

Mattapoisett River Valley
Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 13, 2016

The Mattapoisett River Valley Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. at the Fairhaven Board of Public Works, 5 Arsene Street, Fairhaven, MA.

In attendance:

Town of Fairhaven	Mark Rees	appointed indefinitely
Town of Marion	Paul Dawson	term expires: 6/2017
	David Pierce	term expires: 6/ 2017
	Rob Zora	term expires: 6/ 2017
Town of Mattapoisett	Dan Chase	term expires: 4/ 2017
	William Nicholson	term expires: 4/ 2017
	Henri Renauld	term expires: 4/ 2017
Town of Rochester	Laurell J. Farinon	term expires: 4/ 2018
	Sandy Keese	appointed indefinitely
	Fred Underhill	term expires: 4/ 2018

Others in attendance were: Patrick O'Neale Tata & Howard

Absent Members: Vincent Furtado appointed indefinitely

Vice Chairman Renauld called the meeting to order at 3:50 p.m.

1. Acceptance of minutes of November 8, 2016 meeting
Mr. Pierce motioned approval of the November 8, 2016 minutes, Mr. Zora seconded, all in favor.
2. Treasurer's Report
Treasurer Pierce reported that there were three transactions in the prior month, with payments to Tata & Howard (\$2,936.74), William David Watling (\$213.98), and Megan McCarthy (\$169.00). Copies of MRVWSPAC account balances as of December 1, 2016 were distributed by Treasurer Pierce, who reported that the current balance is \$219,077.63.

Mr. Underhill motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report, Mr. Dawson seconded, all in favor.

Members that were present signed the following invoices:

- Tata & Howard \$ 2,318.18
- David Watling \$ 213.18
- Meaghan McCarthy \$ 117.00

Mr. Pierce motioned payment of the above referenced invoices, Mr. Dawson seconded, all in favor.

3. Discuss Subcommittee Approval of Milka Solar Project off New Bedford Road in Rochester

Mr. Renauld reported that he met with Chairman Furtado and Ms. Keese to review the site plan of a proposed solar array off New Bedford Road. The proposed project is within the Zone II aquifer of a well owned by the Town of Marion. Mr. Renauld said the committee recognizes that taking the bog offline will reduce nitrogen loading and improve water quality, however they recommended clay barriers to block flow in the event of breakage of solar panels and infiltration into groundwater. The committee issued a comment letter to Mr. Milka on December 5, 2016.

4. MRV Monitoring Reports

Mr. O'Neale reported that Tata and Howard is working on the 2015 and 2016 reports, and will e-mail recommendations to MRVWSPAC members and post the bulk of the reports on basecamp. He distributed a spreadsheet entitled "MRV River Monitoring Program, 2011 – 2016 Monthly Data Summary", which is an expanded version of what we've seen in the past. The chart includes historical minimum, maximum, average 25th percentile, and median highs and lows.

Mr. O'Neale commented that most of the wells have rebounded. The 1S shallow well next to station 3 has come up slightly. The state has not lifted the drought classification, or the outside water ban. Discussion ensued about whether the communities should back off the outside watering bans: Mr. O'Neale recommended that the towns follow the Commonwealth of MA recommendations.

5. New Business/Old Business

Mr. Pierce reminded the MRVWSPAC that annual reports will soon be due for town reports, and that some communities need the reports by the middle of

January. Mrs. Farinon will prepare a draft report for review and approval of the MRVWSPAC at its January 2017 meeting.

Mrs. Farinon thanked Mr. Nicholson for alerting her to website inconsistencies, and informed the MRVWSPAC that she coordinated with Ms. Nettles and the site has been corrected and updated.

Mr. Pierce requested that the MRVWSPAC be provided monthly MRV water level data in graph form; Mr. O'Neale agreed to provide the information as requested.

Mr. Pierce reported that he has investigated options for investing the MRVSPAC treasury, and noted that investing in a \$50,000 CD could possibly yield meaningful returns. Mr. Chase expressed concern about tying up money for little gain. It was noted that we will soon be above the \$250,000 total covered under FDIC. Mr. Underhill will further research options and report back to the committee next month.

The meeting of the MRVWSPAC was adjourned at 4:34 p.m.