



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
Water Resources Board Corporate
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PUBLIC DRINKING WATER PROTECTION COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF MEETING

April 4, 2006

Members Present:

Robert Griffith
Frank Perry
June Swallow
William Stamp

Staff Present:

Juan Mariscal
William Riverso
Beverly O'Keefe

Members Absent:

Elizabeth Scott

Guests:

Carl Destramps
Stan Knox
Pasquale DeLise
Jim DeCelles
Alan Champagne
Robert Benson

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Griffith called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and noted that a quorum was present.
2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** With a motion by Mr. Perry, seconded by Ms. Swallow, the minutes of the March 7, 2006 meeting were approved.

3. ITEMS FOR ACTION:

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

- (1) **STONE BRIDGE FIRE DISTRICT – WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION PROJECT – Requisition # 3 - Preparation of Water Supply Systems Management Plan Reports – Request for Payment Approval - Requested Amount \$645.50; Recommended Payment \$645.50**

Mr. Griffith introduced the item. Mr. Riverso reported eligibility was approved by the Board Corporate at their March 14, 2006 meeting. He stated that the request is for \$1,613.75, of which SBFDF understands that their request is limited to 40% of the total cost per the program rules and procedures. He stated that proper supporting documentation has been submitted including copies of any cancelled checks. He

recommended approval by the committee in the amount of \$645.50. A motion to approve the payment was called by Mr. Perry and seconded by Ms. Swallow; the committee approved the motion unanimously.

(2) STONE BRIDGE FIRE DISTRICT – RAW WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION PROJECT – Requisition # 4 – Soil Erosion Prevention to a Water Supply Source – Request for Payment Approval - Requested Amount \$1,665.01; Recommended Payment \$000.00 –

Mr. Griffith introduced the item. Mr. Riverso reported eligibility for this project was approved by the Board Corporate at their regularly scheduled meeting on March 14, 2006. He stated that after further review of documentation and correspondences with SBFD, he learned that the permits were gotten on September 13, 2002 and the work was performed prior to this date. He did not recommend approval. Mr. Griffith reiterated if the recommendation was based on Bond Counsel recommendation regarding program project starting dates. Mr. Riverso affirmed. A motion to approve the payment was called by Ms. Swallow and seconded by Mr. Perry; the committee approved the motion unanimously.

(3) STONE BRIDGE FIRE DISTRICT – RAW WATER SUPPLY PROTECTION PROJECT – Requisition # 5 – Raising, Cleaning and Inspection of Raw Water Intakes - Request for Eligibility and Payment Approval - Requested Amount \$2,785.00; Recommended Payment \$2,785.00 –

Mr. Griffith introduced the item. Mr. Riverso reported that this project was tabled for further review regarding contracting dates and or work performance dates. He explained that after further review, he learned that parts of the project occurred before September 15, 2002. He stated that an invoice in the amount of \$2,875.00 was eligible with work performed in October of 2005. He related to the committee that Bond Counsel has advised that the program should only go back as far as September 15, 2002 for reimbursable projects. He recommended approval and added that proper supporting documentation has been submitted including copies of any cancelled checks. A motion to approve the payment was called by Mr. Perry and seconded by Ms. Swallow; the committee approved the motion unanimously.

(4) TOWN OF NORTH KINGSTOWN – WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – Requisition # 3 - Chemical Feed Pumps for Low Service Area Disinfection Pilot Study - Request for Payment Approval - Requested Amount \$6,549.50; Recommended Payment \$6,549.50 :

Mr. Griffith introduced the item. Mr. Riverso reported this project was approved for eligibility at the March 14, 2006 Board Corporate meeting. He stated NK has submitted proper supporting documentation and recommended approval in the amount of \$6,549.00 subject to receipt of copies of any cancelled checks. A motion to approve the payment was called by Ms. Swallow and seconded by Mr. Perry; the committee approved the motion unanimously.

