

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

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2022

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
Jonathan Maple, Senior Policy Analyst, Trust
Joshua Derouen, Senior Program Associate, Trust
Rachel Stanton, Investor Relations and Communications Graphic Designer, Trust
Kailyn Fellmeth, Program Associate, Trust
Julian Honey, Program Associate, Trust
Robin McNamara, Deputy Director of Municipal Services, MassDEP

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS	
	<u>Open the Meeting:</u> Ms. Perez opened the meeting after confirming the attendees present.
1.	<u>MassDEP staffing plans update:</u> Ms. Pinaud said that DEP finished its round of interviews for one of the open positions last week. There will be postings for four other new positions in the near future. DEP is also looking to expand its permitting staff.
2.	<u>Update on the 2022 Intended Use Plans (IUPs):</u> Ms. Pinaud said that the final IUPs have been published. There are already communities with projects on the 2022 IUPs that are telling DEP that they will not be proceeding with SRF financing. Since the draft IUPs were published in a timely manner, these drops are not believed to be due to delayed publishing of the final IUPs. Ms. Perez said that it will be beneficial for DEP to communicate regularly with the Trust about projects not proceeding with SRF financing this year for financial planning.

3.	<p><u>Clean Watersheds Needs Survey:</u> Ms. Pinaud said that the 2022 Clean Water Needs Survey is the first do be done since 2012 and began on March 1st. A request for responses (RFR) was issued to hire consultants. A contract is scheduled to be awarded to a consulting firm at the beginning of June. Data for the survey needs to be collected by the end of 2022 for the EPA to review. The EPA will then report the results to U.S. Congress.</p>
4.	<p><u>Federal infrastructure funding/Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL):</u> Ms. Perez said that the EPA continues to hold informational sessions on Build America, Buy America (BABA) requirements. Requirements have been published but the final procedures have not.</p> <p>There will be an internal working group meeting tomorrow to discuss the use of federal funds for lead projects.</p> <p>Ms. Pinaud said DEP has met with the EPA about the new BIL checklist. Since the 2022 IUPs have already been published, this checklist will help next year's IUPs. The checklist will help provide notice to potential borrowers about BIL benefits, push for more sustainability projects, and promote best practices.</p>
5.	<p><u>School Water Improvement Grant (SWIG) program update:</u> Mr. Maple said that of the 72 preliminary applications that have been submitted, 36 were approved to proceed to the next round while 10 were from entities that were not eligible and 26 needed to be referred to MassDEP for testing. 11 applicants have submitted the completed applications.</p> <p>On May 4th, the Trust's Board of Trustees approved \$63,000 in grants for public school districts and \$6,000 in grants for private schools.</p> <p>There was a slowdown with new applications, but the latest outreach has helped increase the number of recent applicants.</p> <p>If schools serving middle school and high school students are deemed eligible, \$60,000 in new grants can be awarded just to schools that have already applied.</p> <p>Outreach efforts with other state entities will also be helpful. One example that has already been discussed is a streamlined testing to the SWIG program approach with the help of DEP. Another example is having the Trust reach out directly to the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and Department of Early Education and Care (EEC).</p> <p>Removing the Formstack application and having the application all be on one PDF may help this process be more user friendly.</p> <p>As this program continues, we need to monitor the costs of the fixtures being installed in order to continue to assess the adequacy of our funding levels.</p>

Other Business (Items not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting) None
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<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. School Water Improvement Grant (SWIG) Update Memo

Minutes Approved: June 15, 2022