

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

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Wednesday, January 24, 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
Sally Peacock, Controller, Trust
Pam Booker, Accountant, Trust
Nicole Munchbach, Accountant, Trust
Sunkarie Konteh, Accountant, Trust
Jonathan Maple, Senior Policy 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
Jennifer Pederson, Executive Director, Massachusetts Water Works Association
Janine Bishop, Grant Manager, DEP
Kathleen Baskin, Assistant Commissioner, DEP

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 1/3/2024 meeting of the Executive Committee:</u> The Committee approved meeting minutes from the 1/3/2024 meeting of the Executive Committee.

2. **Update on PFAS Grant Program Proposal:** Ms. Pinaud stated that MassDEP's Drinking Water Program is requesting up to \$6 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for small public water suppliers (PWS) that need to address PFAS and other emerging contaminants concerns.

MassDEP surveyed PWS to identify the level of demand. After reviewing the results, the MassDEP Drinking Water Program created an emerging contaminant planning and mitigation grant program using \$38 million from the 2022 and 2023 Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) grants. ARPA funds would provide funding to approximately six projects that may otherwise go unfunded.

Project Evaluation

Ms. Bishop and Ms. Baskin stated that MassDEP's regional offices evaluate projects based on the level of contamination, small and disadvantaged community statuses, and readiness to proceed.

Project applicants provide a scope of work which is submitted to EPA for their review and approval.

Funding Availability

Ms. Baskin stated that MassDEP will provide technical assistance to communities that did not receive a grant and need help applying to the Intended Use Plan (IUP) solicitation.

Ms. Perez stated that all of the Trust's ARPA funds were committed. The number of projects on recent IUPs awarded loan forgiveness was greater than anticipated. However, there may be alternative funding sources available. The Trust will need to analyze its funding capacity.

At a future meeting of the Executive Committee, MassDEP will provide a standard operating procedure for the grant program, a list of projects, and projects going unfunded with MassDEP's current capacity.

The Trust will speak with EPA officials about availability and uses of additional BIL grant funds in future years.

Other Business (Items not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting):
None.

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.

Minutes Approved: March 20, 2024