EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN WATER TRUST

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday, June 11, 2020

Time: 12:30 PM **Location:** By Telephone

Notice: Due public notice given

Attendees Sue Perez, Executive Director, Trust

Maya Jonas-Silver, Director of Finance & Administration, Trust

Maria Pinaud, Director of Program Development, Trust

Also Present Nate Keenan, Deputy Director, Trust

Jonathan Maple, Policy Analyst, Trust Joshua Derouen, Program Associate, Trust

Sally Peacock, Controller, Trust

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

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

- **Minutes.** The Committee approved meeting minutes from the 02/06/2020, 02/13/2020, 03/04/2020, 03/26/2020, 04/16/2020 and 05/07/2020 meetings of the Executive Committee.
- 2. Clean Water SRF to Drinking Water SRF Lead Transfer Authority Planning. Mr. Keenan presented the Committee with MassDEP and the Trust's proposal for utilizing the Water Infrastructure Transfer Act (WIFTA). WIFTA temporarily expands the CWSRF to DWSRF transfer authority to address a threat to public health due to heightened exposure to lead in drinking water. This temporary authority allows the Commonwealth to transfer up to 5% of the cumulative CWSRF federal grants to the DWSRF. Based on the analysis presented, the Trust is proposing to transfer \$30 million from the CWSRF to the DWSRF to provide additional subsidy in the form of loan forgiveness. Project activities eligible for this enhanced subsidy include planning and design for lead removal, corrosion control capital improvements, and replacement of lead pipes and service lines. The Trust will need to hold a 30-day public comment period to amend the annual Intended Use Plans (IUPs), a necessary precondition for transferring funds.

Mr. Keenan detailed that the enhanced subsidy would be additive to the loan forgiveness currently offered to disadvantaged communities through the DWSRF. These funds must be committed within three years of the transfer date and expended within five years.

The Committee discussed the amount of funding to offer as additional subsidy and asked if the amount would be sufficient. Mr. Pinaud noted that MassDEP supports the amount and believes the funding will be an attractive offer for lead mitigation projects. The Committee noted that the Trust will need to open the comment period in late June to provide enough time for the Trust to respond, finalize the program, present the program to the Board of Trustees for a vote, amend the Intended Use Plans (IUPs) and transfer the funds before the October 4, 2020 deadline. Mr. Keenan said he would present the document that would be used for public comment to the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

3. 2021 Intended Use Plan Project Solicitation Priorities. Ms. Pinaud informed the Committee that MassDEP was drafting the 2021 SRF Solicitation letter. Ms. Pinaud requested feedback on priorities to include and wanted to include the WIFTA transfer for lead remediation and planning projects. Additionally, she noted that Asset Management Planning grants and Housing Choice Loans would be included in the solicitation.

The Committee discussed including the 0% interest PFAS loan program that was initiated for emergency projects in the 2019 IUP. Ms. Pinaud was concerned that since this was a pilot program for 2019, it was not authorized for calendar year 2020. Ms. Perez agreed to have the Trust review the vote language and, if needed, make recommendations to the Board to continue the program.

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

<u>Adjourn the Meeting:</u> Ms. Perez requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Pinaud moved the motion and Ms. Jonas-Silver seconded. A roll call was held, and all members approved the motion.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED:

1. WIFTA Implementation (Lead CW to DW Transfer) – PowerPoint Document

The meeting adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

Minutes Approved: July 16, 2020