

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

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023
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
My Tran, Treasurer, Trust
Also Present Nate Keenan, Deputy Director, Trust
Sally Peacock, Controller, Trust
Pam Booker Accountant, Trust
Nicole Munchbach, Accountant, Trust
Kathryn Armour, Data 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
Jonathan Maple, Senior Policy Analyst, Trust
Sophia Lindstrom, Summer Intern, Trust
Robin McNamara, Deputy Director of Municipal Services, DEP
Ashraf Gabour, Program Manager, DEP
Kathleen Baskin, Assistant Commissioner, DEP
Michael Celona, Capacity Development, DEP
Marybeth Chubb, Environmental Analyst, DEP
Jennifer Pederson, Executive Director, Massachusetts Water Works Association

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 4/19/23 and 5/10/23 meetings of the Executive Committee:</u> The Committee approved meeting minutes from the 4/19/23 and 5/10/23 meetings of the Executive Committee.
2.	<u>Lead Service Line (LSL) Grant Project Funding:</u> Ms. Perez stated that the Trust needs to monitor the number of LSL constructions projects to ensure that all grant requirements are met. Of the LSL grant, 49% of funds must go to disadvantaged communities in the form of loan forgiveness and the remaining 51% must go towards issuing loans which will then revolve back into the DWSRF.

	<p>Ms. Pinaud said that MassDEP will work to consolidate records on project amounts and grant funding sources. Updates on LSL replacement construction projects will be provided to the Trust as they become available.</p> <p>Ms. Perez added that LSL planning grants will lead to construction projects as LSLs are identified. Knowing the current project statuses and future demand for LSL projects is needed to apply for the next Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) LSL Replacement Grant.</p>
3.	<p><u>Lead Service Line Planning Grant Compliance Assistance:</u> Mr. Keenan said that Deerfield Fire District has not undergone a full audit and will need to do so to comply with the LSL Planning Grant requirements. The District has received an engagement letter from an auditor stating that a full audit will cost them \$20,000.</p> <p>Ms. Perez said that she would be in favor of using \$20,000 of the \$100,000 in administrative funds that the Board of Trustees approved for assisting very small systems with meeting LSL Planning Grant compliance. These funds are to help for just the first year and this should be communicated to Deerfield Fire District and future recipients.</p> <p>The \$100,000 that has been set aside is just a start. If there is demand beyond the current \$100,000, we can adjust but we do not need to revisit this amount at this time.</p> <p>The Executive Committee as a whole agreed and \$20,000 will be disbursed to Deerfield Fire District to pay for their FY 2023 full audit.</p>
4.	<p><u>Discussion on MassDEP Proposed Projects:</u></p> <p>New Small System Technical Assistance (TA) Mr. Celona delivered a presentation on new initiatives to provide TA to small systems for LSL inventory and for other purposes like cybersecurity.</p> <p>Ms. Perez said that the Trust's Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 budget will cover these new initiatives.</p> <p>PFAS in Wastewater Treatment Plants Ms. Baskin presented on MassDEP's analysis of PFAS concentrations in wastewater treatment plants to gain a better understanding of the demand and level of funding needed for wastewater PFAS removal.</p> <p>Innovative Treatment and Destruction Technologies for PFAS Ms. Baskin delivered a presentation on the need for grant funding to jumpstart PFAS destruction technology.</p> <p>Ms. Perez said that we will need to better understand these two proposed Clean Water grant programs and the sources of funding.</p> <p>Mr. Keenan said that we need to make sure that we use eligible funding sources because CWSRF funds cannot be used towards private systems.</p>

	<p>One source may be the BIL CW Emerging Contaminants Grant funds for a pilot program for funding innovative technologies for eligible systems.</p> <p>Ms. Pinaud said that MassDEP would confirm the eligibility of innovative technology grants once MassDEP further develops its proposal before the next discussion on this topic.</p> <p>Reducing Nitrogen in Coastal Embayments</p> <p>Ms. Baskin presented on how the updated Title 5 and watershed regulations in development will lead to a demand for compliance assistance in coastal areas.</p> <p>This new grant program would be different than what the Cape Cod Islands Water Protection Fund (CCIWPF) offers because MassDEP has the capacity to develop watershed plans and issue watershed permits to meet the new regulations.</p> <p>Ms. Perez said that the Trust and MassDEP should resume discussions after gaining a sense of applicant demand and the average cost per applicant. Once a request for responses is issued and expectations are set for initial seed money, the Board of Trustees can be presented with a vote for a new grant or 100% forgivable loan program.</p> <p>Next Steps</p> <p>Ms. Pinaud said that MassDEP will take the questions raised into consideration, will continue to develop these programs, and bring the updated proposals to the Committee at a future meeting.</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. Pinaud moved the motion. A roll call was held, and all members approved the motion.</p>	

LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED:

1. Lead Service Line Inventory and Planning Technical Assistance and Small System Technical Assistance and Cybersecurity Presentation
2. PFAS in Wastewater Treatment Plants, Grants: Innovative Treatment and Destruction Technologies for PFAS, and Grants: Reducing Nitrogen in Coastal Embayments Presentation

Minutes Approved: September 27, 2023