

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

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Wednesday, July 13, 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 Sally Peacock, Controller, Trust
Nicole Munchbach, Accountant, Trust
Pam Booker, Accountant, Trust
Sunkarie Konteh, Accountant, Trust
My Tran, Treasurer, Trust
Nate Keenan, Executive Director, 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
Eric A. Kelley, Environmental Partners

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

	<u>Open the Meeting:</u> Ms. Perez opened the meeting after confirming the attendees present.
1.	<u>Minutes:</u> The Committee approved meeting minutes from the 5/20/22, 5/25/22, 6/15/22, and 6/22/22 meetings of the Executive Committee.
2.	<u>Applying for the new EPA Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities Grant:</u> Ms. Pinaud explained that MassDEP intends to proceed in applying for the EPA Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities Grant. It is a great opportunity for MassDEP's Drinking Water program as it would provide much needed assistance to rural and small communities in the Commonwealth. Ms. Perez asked if the recipient of grant funds would be MassDEP or the Trust. If the Trust is going to apply, sub-recipient monitoring procedures will need to be implemented after disbursements are made to communities.

	<p>Ms. Pinaud added that this is still to be determined. The Trust's help would be greatly appreciated.</p> <p>Ms. Perez and Mr. Keenan said that the Trust will work to draft language for the Letter of Intent to EPA.</p> <p>Ms. Pinaud said that MassDEP will submit general Letter of Intent Language to the Trust to use a template.</p>
3.	<p><u>Implementing PFAS Planning and Design Loans for the 2023 Intended Use Plan (IUP):</u></p> <p>Ms. Pinaud explained that MassDEP included language for PFAS design loans in the 2023 IUP solicitation. Borrowers have asked about subsidies and whether the planning and design loans will have a 0% interest rate, if there are restrictions on eligible activities, and if there will be a cap on available funding for larger projects.</p> <p>There needs to be clear language on PFAS design loans when the 2023 IUP is published.</p> <p>Ms. Pinaud asked whether there will be loan forgiveness on PFAS design loans and whether emergency financing can be offered for PFAS design projects now.</p> <p>Ms. Perez asked if design was included in the emergency financing in the past, to which Ms. Pinaud responded no.</p> <p>Mr. Keenan said that there should be financing available for design projects based on the availability of funds. A paragraph needs to be added to amend the 2022 IUP if the Trust intends to offer emergency financing for these design projects this year. The Board will not need to approve this because design loans have always been eligible. Also, the vote the Board took to approve 0% loans for PFAS projects did not state if the projects were construction, planning, or design and the design projects would be eligible for 0%.</p> <p>The Committee agreed that the design projects would be eligible for 0% loans.</p> <p>Ms. Pinaud suggested that we cap the PFAS design loans at 10% of the estimated construction cost. A write up on this will be brought to the next Executive Committee meeting.</p>
4.	<p><u>Update on the LSL 100% Principal Forgiveness Planning Program Roll Out:</u></p> <p>Ms. Pinaud explained the program was posted on July 1st. Since then, MassDEP has received lots of interest and questions.</p> <p>Only one application has been received so far and that was from Fall River.</p> <p>The biggest obstacle expressed by communities is getting local authorization.</p> <p>Ms. Perez and Ms. Pinaud said that a webpage similar to the one already online for PFAS should be published to assist interested communities.</p>

	Ms. Pinaud said that the MassDEP Drinking Water program will be ready with online tools to accept surveys between mid-August and September.
5.	<u>Approving Loan Forgiveness for the 2021 Board Approved Loans:</u> Ms. Perez said that discussion on this is tabled until the analysis is complete.
<p>Other Business (Items not reasonably anticipated by the Chair 48 hours in advance of the meeting)</p> <p>Grant Funds for Small, Rural, and Tribal Publicly Owned Treatment Works: Ms. Perez added that EPA recently sent a letter about a newly created grant with \$18 Million in funding for small, rural, and tribal wastewater improvements. She inquired whether a working group to discuss that grant should be convened.</p> <p>Ms. Pinaud concurred on the idea of setting up a working group for this grant and noted that this grant would align with the 2% technical assistance funds program that is being administered by the Trust and MassDEP.</p> <p>EPA’s Overflow Sewer Grant (OSG) and State Match Funds: Mr. Keenan said that the instead of using the state match funds from OSG, we can use accrued earnings from the State Match Account that has accrued over a number of years. A memo will be drafted for Mr. Yontar on the \$430,000 in earnings we are expecting to use.</p> <p>House Bill: Ms. Perez noted that a bill was introduced to the Massachusetts House of Representatives last week which included \$130 million for the Trust. The Trust will monitor the status of those funds as the bill moves through debate and committee.</p> <p>\$104 million in state match funds for the Trust’s Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding was also included in this bill. There should be final information available on this when the formal session ends on July 31st.</p> <p><u>Adjourn the Meeting:</u> Ms. Perez requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Yontar moved the motion. A roll call was held, and all members approved the motion.</p>	

Minutes Approved: September 14, 2022