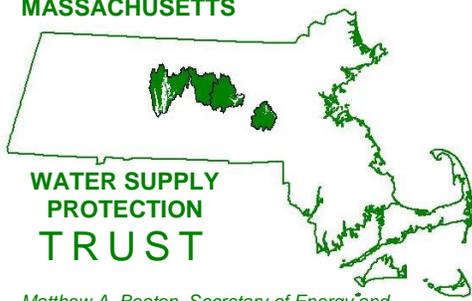


MASSACHUSETTS



Matthew A. Beaton, Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs

Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director, MWRA

William Meehan, North Worcester County Quabbin Anglers, Quabbin Fishermen's Association

Louis Taverna, Chairman, MWRA Advisory Board

Fred Heyes, Swift River Valley Historical Society

Water Supply Protection Trust

May 26, 2016

MWRA Southborough Office

Trustees

Louis Taverna, Chairman, MWRA Advisory Board

Frederick A. Laskey, Executive Director, MWRA

Brigadier General William J. Meehan, North Worcester County Anglers and the Quabbin Fishermen's Association

Fred Heyes, Swift River Historical Society

Kathleen Basin, Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs

MWRA

Michael Hornbrook, Chief Operating Officer

Kathy Soni, Budget Director

Louse Miller, Budget Manager

Steve Remsberg, General Counsel

Dave Coppes, Waterworks Director

John Gregoire, Reservoir Program Manager

Pam Heidell, Policy and Planning Manager

Sean Navin, Director Intergovernmental Affairs

DCR

Jonathan Yeo, Director, Division of Water Supply Protection

Bill Pula, Regional Director, Quabbin

John Scannell, Director, Wachusett-Sudbury

Marcelle Payen, Budget Manager

Dan Clark, Director Natural Resources

Joel Zimmerman, Regional Planner

Scott Murphy, Assistant Regional Director Wachusett-Sudbury

Scott Campbell, DCR Regional Engineer

Brian Keevan, Natural Resource Analyst

Cliff Read, Supervisor of Interpretive Services

MWRA Advisory Board

Joseph Favaloro, Executive Director

WSCAC

Lexi Dewey, Executive Director

The meeting convened at 10:01 a.m.

Trustee Laskey began the meeting by introducing Lou Taverna, the new Chairperson of the MWRA Advisory Board and new WSPT Trustee, and Louse Miller, MWRA's new Budget Manager. Bill Pula also introduced Paulo from Mexico and Andreas from Uruguay, both from the Institute for Training and Development and visiting with DCR to learn about environmental sustainability.

1. Approval of Minutes – March 3, 2016 meeting

A motion to approve the March 3, 2016 minutes was made and seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

2. FY16 Spending Update/Budget Reallocation – Jonathan Yeo, DCR

The following items were distributed (and are appended to the minutes): *Water Supply Protection Revenue BFY2016, Period 1-10 (April 2016)*, and FY2016 Line Item # 2830-0100 (showing spending through April-2016 versus projected budget/spending, and variances).

DCR staff noted that the reallocation/transfer of funds approved at the prior Trust meeting occurred (moving under-spent funds from personnel to Operational Services categories), and at this point DCR is on track to spend 100% of the budget. The transfer is enabling radio conversions at Quabbin and procurement of necessary equipment, including a rock crusher that will produce gravel for watershed forest roads. Staff also noted that there a number of staffing vacancies, and that DCR staff from Wachusett have stepped in to help Quabbin.

3. Approval of FY17 Work Plan and Budget – Jonathan Yeo, DCR

The following items were distributed (and are appended to the minutes): *Draft Fiscal Year 2017 Work Plan; DCR/DWSP – Quabbin/Ware Region Capital Project List (Phase 1), DCR/DWSP – Wachusett/Sudbury Region Capital Project List, FY17-FY21 Watershed Capital Equipment Plan; FY17 NN Spending Proposal Dividing Projects Between Operating Funds and Capital Budget (Phase 1 only); DCR Division of Water Supply Protection Office of Watershed Management Draft FY 17 Budget; and Water Supply Protection Trust Expenditures and Revenues Report FY 17 Work Plan Budget.*

In his introduction to this agenda item, Trustee Laskey stated that the first time, a budget allocation for a capital program for DWSP is included, and this strategic shift is proposed to address long-term capital needs of the Division.

The proposed FY17 DWSP Operating Budget is \$16,024,268. Compared to last year, the fringe rate has increased from 28% to 33.5%, and this, combined with cost of living increases and step increases, is driving much of the increases in the FY17 Operating Budget. The Budget also includes purchases of large pieces of equipment, as well as money for completion of the radio conversion to digital. The FY2017 budget assumes \$1,000,000 in revenues due to both hydropower and forestry.

Trustee Taverna had questions regarding passenger vehicle purchases. DCR staff indicated that they are trying to replace older and damaged vehicles, since a number of their vehicles are 10-15 year old. To purchase vehicles, DWSP must go through the State Office of Vehicle Management, which includes a vehicle charge back fee which staff are trying to be exempted from. DCR has a central fleet office.

After discussion, the following motion as made, seconded, and approved:

To approve the FY17 (Operational) Budget.

Regarding the capital budget, it was indicated that discussion was ongoing whether capital projects are to be bonded or paid for in cash. In response to a question whether or not design should be included in the capital budget, it was noted that if design contributes to a capital program, it is considered capital. Mr. Favaloro stated that he supports the capital program, but that it was uncharted waters. It was noted that a capitalization policy was needed, as was a detailed roadmap for spending in the next five years so expenditures are stable and predictable, similar to MWRA's Spending Cap. It was agreed that moving forward, these concerns must be addressed. Ultimately, after offline discussions between the staffs, the outcome will be reflected in the budgets that the Trustees will be asked to review.

The various capital projects are described in one page handouts, and projects are broken down into a Wachusett/Sudbury Region Capital Project List (Phase 1) and a Quabbin/Ware Region Capital Project List (Phase 1). The chief engineer in each region will be responsible for the region's capital programs. Projects will be tracked with regular progress reports to the Trust.

The following motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved:

To approve the Phase I Capital Program [as identified in the FY17 NN Spending Proposal].

4. Update on Watershed Forestry, DCR Staff

A hard copy of a PowerPoint entitled *DWSP Forestry: Post –STAC Summary of Changes and Efforts to Meet STAC Recommendations* was distributed and is appended to the minutes of the meeting. The PowerPoint demonstrated compliance with STAC recommendations. Trustees remarked that this documentation was imperative and important.

5. Other Updates

- Oakdale Power ROW - Mike Hornbrook stated that MWRA has started work in ROW maintenance and the public will notice tree removal in the ROW.
- Quabbin Controlled Deer Hunt – Dan Clark provided history of program, and stated that the deer hunt program is evolving in consultation with MA Fish and Wildlife and the program will allocate permits by zone for taking of antlerless deer.
- Brice-Lemon. Jonathan Yeo reported that a hearing was held yesterday's on Brice-Lemon variance application
- Ware River – Jonathan Yeo reported that a team of DWSP an MWRA staff met with DEP Western Regions office to follow up on the issue of MT Biking in the Ware River watershed.
- Ware River transfers – Dave Coppes reported that Quabbin elevations are lower than we typically see this time of year, and as a result, there is a chance that MWRA will transfer water from the Ware River into Quabbin.

The meeting adjourned at 11:14 a.m.