Minutes Executive Committee Meeting Massachusetts Clean Water Trust

DATE: June 8, 2016 **START TIME:** 1:35 p.m. **PLACE:** State House Room 372 **NOTICE:** Due public notice given

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE –

PRESENT:Sue Perez, Executive Director of the Trust
Rachel Madden, Director of Finance & Administration of the Trust
Steve McCurdy, Director of Program Development of the Trust

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS (INCLUDING DECISIONS MADE/ACTIONS TAKEN/ VOTES):

- 1. <u>Federal Allotment of Clean Water Funds</u>. Mr. Keenan reported on EPA's clean water grant allotment report to Congress under the Water Resources Reform and Development Act That Act directed EPA to review the allotment formula and determine whether it adequately addressed the water quality needs of eligible recipients. The Committee discussed the three options EPA presented to Congress and each of their possible effects on Massachusetts' federal clean water grant. Mr. Keenan stated that each of the options would result in a significant reduction in Massachusetts' grant. He noted that for any option to be implemented, Congress has to act but is not required to do so. The Committee discussed contacting the Massachusetts Congressional delegation to attempt to minimize the commonwealth's risk of loss.
- 2. <u>Lead Testing in Public School Water Initiative</u>. Mr. McCurdy updated the Committee on the initiative to test for lead in public school drinking water and reported that responses to the requests for information to date have exceeded 1000. He also reported that DEP has received some inquiries from private schools and DEP's general counsel and Mr. Greene are working on whether this would be permitted under the applicable Massachusetts constitutional provisions.
- 3. <u>MBE-WBE Goals</u>. Mr. McCurdy reported that DEP will be updating its minority and women business enterprise goals, which are due by the end of the federal fiscal year. DEP is thinking of hiring researchers at the Donahue Institute at the University of Massachusetts, Boston to assist them pursuant to an Interdepartmental Service Agreement and an agreed scope of work.

ALSO PRESENT: Bernard Greene, Senior Legal Counsel of the Trust Nate Keenan, Deputy Director of the Trust

- 4. <u>Principal Forgiveness</u>. Mr. Keenan reported on the final Environmental Justice principal forgiveness amounts under the fiscal year 2015 capitalization grant. This will be voted at the June 9, 2016 Board Meeting.
- 5. <u>Transfers of Ownership of Drinking Water Projects</u>. The Committee received a report from Mr. Greene on two Trust financed drinking water projects that will experience a change in ownership. Lakeville will transfer its water system to the City of Taunton by the end of June. Taunton will assume Lakeville's bond and its other obligations to the Trust. Sheffield Water Company, a private water system, will sell its assets to Mountain Water Company, a subsidiary of New England Service Company once the transaction receives the approval of the Department of Public Utilities. This is expected to occur towards the end of the calendar year. The Board will be asked to approve the assumption of the Sheffield direct loan by Mountain Water. The note will be co-signed by New England Service.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED:

Final Environmental Justice Principal Forgiveness for FY 2015 Federal Capitalization Grant

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Approved: July 20, 2016