(5) BRISTOL COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY – LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT – Requisition #1 – Requested Amount \$160,000.00; Recommended Payment \$160,000.00 - Request for Payment Approval –

Mr. Griffith introduced the item. Mr. Riverso reported that project eligibility was approved back in November 2005. He stated the appraisal was approved by Ms. Primiano with a value of \$160,000, which is also the purchase price. He added that BCWA has provided all necessary documentation. He added the Class I Survey has been reviewed and approved by staff and that the Title and transaction documentation is under review for approval by Mary Kay Esq. He recommended approval subject to final review and approval by Mary Kay. A motion to approve the payment was called by Mr. Perry and seconded by Ms. Swallow; the committee approved the motion unanimously.

(6) BRISTOL COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY – WATERSHED PROTECTION PROJECT – Land Acquisition Costs - Request for Eligibility Approval

Mr. Griffith introduced the item. Mr. Riverso reported this project consists of legal and survey costs associated with the previous land acquisition project. He recommended eligibility approval. Mr. Griffith asked if the amount of \$29,812.32 shown in BCWA letter of request was the final amount. Mr. Riverso affirmed. Mr. Griffith recommended approving payment in the amount of \$29,812.32 subject to receipt of proper supporting documentation and copies of any cancelled checks. Mr. Riverso recommended adding subject to successful completion and approval of the principal land acquisition project per Mary Kay. A motion to approve was called by Mr. Stamp and seconded by Ms. Swallow; the committee approved the motion unanimously.

(7) BRISTOL COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY – WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – Replacement of Tuberculated Water Mains - Request for Eligibility Approval

Mr. Griffith introduced the item. Mr. Riverso reported the project under consideration is for the replacement of old tuberculated water mains with new larger size pipes for portions of the distribution systems in the Towns of Barrington and Warren and it consisted of replacing 2,315’ of 6” pipe and 5,568’ of 8” pipe. He stated that the project has been completed and was performed in the time period 9/30/02 through March 2004. He reported this particular project was approved for eligibility and payment in April 2004 towards BCWA’s Phase I allocation due to a reversal of a land acquisition agreement, which occurred in Phase I of the program. He explained that monies were approved up to \$263,270.63 and that BCWA seeks eligibility approval for the balance of this project towards Phase III funds. He recommended approval. A motion to approve eligibility was called by Mr. Perry and seconded by Ms. Swallow; the committee approved the motion unanimously.

(8) BRISTOL COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY – WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – Replacement of Tuberculated Water Mains - Request for Eligibility Approval

Mr. Griffith introduced the item. Mr. Riverso reported the project under consideration is for the replacement of old tuberculated water mains with new larger size pipes for

portions of the distribution system in the Town of Barrington. He stated the project consisted of replacing 1,072' of 2" pipe with 264" of 6" pipe and 832" of 8" pipe. He added it has been completed and was performed in the time period 7/14/04 through 08/24/04. He recommended approval. A motion to approve eligibility was called by Ms. Swallow and seconded by Mr. Perry; the committee approved the motion unanimously.

(9) PAWTUCKET WATER SUPPLY BOARD – LAND ACQUISITION PROJECT – Carr Property Project – Town of Cumberland A.P. 47, Lot 2, Acreage 12.50 +/- acres - Request for Eligibility Approval

Mr. Griffith introduced the item. Mr. Rivero reported the project under consideration is for watershed protection through the purchase of development rights of land located in the Town of Cumberland and within the Diamond Hill Reservoir watershed. He stated the property is made up of approximately 12.50 acres with a highest and best use of residential development. He added that an appraisal has been submitted with an established value of \$125,000.00 Simple Fee, and \$100,000 for the development rights. He stated that PWSB has partnered with the Town of Cumberland in a purchase for \$85,000.00 with their contribution being \$42,500.00. He stated that PWSB has submitted project documents for review and at this time seek eligibility approval. He recommended approval. Mr. Griffith asked whose name will be on the title. Alan Champagne of PWSB responded that both PWSB and the Town of Cumberland would be listed on the Title. Mr. Perry asked for clarification on the project location and if there was access. Mr. Champagne described the site location and stated that access would come from the adjoining property because they own it. A motion to approve eligibility was called by Ms. Swallow and seconded by Mr. Perry; the committee approved the motion unanimously.

