



**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Water Resources Board**

Foundry Office Building, 3rd Floor, suite 394
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RHODE ISLAND WATER RESOURCES BOARD MEETING #503

Monday, September 20, 2010 @ 1:00 PM

**Save The Bay Center
100 Save The Bay Drive
Providence, RI 02905**

Members Present

William Penn, Chairman
Thomas Boving
Michael P. DeFrancesco
Kevin Flynn
Ronnie Gibson
Samuel Kitchell
Susan Licardi
Jon Schock
William Stamp, III
Harold Ward
Clay Commons*
Alicia Good*

Staff Present

Kenneth J. Burke, General Manager
Kathleen Crawley, Staff Director
Romeo Mendes, Supervising Engineer
Peter Duhamel, Principal Planner

*Member Designees

Members Absent

Pamela Marchand, Vice-chair
Jesse Rodrigues
William Parsons*

Guests Present

Jane Austin, Save the Bay
Jeff and Janice Black
Shannon Brawley, RI Nursery & Landscape Assoc
Ames Colt, RI BRWCT
Sheila Dormody, Clean Water Action
Michael Ferreina, RI WLA
Bill Harritos, RI Quonset Development Corp.
Nancy Hess, DOA Planning
Tricia Jedele, Conservation Law Foundation
Meg Kerr, Narragansett Bay Estuary Program
Eugenia Marks, RI Audubon Society
Henry Meyer, RI Water Works Assoc.
Gary Morse
Richard Pace, EcoAsset Markets
Jessica Pagan, Brown University student
Peter J. Pallozzi, Providence Water
Bryan Sanderson, Irrigation Association of N.E.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Penn called the meeting to order at 1:00pm, noting that a quorum was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Mr. Stamp, second by Mr. DeFrancesco to approve the minutes of the Board Meeting dated August 16, 2010. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT & PUBLIC COMMENT

Public Comment

Shannon Brawley (RI Nursery & Landscape Association) – Ms. Brawley addressed the proposed Statewide Lawn Watering Policy. She offered that her organization collaborate with the Board to educate homeowners on efficient water usage. She suggested the creation of a guide book or municipal workshops.

Bryan Sanderson (Irrigation Association of New England) – Mr. Sanderson supported the comments of Ms. Brawley and offered that his organization volunteer their expertise towards developing an educational effort. They suggested that a draft policy could be produced by January. Upon hearing the public commentary and at Chairman Penn's suggestion, the Board reached a consensus to review recommendations to the Lawn Watering Policy at the January 2011 Board Meeting.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Motion by Mr. Penn, second by Mr. Schock to approve the Chief Business Officer's Report for August 2010. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Burke reported on the replacement of the Congdon Mill Bridge, which was initiated and completed by the Town of West Greenwich without the Board's oversight or approval. He noted that staff is arranging for a bridge inspector to determine the structure's safety. He referred to the letter from Town Administrator, Kevin Breene, which was distributed prior to the current Board meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND ACTION ITEMS:

Allocation Committee

A. Water Use and Efficiency Rules – for Discussion & Approval

Motion by Mr. DeFrancesco, second by Mr. Gibson, to adopt the draft rules as presented subject to the inclusion of measurements of progress to be worked on by Mr. Ward, Mr. Boving, and Ms. Good. Mr. DeFrancesco amended the original motion as such: to approve the presented draft as interim rules, subject to the inclusion of "measurements of progress", with final approval to be voted on at the October meeting. The vote was 11 in favor, 1 opposed (Ward). The motion carried.

Discussion

Mr. Penn stated the draft rules distributed to the Board were written as a "first phase" draft, applying to the major public water suppliers.

Mr. Ward reported that the Committee met on September 14th to review the revised version of the draft rules. He highlighted the following three items that the resent draft omitted:

- Water use reporting requirements for self-supplied, major users.
- Targets for major, non-residential users.
- Audit requirements for major users.

(Ms. Good arrived at 1:13 pm)

Mr. Penn thanked Mr. Ward, noting that this draft is Phase I and that the removal of these items does not prevent the Board from considering such requirements within the Water Allocation Program at a future date.

Ms. Good suggested that the current draft rules should incorporate key milestones intended to measure a supplier's progress towards efficiency. Mr. Burke replied that the Demand Management Plan received from a supplier is intended to help create unique milestones for that individual supplier.

Mr. Penn surveyed the Board for their opinions of the draft rules as presented. Nine of the twelve members present expressed support for the draft. Members acknowledged that the current rules were the first step in a phased approach and that the effort would continue forward. Mr. Penn related that Vice-chair Marchand (not present) wished it to be noted that she and the RI Water Works Association support the current version. Mr. Commons voiced Department of Health's concerns about insuring that there are adequate volumes of water moving through the pipes to protect drinking water quality.

B. Statewide Lawn Watering Policy

This item was not discussed in light of the decision made during the public comment period.

Technical Committee

Mr. Burke reported to the Board on behalf of Chairperson Marchand.

A. Big River Ground Water Project

- The consultant has verified that the well field can produce 4.2MGD if expanded to ten (10) wells.
- Further data is required to assess potential impacts of the wells to the Flat River Reservoir.
- Mr. Burke will be meeting with various offices in DEM to define the data gaps before the staff is

able to move into the permitting process.

Finance Committee

Motion by Mr. Penn, second by Mr. Schock to approve the FY 2012 Operating Budget & FY 2011 Supplemental Request. The vote in favor was unanimous, the motion carried.

STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

Motion by Mr. Schock, second by Mr. Stamp to adopt the WRB Business Plan for FY 2012 as follows:

- High Priority: BRMA Well Development, BRMA clean-up and site restoration, completion of property assessments for the South County Well Program, Water Use and Efficiency rules, water availability (as a part of water allocation), implementation of new WSSMP strategies.
- Medium Priority Board Corporate management regarding Budget Article 5, the Shad Factory pipeline, the Child Street Water Treatment Facility.
- Low Priority BRMA Land Use Plan, establishing priority of water use (as a part of water allocation), the WFA Grant and Emergency Interconnection programs.

The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried.

RECESS OF BOARD FOR BOARD CORPORATE BUSINESS

Motion by Mr. Stamp, second by Mr. Gibson, to recess the Board meeting and begin the Board Corporate meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried and the Board recessed for Board Corporate business at 2:48 pm.

RETURN FROM BOARD CORPORATE BUSINESS

Motion by Mr. Schock, second by Mr. Stamp to adjourn the Board Corporate meeting and return to the Board meeting the vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 2:50 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Mr. Schock, second by Mr. Stamp to adjourn the Board Meeting. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 2:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Emily J. Cousineau
Implementation Aide

The meeting place is accessible to the handicapped in conformance with RIGL 42-46-2. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Board office at tel. 222-1450/TDD 2221454, at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting date. If requested, tapes of the meeting will be made available.