

PUBLIC DRINKING WATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

July 5, 2005

Members Present:

Frank Perry
William Stamp
Elizabeth Scott

Members Absent:

Robert Griffith
June Swallow

Staff Present:

Kathleen Crawley
Beverly O'Keefe
William Riverso

Guests:

Carol Larivierre
Susan Licardi
Lisa Primiano
Tim Brown
Nicole Belk

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Acting Chairman Perry called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m and noted that a quorum was present.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** With a motion by Mr. Stamp, seconded by Ms. Scott, the minutes of the June 7, 2005 meeting was approved.

3. ITEMS FOR ACTION:

A. SUPPLEMENTAL WATER SUPPLY STUDY PHASE II:

(1) Maguire Group Invoice #12 for \$35,505.13 - Request for Approval

Mr. Perry introduced and reviewed the item. Ms. Crawley reported that Mr. Walker recommends approval. A motion to approve was made by Ms. Scott and seconded by Mr. Stamp; the committee approved the motion unanimously.

Ms. Crawley proceeded to update the committee on the study. She reported that there are different build out methodologies which can be used to project water demands that vary by community and plan (i.e. comprehensive plans, water supply plans). She stated that

Maguire Group seeks WRB guidance to select the appropriate methodology. She stated that it would be worthwhile for staff to work closely with Maguire as a team to finalize the build out methodology used in the final report. Ms. Crawley asked for ideas on who should be involved which will give staff ability to move forward put something together and report back to committee. Mr. Perry stated that this study is a major project and how the Board should approach this should be discussed. Ms. Crawley stated to keep to the project timeline a decision needs to be made before Maguire can go on to their next steps. Mr. Stamp asked if Ms. Crawley wanted to bring Mr. Landry here. She stated that Maguire Group was not able to attend today's meeting. A small group of technical experts will be convened to discuss buildout methodologies. Mr. Perry requested a build out summary be prepared for the committee to discuss at next month's meeting. Ms. Crawley stated that she is comfortable handling this at the staff level and coming back with a recommendation. She added that she would like input or guidance as to a process to take. Mr. Perry stated that this is a significant decision and it is a point that needs a full presentation to be made to the committee so to make a recommendation to the Board. Ms. Scott stated that complicated issues need time for thorough research and review and interested members of the Board should be able to attend the buildout meeting.

B. EMERGENCY INTERCONNECTION PROGRAM:

Mr. Perry called the members attention to the Addendum to the agenda and explained the matter of the cost overrun for the Narragansett interconnection project.

(1) NARRAGANSETT WATER INVOICE #2 – Galilee to Jerusalem Interconnection – Amount Billed \$15,355.13; Recommended Payment \$15,355.13 - Request for Approval -

Mr. Perry introduced the item. A motion to approve was called by Mr. Stamp and seconded by Ms. Scott; the committee approved the motion unanimously.

(a) NARRAGANSETT WATER – Galilee to Jerusalem Interconnection – Discussion of Proposed Grant Increase - \$4,081.74.

Mr. Perry asked for a motion to recommend to the Board for approval the cost overrun item in the amount of \$4,081.74. A motion to approve was called by Mr. Stamp and seconded by Ms. Scott; the committee approved the motion unanimously. Ms. Scott asked if there were additional funds to cover this cost and if it was allowed under the regulations. Ms. Crawley stated that there are funds to cover up to a 50% reimbursement and that Mr. Walker's evaluation showed that it was within guidelines. Mr. Perry stated that normally a 10% contingency would have been included in the approved amount and this amount falls within a contingency cost overrun clause.

C. RI PUBLIC DRINKING WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM - PHASE III:

(1) WESTERLY WATER DEPT (WWD) REQUISITION #4 FOR \$56,096.97 – WQI PROJECT – MIOX Study; Recommended Payment \$56,096.97 - Request for Approval

Mr. Perry introduced the item. He reminded the committee that the Board previously approved eligibility of this project. Ms. Crawley reported that at this time, the WWD seeks a first of 2 reimbursements in the amount of \$56,096.97. The second payment request for an amount not to exceed \$60,150.00 as approved by the Board for expenses incurred will then be submitted to address and incorporate comments recently received from RIDOH. A motion to approve was called by Mr. Stamp and seconded by Ms. Scott; the committee approved the motion unanimously. Mr. Stamp requested a presentation on the study since there was some controversy on the Board regarding the use of this technology. Mr. Perry suggested that when the WWD requests the balance of funds a presentation should be made.