(10) UNITED WATER RHODE ISLAND - WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – Conservation Retro Fit Kits and Conservation Education Materials - Request for Eligibility Approval

Mr. Griffith introduced the item. Mr. Rivero reported that UWRI seeks eligibility approval for projects having to do with water conservation. These projects consist of the purchasing and distribution of residential retro fit kits and conservation education awareness materials to their customers. He stated the conservation kits are listed as #6 on the approved project list and although not listed, conservation education has been discussed by the committee as a desirable use of program funds. He recommended approval for the kits and noted Mr. Stan Knox was here to provide any additional information and explanation. Mr. Griffith reviewed the letter submitted by Mr. Knox. Mr. Knox stated that he plans to work with a company called Culver a well noted producer of education materials. Discussion ensued as Mr. Knox proceeded to describe the project and past successes. Mr. Griffith asked if Mr. Knox had any way of measuring results. Mr. Knox described past measures and means used. Discussion ensued. Mr. Stamp asked if this is a volunteer program. Mr. Griffith stated yes, that there is no cost to the consumer. Mr. Perry briefly described KCWA's conservation program. Mr. Griffith expressed his concern of having a system of getting feedback. Mr. Knox stated that it is difficult to measure but would attempt it. A motion to approve eligibility was called by Ms. Swallow and seconded by Mr. Perry; the committee approved the motion unanimously.

(11) STONE BRIDGE FIRE DISTRICT – WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS – Watershed Signage, Installation of an Air Cooling System, Replacement of Raw Water Pumps, New Treatment Plant Roofing - Request for Eligibility Approval

Mr. Griffith introduced the item. Mr. Riverso reported that SBFD has provided documentation regarding raw water quality improvement projects for consideration and proceeded to describe them. He described first the Watershed Signage project as consisting of the purchase of signage to inform the general public of Stafford Pond's status as a drinking water reservoir and stated the project has been completed with the work performed in the spring of 2005. Secondly he described the Air Cooling System project consisting of the installation of an air cooling system in the Treatment Plant Control Room. He stated that SBFD maintains that due to high moisture content within the plant a cooling unit was needed to prevent instrumentation and equipment failure to systems affecting the raw water pumps. He added the project has been completed with the work performed in the summer of 2005. Thirdly, he described the Raw Water Pump Valves project consisting of replacing valves to the raw water pumps and dresser couplings on the backwash line. He added the project has been completed with the work performed in the summer of 2005. Fourthly, he described the New Treatment Plant Roofing project consisting of installing new roofing to protect areas of the plant housing the raw water pumps. He added the project has been completed with the work performed in the spring and summer of 2005. He stated that SBFD maintains that these projects were all necessary to improve their systems ability to develop good and safe quality water for their customers. He stated that these projects are not listed on the program approved project list, thus reverting to #15 on the list for special project consideration whereby the Board has final approval regarding non-standard projects. He recommended approval for project #1 and non approval of projects 2, 3, and 4. Mr. Stamp stated that these projects seem routine but also seems to be within gray areas. Mr. Mariscal stated that we didn't feel there was enough of a direct connection to improving water quality primary to the program. Mr. Destramps of SBFD agreed with Mr. Mariscal's perception but disagreed with the view regarding the raw water pump valve project. He stated that pumps needed updating do to tuberculation problems within the pumping thus helping the raw water quality and increased pumping capacity. Mr. Griffith deferred to the engineers on the committee. Mr. Stamp called a motion to approve the watershed signage and raw water valve projects listed as #1 and #3. This motion was seconded by Mr. Perry. Mr. Griffith asked if all documentation has been submitted. Mr. Riverso said yes except for copies of any cancelled checks. Mr. Griffith asked that the motion be amended to include payment approval subject to receipt of copies of any cancelled checks. Mr. Stamp agreed to the change. The committee approved the motion unanimously.

