



**State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Water Resources Board**
One Capitol Hill, 3rd Floor
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RHODE ISLAND WATER RESOURCES BOARD MEETING #516
Monday, December 5, 2011 @ 10:00 AM

Quonset Development Corporation
95 Cripe Street
North Kingstown, RI 02908

Members Present

Michael DeFrancesco
Kevin Flynn
Alicia Good*
Susan Licardi
Pamela Marchand – Vice Chair
Jon Schock
William Stamp, III
June Swallow*
Michael Walker*
Harold Ward

Members Absent

Thomas Boving
Ronnie Gibson
Jesse Rodrigues

Staff Present

Kenneth J. Burke, P.E., General Manager
Kathleen Crawley, Staff Director
Romeo Mendes, Supervising Engineer

Guests

Chuck Adelsburger
Ken Booth
Ames Colt
Pasquale DeLise
Charles Donovan
John Faile
Bill Harritos
John Jannitto
Meg Kerr
Peter LePage
Henry Meyer
Dan O'Rourke
Terrance Sullivan
Dan Varin

CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Marchand called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM noting that a quorum was present.

MINUTES

There were no minutes to approve.

PUBLIC SESSION AND BOARD DISCUSSION AND ACTION

Mr. Burke presented the proposed strategic initiatives and gave an overview of the technical materials.

Ms. Marchand called individuals to speak in the order that they had signed in:

Ames Colt, Bays, Rivers, Watershed Coordinating Team
Dan Varin, RI American Planning Association Executive Board
Chuck Adelsburger, CDM

John Jannitto, Bristol County Water Authority
Pasquale DeLise, Bristol County Water Authority
Ken Booth, RI Waterworks Association
Meg Kerr, Narragansett Bay Estuary Program, RI Coalition for Water Security
Henry Meyer, Rhode Island Resident

At 12:00 PM, Ms Marchand thanked guests for their comments and the Board recessed for lunch.

Ms. Marchand reconvened the Board session at 1:05 PM.

Summary of Public Comments and Board Discussion

- Articulate the strategic planning mandate and the relationship of this plan to other related state plans, notably Water 2030 and the Systems Level Plan.
- Define the role of WRB for the Pawtucket to Bristol County Option.
- RIWWA 2006 policy statement stresses the importance of a long term plan and a new water source for the state.
- The Coalition believes that conservation, allowable water by region, and the long term implication of climate change are important considerations.
- More water is needed to grow the economy.
- Water quality, health and fire protection are also important considerations
 - a. The age of water and potential water quality impacts of reducing demand. Many of the systems in Northern RI were built to accommodate industry and sized accordingly.
 - b. Water quality considerations associated with long distance transmission lines.
- The document does not specifically reference allocation which could take the form of a:
 - a. regulatory effort
 - b. targeted effort- a tool to use in areas/during times that require allocation
 - c. planning effort
- The need to preserve rights to the Massachusetts supplies and to preserve the Shad pipeline and treatment facility.
- Potential approaches to the Water Supply System Management Program regarding the legislation and revisions to the rule.
- Provide an evaluation of lower cost/alternate groundwater sources in the Southern subregions as an alternative to the proposed long term sources.
- 150 gpcd could be interpreted as meaning up to 150 gpcd.
- There is a need to clarify what is meant by gpcd. It is not just a residential figure but may also include system flushing and other components.
- In the Southern region, review summer restrictions as an alternative to long term options.
- Explore a mid range plan that reduces the expense of the BRMA.
- Include catastrophic planning/BRMA as an emergency back up supply.
- ½ a billion in perspective is nearly equal to the PWSB 20 year infrastructure plan of \$400 M.

The Board did not make any formal motions and by consensus agreed to continue the strategic planning session to complete a discussion of the long range options and to incorporate recommendations resulting from the Board discussion. The Board directed staff to produce:

1. Schedules for the initiatives to lay out work plans/staffing
2. A Proforma for Big River
3. A new draft document that:
 - a. Selects short term initiatives for BCWA and the HAP and fine tunes long term initiatives.
 - b. Adds potential short term groundwater options in focused areas of the Southern Region.
 - c. Moves the South County well program up in the prioritized list of initiatives for the business plan.
 - d. Adds the word “recharge” to initiative #18 relating to reuse.

ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned at 2:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Kenneth Burke
General Manager