

**MWRA Board of Directors Meeting  
October 16, 2013  
Voting Summary Sheet**

Item Name	Type	Notes	Vote	Discussion Highlights	Attachments
Approval of Minutes	n/a	n/a	Unanimous		
Report of the Chair	n/a	n/a	n/a	*	
Report of the Executive Director	n/a	n/a	n/a	*	
Report on Severe Weather Preparedness for MWRA Coastal Facilities	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please see discussion Highlights.</li> </ul>	n/a	*	
Appointment of IT Project Manager III, MIS Department	Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointed Amie Maddalone</li> <li>Unit 6, Grade 12</li> <li>Salary: \$89,337.04</li> <li>Effective: October 21, 2013</li> </ul>	Unanimous	*	
Database Consolidation – MIS, Bid WRA-3674	Contract Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mythics, Inc.</li> <li>Purchase Order Contract Not to Exceed \$221,488.00</li> </ul>	Unanimous		
Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plant Phosphorus Reduction: Design, Construction Administration and Resident Engineering Services, Contract 7377	Contract Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fay, Spofford &amp; Thorndike, LLC</li> <li>Not to Exceed \$1,144,465.23</li> <li>Term: 1,700 Calendar Days from NTP</li> </ul>	Unanimous		
Pilot Program to Introduce Pre-Processed Separated Organic Material into Anaerobic Digesters at the Deer Island Treatment Plant, Contract OP-219	Contract Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste Management of Massachusetts, Inc.</li> <li>Term: Notice to Proceed until June 1, 2015</li> <li>Two One-Year Extension Options, or Portions Thereof</li> <li>Executive Director will report monthly to Board</li> <li>MWRA must receive "Hold Harmless" letter from MA DEP</li> <li>Executive Director must meet with Officials from the Town of Winthrop</li> </ul>	Unanimous	*	
Elevator Maintenance and Repair Service, Deer Island Treatment Plant, Contract S523	Contract Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Embree and White, Inc. dba Embree Elevator</li> <li>Contract Amount: \$509,150.00</li> <li>Term: 730 Calendar Days from NTP</li> </ul>	Unanimous		
Spot Pond Water Storage Facility Design/Build Project, Contract 6457, Change Order 3	Contract Amendments/Change Orders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walsh Construction Co.</li> <li>Lump Sum Credit Amount of (\$44,075.34)</li> </ul>	Unanimous		
Delegated Authority Report – September 2013	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please see discussion Highlights.</li> </ul>	Unanimous	*	
FY13 Year-End Capital Program Spending Report	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please see related Staff Summary.</li> </ul>	Unanimous		
FY14 Financial Update and Summary as of Sept 2013	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CEB: Total year-to-date net variance of \$2.6 million (lower)</li> <li>CIP: Spending year-to-date of \$22 million, \$2.5 million or 9.7% lower than budget</li> </ul>	Postponed	*	
Pre-Treatment Program Annual Industrial Waste Report Number 29	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please see discussion Highlights.</li> </ul>	Unanimous	*	
Update on Energy Efficiencies at Deer Island and Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plants	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please see discussion Highlights.</li> </ul>	Unanimous	*	

**MWRA Board of Directors Meeting**

**October 16, 2013**

**Voting Summary Sheet**

Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plant; Re-Notice of Draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit – Response Letter to EPA	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please see discussion Highlights.</li> </ul>	Unanimous	*	
Carroll Water Treatment Plant – UV Construction Status and Issues Update	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please see discussion Highlights.</li> </ul>	Unanimous	*	
Update on Northern Intermediate High Service Area Redundancy and Hydraulic Improvements	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please see discussion Highlights.</li> </ul>	Unanimous	*	

Administration and Finance 
  Wastewater 
  Water 
  Personnel 
 \* Link to Advisory Board position



MWRA Advisory Board Summary  
of the  
MWRA Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday, October 16, 2013

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority was held on October 16, 2013 at the Charlestown Navy Yard. **Present:** Chair Richard Sullivan, Joel Barrera, Jennifer Wolowicz, Gubernatorial Appointees; John Carroll, Andrew Pappastergion and Joseph Foti, Advisory Board Representatives; Henry Vitale and Brian Swett, City of Boston Representatives; Jack Walsh, City of Quincy Representative; Paul Flanagan, Town of Winthrop Representative. **Absent:** Kevin Cotter, City of Boston Representative.

**Report of the Chair**

Chairman Richard Sullivan recognized and congratulated Fred Laskey, the Board and the MWRA Advisory Board for all the work out at the Alewife Reservation. He stated that Judge Stearns, DCR and the City of Cambridge should all be recognized for their environmental stewardship.