(12) STONE BRIDGE FIRE DISTRICT – WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – Engineering Services to Determine Feasibility of Looping Dead End Water Mains - Request for Eligibility Approval

Mr. Griffith introduced the item. Mr. Riverso reported that SBFD has exhausted efforts for determining eligible projects. He related that the drainage project approved for eligibility at last month's meeting with a cost of over \$70,000.00 is now not eligible because it was completed before September 15, 2002. He stated that SBFD intends to

look forward towards doing looping of dead end projects. He reported the project under consideration is for engineering services to determine the feasibility of looping dead end water mains within SBFD's water distribution system. He stated the project will consist of identifying and costing out proposed water lines to be looped in their system in order to expend their remaining balance of program funds. He recommended approval. A motion to approve eligibility was called by Mr. Perry and seconded by Ms. Swallow; the committee approved the motion unanimously.

B. WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT PLANS (WSSMP):

(1) TOWN OF SOUTH KINGSTOWN (SK) – 30-MONTH INTERIM REPORT - Request for Approval –

Mr. Griffith introduced the item. Ms. O'Keefe reported the SK submitted their report on December 19, 2005 with review completed by March 30, 2006. She stated the report was comprehensive identifying all required elements and provided updates on proposed plan implementations. She stated that RIDOH and RIDEM submitted review comments with no findings. She recommended approval. A motion to approve was called by Mr. Perry and seconded by Ms. Swallow. The committee approved the motion unanimously.

4) ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

A. DROUGHT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM – Drought Condition Update

Ms. O'Keefe reported precipitation for March was very low with a statewide average of 0.57 inches. She stated that surface water levels for February were above normal and the Scituate Reservoir was at 103% capacity. Currently, the reservoir is at 101.7 % capacity. She added that regarding groundwater conditions there were six new high water levels reported and the drought severity index shows near normal conditions. She stated that during the next months careful monitoring will take place. A drought steering committee meeting has been scheduled for April 20, 2006. Mr. Perry commended Ms. O'Keefe on the new presented data. Mr. Stamp noted that for the agriculture community this is the driest they have seen it for the ability of plowing their crops.

B. WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS MANAGEMENT PLAN PROGRAM - Update

Ms. O'Keefe reported staff continues to work closely with the water suppliers on reporting requirements. She stated that a meeting will be held with the suppliers in May to review current and proposed rules and regulations regarding the WSSMP's. Mr. Griffith suggested discussing the agenda at the next committee meeting.

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

Ms. O'Keefe reported there is no further progress regarding regionalization issues between PUD and HFD.

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

Mr. Riverso reported that seven suppliers have completed the program. He stated that 58% of funds have been approved for payment with 96% of funds being committed and or reimbursed. Six additional suppliers have committed 100% of their funds. He proceeded to review certain water suppliers' statuses including those of any concern. He related that a few land acquisition projects although committed to would take some time to accomplish. Mr. Griffith asked staff to check with Bond Counsel on any extension requirements. Mr. Mariscal reported he has had discussions with Bill Penn regarding requirements, who relates that it is his interpretation that IRS rules govern this program and that commitments are very important and the question is how commitments are defined. He added that he will go to Bond counsel for clearer direction. Mr. Griffith stated that we need to get clear guidance on these land projects that may need extending.

1). Preparation for Phase IV – Outlining of Criteria, Materials for Review

Mr. Griffith introduced the item. Mr. Mariscal stated that there is no report at this time. He intends to prepare for the next meeting a summary of ideas that have been put forward with any other ideas that staff may have so we can focus our discussions.

D. GROUNDWATER PROTECTION/ACQUISITION PROGRAM – Update

Mr. Riverso asked the committee to refer to the distributed map. Mr. Mariscal reported that as we move forward conservatively in the program we must make sure our i's are dotted and t's are crossed before we purchase any properties. He stated that some properties have been difficult to acquire do to overlapping of the wellhead area. He related that some properties are getting closer to purchase and sale but with some administrative difficulties. He reported that the Board has been approached for assistance from representatives of the Shannock Village Water District for a potential new water source. He stated that they have requested to the Chairman to come before the Board to discuss their situation and need for assistance. Mr. Mariscal proceeded to inform the committee with background and status of the project area.

ADJOURNMENT: Chairman Griffith adjourned the meeting at 1:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Griffith
Chairman

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

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