(2) CITY OF NEWPORT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS (CNPW) REQUISITION #2 – WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – Replacement of Tuberculated Water Mains - Requested Amount \$579,869.00; Recommended Payment \$579,869.00 - Request for Approval

Mr. Perry introduced the item. He reminded the committee that the Board previously approved eligibility of this project. He stated that staff recommended approval. Discussion ensued regarding cost figures. Mr. Riverso explained that the requested amount of \$579,869.00 is the balance of program funds remaining less \$75,000.00, which CNPW intends to spend on land projects. A motion to approve was called by Ms. Scott and seconded by Mr. Stamp; the committee approved the motion unanimously.

(3) TOWN OF NORTH KINGSTOWN (NK) – WATERSHED/WELLHEAD PROTECTION LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT - Requested Amount \$485,000.00; Recommended Payment \$485,000.00 - Request for Approval

Mr. Perry introduced the item. He introduced Sue Licardi, Director of Water Supply for the Town of North Kingstown. Ms. Licardi related that she has brought maps delineating the property to be protected. She stated the property is located in the Pettaquamscutt Watershed where NK's wells #3, #7 and #8 are located. She described the maps show the parcels within the wells zone 1 and zone 2 protection areas and wellhead protection areas consisting of approximately 9.8 acres of land. Further discussion ensued on the description of the location of the wells. Mr. Perry reviewed the recommendation with the subject to items and explained that this item would go before the Board. Ms. Crawley introduced Ms. Lisa Primiano, Phase III Program Appraisal Supervisor, who is attending today's meeting to answer any questions regarding the appraisal. Mr. Stamp asked if this was a negotiated purchase with the owners. Ms. Primiano said yes based on conversations with the NK Town Planner. She related that there were a few minor issues

with the appraisal, which had been followed up on and clarified. A motion to approve subject to the conditions as presented was called by Ms. Scott and seconded by Mr. Stamp; the committee approved the motion unanimously. Mr. Riverso reported that NK has followed up with a letter from the town's attorney clearing title. The Class I Survey is being finalized this week with closure planned by the end of the month. Mr. Stamp asked that these points be added to the memo going to the Board.

(4) CITY OF WOONSOCKET (CW) – LAND ACQUISITION PROTECTION PROJECTS – Request for Eligibility Approval

Mr. Perry introduced the item. Ms. Larivierre, Water Division Superintendent of CW reported that the maps on hand delineate the project parcels as they relate to the systems reservoirs #1 and #3 watershed. She described the properties, appraisal valuation and importance for watershed protection. Ms. Crawley stated the city's attorney was seeking both eligibility and appraisal valuation approval of the properties in order to move forward. Discussion ensued regarding valuation of parcel 2, which compared a conservation easement value versus a life estate value. Ms. Primiano explained her appraisal approach and recommendation. The committee voiced a consensus that the life estate valuation would be the better approach. Ms. Scott asked for clarification of the recommendation going forward to the Board. Mr. Perry stated that the eligibility approval would go before the Board along with the appraisal valuation amounts because CW specifically asked for it. Mr. Stamp stated that it was his view that these parcels meet the criteria of the program and made a motion to go forward. Mr. Perry reviewed the recommendation to approve eligibility with an appraisal valuation not to exceed \$621,200.00 as presented. The motion was seconded by Ms. Scott; the committee approved the motion unanimously.

C. WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT PLANS (WSSMP):

(1) CITY OF WARWICK (CW) – WSSMP - 30-MONTH INTERIM REPORT - Request for Approval

Mr. Perry introduced the item. Ms. O'Keefe reported that CW Department of Public Works 30-Month Interim Report was submitted on January 7, 2005 and included responses to the May 14, 2002 Board approval letter "subject to items." She reported that the three "subject to" items included CW emergency supply agreements with KCWA, goals and procedures of non-account water, and development of a MUTAP program. She reported the submitted responses to the reciprocal agreement with KCWA and their non-account water were not adequate. The MUTAP discussion was adequate. She recommended that CW be asked to resubmit their report with additional information. Mr. Perry reviewed procedures for the committee to take. Mr. Stamp made a motion to follow the recommendation of staff that a First Notice of Deficiency letter be forwarded to City of Warwick Department of Public Works Department outlining the deficiencies with a request for resubmission and amendment to the Report. Ms. Scott seconded the motion; the committee approved the motion unanimously. Ms. Scott

requested copies of the narrative section of the reports be included in the Committee package. Discussion ensued on the matter with Ms. O’Keefe being responsive.

