EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN WATER TRUST

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday, July 22, 2021

Time: 2:00 PM **Location:** Remote

Notice: Due public notice given

Attendees Sue Perez, Executive Director, 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

Keelan Baldwin, Intern, Trust

Ashraf Gabour, Program Manager, MassDEP

Timur Yontar, Assistant Budget Director for Capital, A&F

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

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS

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

- **1.** Minutes: The Committee approved meeting minutes from the 6/24/2021 and 7/1/2021 meetings of the Executive Committee.
- **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds:** Ms. Perez discussed the Governor testifying before the Joint Ways and Means Committee on the ARPA legislation he filed. She said that we should continue working on the PowerPoint presentation to be prepared to testify at some point before the Massachusetts State Legislature about uses for ARPA funds.

One focus area that requires more information from MassDEP for the presentation is the proposed survey to determine the number of drinking water systems that could be eligible for lead removal projects. The number of systems and cost per system can just be round estimates.

Ms. Pinaud said that MassDEP will provide information for the presentation.

The Executive Committee agreed they will continue the discussion in future meetings.

3. 2021 Intended Use Plan (IUP) Project Updates: Ms. Pinaud said that there is now a better idea of how many projects from the 2021 IUP will be moving forward since the June 30th local debt authorization deadline has passed. More projects from the 2021 IUP may drop between now and the October 15th loan application deadline.

Since over \$200 million in Clean Water (CW) projects have dropped from the IUP, we should consider offering financing to all the projects on the 2021 CW Project Priority List (PPL).

There are fewer projects that dropped from the Drinking Water (DW) IUP than in past years. Even with very few drops, there are DW PPL projects we may want to offer financing such as those for Wareham, Billerica, and Kingston.

Ms. Pinaud indicated that we must act promptly to offer financing to these communities since there is a small window of opportunity for them to act.

Ms. Perez agreed that PPL projects should be offered financing and that the CW projects can be offered financing. The Trust will review the DW capacity based on the information provided and we can discuss at the next meeting.

Mr. Gabour said that some communities with projects that dropped from the IUP have provided reasons. Billerica does not have the capacity to proceed with their CW projects. Falmouth, a community with a 2021 IUP project that qualifies for the Cape Cod Fund subsidy, is not ready to proceed this year. Falmouth will be re-applying with the 2022 IUP solicitation.

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

<u>State Matching Component to Annual Grants:</u> Ms. Perez said that the Trust will provide A&F with a five-year forecast on the annual EPA grant amounts it expects to receive. The funds available for the state matching component to these grants are scheduled to run out in Fiscal Year 2023. We will need A&F's assistance with securing additional state matching funds in an upcoming bond bill.

<u>Scheduling for Future Executive Committee Meetings:</u> Ms. Perez said she has conflict at the usually scheduled time of 12:30 on Thursdays. The Executive Committee agreed that meetings will be held on Wednesday's at 1:30 PM except the weeks there are Board of Trustees meetings.

<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. List of Projects Dropped from 2021 IUP

Minutes Approved: July 28, 2021