**Report of the Executive Director**

MWRA Executive Director Fred Laskey noted that as public servants, you would like to think that something you have done in your career would leave the world a better place. He thanked the Board for supporting the expenditures that brought the Alewife Wetland project to fruition.

Yesterday staff attended offsite management training at Deer Island on transgender identity and transgender issues, which is a protected class of individuals under state law.

Mr. Laskey noted that proposed water and wastewater infrastructure legislation included several items of importance to the MWRA. The inter-basin transfer process would be speeded up. In staff's view, as long as there is discussion about a streamlined review process, it is a positive thing for communities. Also included in this legislation is a provision that the Commonwealth will reimburse the MWRA for the I/I Program; principal forgiveness for communities that make a connection to the MWRA and a 50% match for the entrance fee into the MWRA. There is still a long way to go but it is important that the legislators understand the issues. The MWRA has a \$6 billion debt that needs to be paid; however, the one area that was not addressed was Debt Service Assistance. Overall, this is positive legislation.

Board Member Joel Barrera stated that MAPC plans to review this legislation next week. The most controversial thing is the Inter-Basin Transfer Act. Secretary Sullivan stated that his staff has started having those discussions. There are a lot of good things in this legislation. He stated that his office worked closely with Senator Eldridge and Representative Dykema on a lot of the language.

Mr. Laskey stated in the fall, staff likes to hold off-site meetings. Staff will poll the Board to see if the November meeting should be held in the Stoneham area.

The Spot Pond project is approaching the 50% mark.

Deputy Chief Operating Officer Rick Trubiano, Director of Planning Steve Estes-Smargiassi, and Director of Operations Support and Emergency Preparedness Marcis Kempe made a presentation to the Board on severe weather preparedness for the MWRA's coastal facilities. In light of the devastating effects of Hurricane Sandy

on New York and New Jersey, staff decided to examine the MWRA's facilities to see how they would hold up in the event that such a catastrophic storm should hit this area.

Mr. Barrera noted that Hurricane Sandy had only been listed as a Category 1 storm. Mr. Estes-Smargiassi stated that the categories are designed based on wind speed; however, this storm drove water. In New York, the water level reached nine feet, which is 3.5 feet above a 100-year storm.

Board Member Brian Swett noted that FEMA maps are being updated and have a better process in modeling.

Mr. Laskey noted that the Deer Island Treatment Plant was one of the first places built to account for climate change. The engineers made that decision before it became a hot topic.

Mr. Swett commended the Authority for doing this, stating that he wished others would be as proactive.

Click here to see the presentation made to the Board regarding [Severe Weather Preparedness](#) for MWRA Coastal Facilities.

## **Approvals**

### **Appointment of IT Project Manager III, MIS Department**

The Board voted to approve the Executive Director's recommendation to appoint Amie Maddalone to the position of IT Project Manager III (Unit 6, Grade 12), MIS Department, at an annual salary of \$89,337.04 to be effective October 21, 2013.

Mr. Barrera asked if the Authority only received four applications for this position. Human Resources Director Robert Donnelly clarified that there were four qualified candidates; however, there were more applications.

## **Contract Awards**

### **Database Consolidation – MIS: Mythics, Inc., Bid WRA-3674**

The Board voted to approve the award of a purchase order contract for technical consulting services to consolidate MWRA database services to the lowest eligible and responsible bidder, Mythics, Inc., and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute and deliver said purchase order contract in an amount not to exceed \$221,488.00.

### **Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plant Phosphorus Reduction: Design, Construction Administration and Resident Engineering Services, Fay, Spofford & Thorndike, LLC, Contract 7377**

The Board voted to approve the recommendation of the Consultant Selection Committee to select Fay, Spofford & Thorndike, LLC to provide design, construction administration, and resident engineering services for the Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plant Phosphorus Reduction project and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute a contract with Fay, Spofford & Thorndike, LLC in an amount not to exceed \$1,144,465.23 for a term of 1,700 calendar days from the Notice to Proceed.

To view the PowerPoint Presentation, click [here](#).

**Pilot Program to Introduce Pre-Processed Separated Organic Material into Anaerobic Digesters at the Deer Island Treatment Plant: Waste Management of Massachusetts, Inc., Contract OP-219**

The Board voted to approve the award of Agreement OP-219, Pilot Program to Introduce Pre-Processed Separated Organic Material into Anaerobic Digesters at the Deer Island Treatment Plant, to Waste Management of Massachusetts, Inc. and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute said Agreement for an initial term from the Notice to Proceed until June 1, 2015, with two one-year extension options, or portions thereof, subject to further Board approval; provided that the Executive Director will report monthly to the Board of Directors over the life of the pilot project as to progress on every aspect of the project; and provided further that the Agreement may not be executed until (1) MWRA receives a "hold harmless" letter from MA DEP, and (2) the Executive Director meets with officials of the Town of Winthrop to describe and discuss the project.