(2) KENT COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY – WSSMP - 30-MONTH INTERIM REPORT - Request for Approval

Mr. Perry introduced the item. Ms. O’Keefe reported that the KCWA 30-Month Interim Report was submitted on January 31, 2005 and those copies were forwarded to review agencies for a 90-day review. She reported the report was comprehensive and adequate. The report included detailed information of the implementation of both the MUTAP and Drought Management programs. She recommended approval of the KCWA 30-Month Interim Report. A motion to approve was called by Mr. Stamp and seconded by Ms. Scott; the committee approved the motion. Mr. Perry recused himself.

4) ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

A. WATER ALLOCATION PROGRAM – Update

Ms. O’Keefe reported that the program continues moving forward with the necessary infrastructure improvements. In addition, work is being done on the final draft Implementation Team report. She stated that the WRB website has been updated with the capability of 24-hour turn around time for drought information restrictions.

B. DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM – Drought Condition Update

Ms. O’Keefe reported concern with the sharp increase in temperature and decrease of precipitation prompted an invitation to Ms. Nicole Belk, Hydrologist, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Weather Service (NWS) to attend today’s meeting. Ms. Belk addressed the committee and presented a slide presentation on short and long term weather patterns. NOAA information, datasets, and satellite imagery were used to describe the summer forecast for the region. Ms. Belk reported on precipitation levels from October 2004 through June 2005 comparing figures to normal markers and mean levels. She reported that figures for June 2005 show dry conditions with substantial drops in precipitation levels. She compared these figures to the drought figures in 2001. She stated more precipitation is needed to get back to normal levels. She noted for the short-term it is expected that the weather will return to a warm and dry pattern. She stated that the 8 to 14 day outlook through July 18th forecasts a continued pattern of above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation. She stated that the long-range outlook would be dry for July but with an increasing probability of precipitation possible as a result of up to 14 tropical storms predicted during the 2005 hurricane season. Ms. O’Keefe noted that staff will continue to monitor weather conditions closely using the Drought Management Plan indices. Mr. Perry thanked Ms. Belk for her informative presentation.

C. WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRAM - Update

Ms. O’Keefe reported that seven water suppliers have imposed water restrictions on a voluntary basis. She stated Management of the WSSMP continues with several WSSMP reports under review, frequent contacts with water suppliers, and coordination with state review agencies.

1). Harrisville Fire District (HFD) Relationship with Pascoag Utility District (PUD) Regarding Future Water Supply Expansion and Needs – Update

Ms. O’Keefe reported that at this time there is no update on negotiations between HFD and PUD.

D. RI PUBLIC DRINKING WATER PROTECTION PROG. PHASE III – Update

Mr. Rivero reported more requests would be coming in over the next few months. In addition, a reminder letter will be mailed at the end of August. Ms. Scott asked how much in funds remain to be spent in the program. Mr. Rivero reported \$4.8 million remains to be spent. Ms. Crawley reported that some projects particularly land acquisitions have been complicated and lengthy in the making.

E. GROUNDWATER PROTECTION/ACQUISITION PROGRAM – Update

Mr. Rivero reported that we are getting closer to an acquisition. Regarding the airport site, a commitment letter will be mailed out this week confirming the area of sale and to initiate the appraisal process. He stated that the Tuckahoe Turf site appraisal will start in September. He asked Ms. Primiano to expand on the status. Ms. Primiano reported the Tuckahoe Turf project is a multi million dollar project. The owners of the site want to sell the entire property, not piecemeal. This requires the selection of an appraiser that everyone can agree with. She added that the appraiser was selected after everyone had met with him. She stated that since it was important to use this person, the appraisal will not begin until September. The appraisal process will take six-weeks. She noted that Mr. Rivero has already negotiated some of the terms during his meetings with Mr. Donohue and thus will aid in the early completion of the appraisal process. She stated that this project is moving forward and that she feels good about it’s progress.

ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Frank Perry, Acting Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frank Perry
Acting Chairman

Note: The complete proceedings of this meeting are available on audiotape by request.

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