EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN WATER TRUST

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Wednesday, December 22, 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

My Tran, Treasurer, Trust

William Kalivas, Treasury Specialist, Trust Joshua Derouen, Program Associate, Trust

Robin McNamara, Deputy Director of Municipal Services, MassDEP

Ashraf Gabour, Program Manager, MassDEP

Jessica Sibirski, Drinking Water Analyst, MassDEP Michael Celona, Drinking Water Specialist, MassDEP

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

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

- 1. Minutes: The Committee approved meeting minutes from the 11/17/2021 meeting of the Executive Committee.
- **Lead Service Line Survey Grant Program:** Mr. Keenan walked through a presentation that was based on a MassDEP proposal to the working group on preparing for Lead and Copper Rule Revisions and using grant funds for lead service line (LSL) inventories.

Ms. Sibirski said that public water suppliers are to use the new tool to create service line inventories. If the material of service lines are unknown, such service lines are to be classified as LSLs.

The same full-time equivalent MassDEP Drinking Water Program employees will be working on the short-term inventory tool as the long-term one.

A picture of the service line is all the crowdsourcing app will need to determine if the material in not lead. If the material is suspected to be lead, it will require verification through an inspection.

Mr. Keenan said that we will need to speak with the EPA to confirm that the proposals brought forth in this presentation can be funded by the new grants from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law.

The working group can meet to draft details on the application process for new programs, forecast the demand for them, and answer open questions.

3. Update, if any, on utilizing the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds: Ms. Perez said that Governor Baker signed the ARPA bill into law leaving the Clean Water Trust with approximately \$85 million to work with.

A letter to the Executive Office for Administration & Finance on the projected use of funds is expected to be drafted in about a week. The Executive Committee will have the chance to review a draft of the letter before it is submitted.

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

2022 Intended Use Plan (IUP): Ms. Pinaud said that MassDEP is still in the process of finalizing the 2022 IUPs.

Ms. Perez said that EPA has been holding meetings for State Revolving Fund officials from all over the country to collect feedback before publishing guidance on the use of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funds. This guidance will help when finalizing the 2022 IUP text regarding the available subsidy amounts from BIL funds. The goal is to avoid having communities wait to start projects because they are uncertain on the subsidy available to them for the 2022 IUP.

Mr. Keenan said that funds available as subsidies for lead projects will be described as a focus area and not a separate program on the 2022 IUP.

Staffing Plans: Ms. Perez requested an update on MassDEP's staffing plans and on the need for a request for responses to be issued to provide consulting services.

Ms. Pinaud said that she will provide an update at a future meeting.

<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. Presentation on Lead and Copper Rule Revisions

Minutes Approved: January 19, 2022