

Mattapoissett River Valley
Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 9, 2017

The Mattapoissett River Valley Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, May 9, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. at the Fairhaven Board of Public Works, 5 Arsene Street, Fairhaven, MA.

In attendance:

Town of Fairhaven	Vincent Furtado	appointed indefinitely
	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 Mattapoissett	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:

Chairman Furtado called the meeting to order at 3:42 p.m.

1. Acceptance of minutes of March 21, 2017 meeting
Mr. Nicholson motioned to accept the minutes of the March 21, 2017 meeting, Mr. Zora seconded, all in favor with Mr. Chase & Mrs. Farinon abstaining.

Acceptance of minutes of March 21, 2017 meeting
Mr. Underhill motioned approval with the correction of changing “bud” to “but” in item 8, and noting that Mr. Chase was in attendance at the meeting. The motioned was seconded by Ms. Keese, all in favor.

2. Treasurer’s Report

Treasurer Pierce noted that the normal financial cycle was upset due to the MRVWSPAC meeting one week later than normal. There were a number of checks in April with an ending balance of \$210, 598.75. Treasurer Pierce noted we were getting towards the end of the fiscal year and the total income was \$86, 201.82.

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

Members that were present signed the following invoices:

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

3. Update on Water Restrictions

It was reported that both Fairhaven and Mattapoisett lifted the ban on April 27, 2017. The Town of Marion is still under restriction and plans to go back in on June 15, 2017. Mr. O'Neale reported that drought management task force has determined that this area is no longer in a drought, and all of the state is back to "condition normal".

4. Discuss Status of Decas Tailwater Recovery Pond Project

Mrs. Farinon updated the MRVWSPAC on the Decas Cranberry Company project and reported that material was pushed back into the hole, the side slopes were final graded, loamed and seeded. The dewatering pumps were withdrawn and the pond allowed to equalize. The two monitoring wells that were installed will be monitored by the Commission's consultant Bristol Engineering Advisors, Inc.

5. Establishment of Important Calendar Dates

The subcommittee assigned to work on this issue was unable to meet and will convene in the next month and report back to the MRVWSPAC.

Mr. Pierce noted that it would be helpful to receive the minutes earlier so that they can be reviewed in advance of the meeting.

6. Mattapoisett River Data Summary

Mr. O’Neale distributed copies of the MRVWSPAC April 2011- March 2017 monthly data summary and MW elevations and 25th percentile. He explained that the wells are all recovering above the 25th percentile, and the shallow wells are still lagging a little bit. Well 2S is hovering at the 25th percentile, which is below a year ago but much better than a few months ago. He summarized that things are headed in the right direction.

Mr. O’Neale reported there is a new initiative by the Rivers Alliance regarding water registration and registered volume and permitted volume. The Rivers Alliance has petitioned EEA to condition registrations, and now DEP has to act on the petition. Mass Waterworks met with the Commissioner on this matter.

Mr. O’Neale reported that Representative Straus filed legislation H3600 Amendment that provides for cranberry growers to transfer or sell water registrations for mitigation.

7. MRVWSPAC Bylaw Changes

Mr. Nicholson distributed copies of MRVWSPAC bylaws and organizational information.

8. New Business

Mr. Silva reported that he spoke with Representative Straus about a recommended environmental attorney and he recommended Attorney Chip Nylan and/or Attorney Phil Beauregard. It was agreed that an MRVWSPAC subcommittee will interview attorneys and present a recommendation to the committee.

Mr. Renauld reported that the MRV Water District and Treatment Plant received the “2017 Public Water System Award for Outstanding Performance in 2016” as well as the “Governors’ Citation in Recognition of Dedicated Service to Maintain Abundant Clean Water”. The MRVWSPAC congratulated Mr. Renauld on the awards and thanked him for his good work.

Mr. Underhill motioned to adjourn the meeting of the MRVWSPAC at 5:03 p.m., Mr. Nicholson seconded, all in favor.