs. Once the draft IUPs are published, there will be a 30-day review period, concluding with public comment. Oral and written testimonies will be accepted. Factual information presented during the public comment may alter the ranking presented on the draft IUPs.</p> <p>Mr. Yontar asked about the possibility of a project that was just over the line to qualify for funding on the IUP being moved below the line following public comment. Ms. Pinaud replied that this scenario is not likely to occur since the projects are already ranked according to MassDEP's criteria, with MassDEP closely reviewing project information while compiling the IUP. However, she noted that the ranking on the draft IUPs is preliminary and subject to change.</p>
<p>Other Business (Items not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting):</p> <p>Recognition of Service:</p> <p>Ms. Pinaud stated her plans for retiring at the end of January and noted that Ms. McNamara may be contacted for assistance through the transition period. Ms. Perez expressed her appreciation for Ms. Pinaud's dedication and hard work in her time with MassDEP.</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>	

Minutes Approved: February 26, 2025