

Mattapoissett River Valley  
Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
February 8, 2022

The Mattapoissett River Valley Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 3:33 p.m. remotely using Zoom Meeting ID: 247 835 7020 or by calling 1-646-876-9923.

In attendance:

Town of Fairhaven	Vincent Furtado	term expires: 5/2022
	Wendy Graves	
	Jeffrey Furtado	term expires: 5/2022
Town of Marion	Meghan Davis	term expires: 6/2022
	Nathaniel Munafo	term expires: 6/2022
Town of Mattapoissett	William Nicholson	term expires: 2024
	Daniel Chase	term expires: 2024
	Henri Renauld	term expires: 2024
Town of Rochester	Merilee Kelly	
	Rick Charon	term expires: 2024
	Sandy Keese	term expires: 2023

Others in attendance:

Mike Lorencio	Town of Mattapoissett
Jon Gregory	Tata & Howard
Paul Howard	Tata & Howard
Mick Colageo	The Wanderer
Blair Bailey	
David Pierce	

Absent Members:

Town of Marion: Randy Parker

Chairman Vincent Furtado called the meeting to order at 3:33 p.m. Please note that although Mr. Lorencio attended the meeting and voted on matters, his votes were not counted as he is not part of the Water Supply Protection Advisory Committee.

1. Acceptance of minutes of the January 11, 2022 meeting  
Mr. Renauld motioned approval of the January 11, 2022 meeting minutes, and Mr. Munafo seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstention (10-0-0).

2. Treasurer's Report

Mr. Jeff Furtado presented that there was some confusion on the ledger this month, hence the tardiness of the expense report. Mr. Jeff Furtado will review the expenses verbally during this meeting and distribute the report tomorrow.

Mr. Jeff Furtado reported that for this invoicing period, payments totaled \$18,403.54, and income totaled \$73,619.64, with a total ending balance of \$282,765.39. Mr. Nicholson motioned acceptance of the Treasurer's report as presented, Ms. Keese seconded, and all in favor on a roll call vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained (10-0-0).

Mr. Vincent Furtado presented the following invoices to be paid:

• Blair Bailey	\$ 50.00
• William David Watling	\$ 251.72
• Tata & Howard	\$ 1,188.07
• Tata & Howard	\$ 2,479.36

Mr. Nicholson motioned to approve payment of the above referenced invoices on behalf of the MRVWSPAC. Mr. Vincent Furtado seconded, and all in favor. The motion passed on a roll call vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained (10-0-0). Mr. Chase joined the meeting.

Mr. Jeff Furtado noted that he received an email from Meagan McCarthy, stating that she did not issue a bill this month because she did not receive levellogger data from Tata & Howard. Mr. Gregory noted he will investigate further and resolve the issue.

3. Division of Land Plan for Approval (453 Snipatuit Road, Rochester)

Mr. Vincent Furtado presented that he received a request regarding 453 Snipatuit Road in Rochester, as distributed to the Advisory Committee. Mr. Vincent Furtado summarized that the land is being subdivided and transferred into conservation property. In addition to Mr. Vincent Furtado, Mr. Renault, and Ms. Keese reviewed the request and have no concerns. Mr. Vincent Furtado noted that unless there are any concerns from the Advisory Committee, he would like to approve the plan, which means that Mr. Vincent Furtado as the Advisory Committee Chairman will write a letter to Doug Schneider (who is the designer) on behalf of the Advisory Committee stating that work as proposed will not have adverse effect to the water supply.

Mr. Charon commented that he has seen parcels like this being taken off the tax rolls to be put into conservation for good reason, but it does place a burden on the people who are land owners in Town. Although the purpose of the land transfer is good, the net result is an increase in real estate taxes for any other land owners in Town. Mr. Vincent Furtado understands Mr. Charon's comments and doesn't disagree, but stated that it is the Advisory Committee's

role to evaluate if the proposed work will have an adverse effect on the water supply. Ms. Keese noted that she agrees with Mr. Charon.

Mr. Vincent Furtado entertained a motion to accept and formally respond to the request as presented. Mr. Chase motioned for the Chairman draft and issue a response letter as discussed. Mr. Nicholson seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote of 10 in favor, 0 opposed, Mr. Charon abstained (10-0-1).

4. Old Business / New Business

Old Business: None.

New Business: Mr. Gregory requested that Tata & Howard present the next quarterly update and 2021 annual overview of the River Monitoring Program data at the March 2022 meeting. Ms. Davis acknowledged and will add it to the agenda for the March 2022 meeting.

New Business: Mr. Gregory reported that the levellogger at MW-3D needed to be replaced, and currently there is only one spare levellogger on hand. He anticipates the remaining levelloggers will begin to malfunction soon, as they have come to the end of their useful life. Mr. Gregory asked the Committee members if they are satisfied with only one spare levellogger on hand, or if members would prefer to purchase more backup levelloggers to be prepared when the existing levelloggers malfunction.

Mr. Nicholson asked what the cost is for a replacement levellogger. Mr. Gregory responded that each levellogger is \$650 plus freight. Mr. Gregory continued that with increasing costs of materials, he recommends the Committee authorize a Not to Exceed (NTE) cost of \$800 for a new / spare levellogger.

Ms. Keese asked how long the lead time is for a levellogger to be delivered. Mr. Gregory explained that currently it is difficult to obtain any type of material these days, but generally levelloggers are delivered within a few weeks. Mr. Gregory continued that the exact lead time is unknown until the order is placed.

Mr. Gregory noted that this is not a critical issue because all levelloggers are currently functioning, but noted that he suggests maintaining more than one levellogger as back up for the future. Having spare levelloggers on hand decreases the potential for gaps collecting in the river monitoring data. Ms. Keese and Mr. Nicholson agreed that it is a good idea to maintain additional backup equipment.

Mr. Munafa asked how many levelloggers had to be replaced within the last year. Mr. Gregory responded he will double check, but he believes three to four have been replaced to date.

Mr. Chase expressed concern for the life expectancy of the technology that support the levelloggers. Mr. Gregory responded that any levelloggers purchased as back up equipment are the latest models issued by the manufacturer (Solinst), and that Tata & Howard continues to monitor the performance of the levelloggers. Mr. Chase stated that he agrees to purchase of new levelloggers for backup.


Mr. Chase made motion to approve funds at a NTE cost of \$800 for Tata & Howard to purchase a backup levellogger. Mr. Charon seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained (11-0-0).

5. Adjournment

Mr. Vincent Furtado entertained motion to adjourn at 3:54 p.m. Mr. Nicholson made motion, Mr. Chase seconded, and all in favor. The motion passed on a roll call vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained (11-0-0).

Next Meeting March 8, 2022

Meeting Minutes Prepared By:

  
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Meghan Davis, Clerk