

Mattapoissett River Valley
Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2015

The Mattapoissett River Valley Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 3:30 p.m. at the Fairhaven Board of Public Works, 5 Arsene Street, Fairhaven, MA.

In attendance:

Town of Fairhaven	Jeffrey W. Osuch, Chairman Vinnie Furtado
Town of Marion	David Pierce, Treasurer
Town of Mattapoissett	Dan Chase Barry Denham William Nicholson
Town of Rochester	Laurell J. Farinon, Vice Chair Fred Underhill

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

1. Acceptance of minutes of December 9, 2015
Mr. Pierce motioned to accept the minutes of the December 9, 2015 meeting, Mr. Chase seconded, and all in favor.
2. Treasurer's Report
Copies of the January 1, 2015 treasurer's report were distributed by Treasurer Pierce who explained that he has drafted letters of assessment for the water superintendents. Mr. Nicholson commented that last year's assessment for Marion and Mattapoissett are down, and Fairhaven is up. He summarized that the MRVWSPAC will most likely lose a few thousand dollars due to this.

The account balance as of January 1, 2015 is \$149,339.63. Mr. Chase motioned to accept the January 1, 2015 treasurer's report as presented, Mr. Furtado seconded, all in favor.

Members that were present signed the following invoices:

- Tata & Howard \$1,229.50
- Meagan McCarthy \$ 162.50

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

3. SWMI Interactive GIS Map
Mr. Nicholson explained that he asked that this item be placed on the agenda, and turned it over to Mr. O'Neale to present. Mr. O'Neale made a powerpoint presentation and explained the SWMI interactive website and map. The map showed the MRV sub basins and biological categories. He will forward the link for the website to MRVWSPAC members. It was agreed by all that if the state is going to enforce this program, backup data used to substantiate the classifications should be provided to communities.
4. 2013 MRV Report
Mr. O'Neale reported that he is working on the 2013 MRV report and showed a graph of peak water withdrawal in July and August in 2012 and 2013. He stated that 944 million gallons was withdrawn in 2012 with 40 inches of precipitation. There were 930 million gallons withdrawn in 2013 and 48 inches of precipitation. He is working to review figures and prepare a summary and conclusions. Mr. O'Neale recommended that the subcommittee get together to review data and draft 2013 report.
5. Withdrawal of water from Mattapoissett River
Mr. Nicholson reported that he asked that this item be placed on the agenda because he received a report that Yard Boss, a landscaping company in Mattapoissett, was seen withdrawing water from the Mattapoissett River spillway on Route 6. Because the Town of Fairhaven maintains and controls the spillway, Mr. Furtado sent a letter to Yard Boss. Mr. Nicholson stated that a policy is needed to regulate withdrawal of water from the river. It was agreed that a subcommittee would meet to discuss the matter in greater detail.
6. Request for payment for purchase of 16-acre Mattapoissett riverfront parcel
Mr. Nicholson Osuch reported that the Buzzards Bay Coalition has requested that the MRVWSPAC make a \$50,000 payment towards the acquisition of the Decas Riverfront Parcel – Mattapoissett Map 22, Lot 14 on Acushnet Road. He distributed a color map illustrating the property location, along with a narrative summary of the property's protection value and land protection history. He stated that the town of Mattapoissett will be the outright owner of this property and it will be managed along with the other water lands in the River Valley.

Discussion ensued about the Buzzards Bay Coalition's controversial role in environmental projects in river valley. It was agreed that the matter should be tabled until representatives of the Buzzards Bay Coalition are able to attend to answer questions. Mr. Denham motioned to table the matter to the next meeting with the stipulation that the committee reconvene within 24 hours - notice if required, Mr. Furtado seconded, all in favor.

Treasurer Pierce praised the good work of MRVWSPAC subcontractors Meagan McCarthy and Elizabeth Leidhold, and recommended that the hourly rate of compensation be increased from \$25 to \$26 per hour. All were in agreement that an adjustment was warranted, and thanked Mr. Pierce for coordinating such excellent subcontractors and saving the MRVWSPAC a considerable amount of money over the years. Mr. Furtado motioned to increase Ms. McCarthy and Ms. Leidhold's hourly rate from \$25 to \$26 per hour, Mr. Pierce seconded, all in favor.

Mr. Chase motioned adjournment of the meeting at 5:00 p.m., Mr. Nicholson seconded, all in favor. The next meeting of the MRVWSPAC will be held on Tuesday, February 10, 2014.