EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN WATER TRUST

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Wednesday, July 28, 2021

Time: 1:30 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

Sally Peacock, Controller, Trust

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

Keelan Baldwin, Intern, Trust

Robin McNamara, Deputy Director of Municipal Services, MassDEP

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.

- **Minutes:** The Committee approved meeting minutes from the 7/22/2021 meeting of the Executive Committee.
- 2. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds: Ms. Perez discussed how there were more hearings this week about potential uses of ARPA funds. These hearings were mainly about how ARPA funds could be used for housing and the workforce focus areas. There have yet to be hearings on water infrastructure.

Ms. Pinaud said that Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Secretary Theoharides' testimony this week was on climate resiliency focus areas.

Ms. Perez said that for testimony on water infrastructure needs, the Trust could present with MassDEP or all of EEA. A presentation for this testimony should discuss the high demand and capacity to finance projects which is something Governor Baker mentioned in his testimony to the Committee last week.

Mr. Keenan said that the Trust has received the information it needed from MassDEP on lead removal projects to include in the presentation for the testimony.

3. <u>Drinking Water Program Capacity:</u> Ms. Pinaud said that MassDEP e-mailed Billerica, Kingston, and Wareham about offering them financing for their projects that were listed on the 2021 Drinking Water (DW) Project Priority List now that there is more capacity due to projects that dropped from the 2021 DW Intended Use Plan. These communities have 30 days to respond to the e-mail to accept financing.

Ms. Perez said that capacity analyses for project costs and loan forgiveness show that offering financing to these communities is within the capacity of the Trust.

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

Request for Responses (RFR) for the Revised Asset Management Planning (AMP) Grant Program Pre-Qualified List of Engineers: Ms. Perez said that there was a high level of participation in this RFR. A recommendation has been drafted that will be brought to the Board of Trustees meeting next week for approval.

State Matching Component to Annual Grants: Mr. Yontar said that A&F will be filing a bond bill in September. Although it will mainly be for Division of Capital Asset Management and Maintenance (DCAMM) buildings, it may also address environmental concerns.

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 in preparation for this bond bill.

<u>Lead Service Line (LSL) Grant Program:</u> Ms Pinaud asked that the lead working group meet in the next couple of weeks to discuss moving this program forward even if ARPA funds are not made available.

<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:

Minutes Approved: September 8, 2021