

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

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday, May 20, 2021
Time: 12:30 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
Sally Peacock, Controller, Trust
Joshua Derouen, Program Associate, Trust
Jonathan Maple, Policy Analyst, Trust
Robin McNamara, Deputy Director of Municipal Services, MassDEP
Ashraf Gabour, Program Manager, MassDEP
Gregory Devine, Section Chief, MassDEP
Brendan Dutch, Assistant Director of Federal Funds Compliance,
Executive Office for Administration and Finance

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

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

1. **American Rescue Plan Act Eligibilities for Water and Sewer:** Ms. Perez said that guidelines state that American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funds can be used for State Revolving Fund (SRF) activities.

There are three SRF activities that should be considered for the use of ARPA funds.

1. Sewer and wastewater plant expansion
2. Lead service line replacements
3. PFAS remediation

Sewer and Wastewater Plant Expansion Projects

Ms. Perez stated that EPA confirmed that expansion of sewer and wastewater plants projects are eligible projects under the SRF program. Expanding capacity for municipal sewers would lead to projects that do not always have a high score on the annual solicitation rankings to be awarded financing. Usually only sewer projects that address the highest priority public health and environmental issues receive a ranking high enough to be awarded SRF financing.

Mr. Gabour said that an example of a sewer project that could be financed with expanded capacity is connecting new users to an existing sewer system.

	<p><u>Lead Service Line Replacements</u></p> <p>Ms. Perez said that we may want to consider developing a program for communities to offer financing to homeowners for replacing private portions of lead service lines (LSLs). Creating a working group to help develop the foundation for community programs and how the Trust will be financing each community program could be the first step.</p> <p>Ms. Pinaud said that offering communities programs to provide financing to homeowners for replacing private portions of LSLs would be helpful especially in communities where work is being done to replace the public portions of LSLs. Identifying LSLs is an essential first step before LSL replacements. Awarding grants to help communities identify LSLs is something that should be considered.</p> <p>On average, it is expected to cost \$5,000 to replace each LSL.</p> <p><u>PFAS Remediation</u></p> <p>Ms. Pinaud said that there have been adequate funds to offer communities financing for PFAS remediation projects. However, capacity could be an issue in the future since PFAS remediation projects score highly when ranking the projects from the annual solicitation. Communities have also been applying for emergency financing for PFAS remediation projects. APRA funds could help expand capacity and allow the Trust to offer financing for the design portion of PFAS remediation projects.</p>
2.	<p><u>2020 Intendent Use Plan (IUP) Loan Forgiveness Deadline Extension:</u> Ms. Perez said that because the deadline for the first executed contract for loan forgiveness eligible loans for 2019 IUP projects was extended, the same may be considered for 2020 IUP projects.</p> <p>Ms. Pinaud said that even if the deadline is extended for 2020 IUP projects, communities will still need to inform MassDEP by the usual June 30th deadline. Extensions beyond June 30, 2021 will be granted for 2020 IUP projects on a case-by-case basis. This should not lead to any issues with the Board of Trustees approving final loan forgiveness amounts during a fall meeting because extensions are usually only one to two months after June 30th.</p>
<p>Other Business (Items not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting)</p> <p>None</p>	
<p><u>Adjourn the Meeting:</u> Ms. Perez requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Jonas-Silver moved the motion. A roll call was held, and all members approved the motion.</p>	

LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED:

Minutes Approved: June 17, 2021