Chairman Sullivan asked how many companies were interested in transporting these materials. Deer Island Wastewater Treatment Plant Director Dan O'Brien stated that several firms banded together so there were only two bids. The selected bidder represents four firms.

Board Member Jack Walsh stated that there will be six to nine trucks traveling on narrow streets in Winthrop. Did staff look at hours of transportation? Mr. O'Brien stated that he intends to limit deliveries to five days per week from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. so that MWRA staff can receive the deliveries.

Board Member John Carroll asked if there is any money involved. Mr. O'Brien stated that there is no tipping fee during the pilot program.

Mr. O'Brien stated the pilot program will begin with 7 dry tons per day, increase to 14 and ramp up to 21 dry tons per day. Mr. Carroll asked how many trucks would be involved. Mr. O'Brien said it would begin with two to three trucks per day and then increase to six to nine trucks per day.

Mr. Laskey noted that the RFP states that it is Waste Management's obligation to get approval from the Town of Winthrop.

Mr. Carroll stated that he was concerned that this vote is wide open. There are no limitations whatsoever. Mr. O'Brien said the MWRA is engaging them to pre-process the materials to the MWRA's specifications. Mr. Swett stated that he was comfortable with this. It is a slurry material that is concealed and contained in the truck.

Chairman Sullivan noted that capital improvements will come later as the MWRA moves forward. Mr. O'Brien stated that the Authority does have to make some changes to accept this waste. Staff is using an operating figure of \$350,000; \$100,000 will come from the Department of Environmental Protection and MWRA will apply for \$200,000 from the Mass Clean Energy Center.

Mr. Carroll stated that he is concerned about the process that MWRA is going to enter into with the state and DEP. The Board should have some formal understanding of testing during this process. What if there is some sort of failure? It gives too much control to the Executive Director. He stated that he would vote against it. Chief Operating Officer Michael Hornbrook stated that the MWRA went out with a competitive bid. In that process it was determined that it would be the bidder's responsibility to transport the materials to the Island. There is a tight limit on the testing program. Mr. Swett added that the long-term solution would bring the materials by barge.

Chairman Sullivan noted that after the one year testing pilot program, it will come back to the Board. He stated that he spoke with DEP about a “get out of jail free card.” DEP is willing to provide that hold harmless language.

Board Member Andrew Pappastergion said what about EPA? Chairman Sullivan said he believes it is not going to be a problem. DEP Commissioner Ken Kimmell has offered to go over to EPA with Fred Laskey to defer any action. Mr. Laskey noted that if there is a problem with a digester, staff can isolate the digester. Mr. O’Brien stated that it is viewed as a minimal risk; however, there is a lot of testing built into the pilot program.

Mr. Carroll stated that he would like to add the requirement that the Executive Director report to the Board monthly over the life of the program as well as including that the approval is subject to receiving a hold harmless letter from DEP.

Board Member Paul Flanagan asked if there were inclement weather one day, would that mean that 18 trucks would be coming through Winthrop the next day. Mr. O’Brien stated that operations would likely be suspended for that one day.

Mr. Flanagan asked to have the vote postponed for a month because he felt that Winthrop officials were entitled to a visit from the Executive Director to explain the pilot program. Waste Management has not been in communication with the Town as well. Chairman Sullivan added that the vote could include the condition that Fred Laskey meet with officials in the Town of Winthrop. Additionally, Waste Management has to speak with the Town of Winthrop as well.

Please click [here](#) to see the Advisory Board’s position on Co-Digestion.

**Elevator Maintenance and Repair Service, Deer Island Treatment Plant: Embree and White, Inc. d/b/a Embree Elevator, Contract S523**

The Board voted to approve the award of Contract S523, Elevator Maintenance and Repair Service, Deer Island Treatment Plant, to the lowest eligible and responsible bidder, Embree and White, Inc. d/b/a Embree Elevator, and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute and deliver said contract in the bid amount of \$509,150.00 for a term of 730 calendar days from the Notice to Proceed.

**Contract Amendments / Change Orders**

**Spot Pond Water Storage Facility Design/Build Project: Walsh Construction Co., Contract 6457, Change Order 3**

The Board voted to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Change Order No. 3 to decrease the amount of Contract No. 6457 with Walsh Construction Co., Spot Pond Water Storage Facility Design/Build Project, for a net lump sum credit amount of (\$44,075.34), with no increase in contract term; and to authorize the Executive Director to approve additional change orders as may be needed to Contract No. 6457 in amounts not to exceed the aggregate of \$250,000.00, in accordance with the Management Policies of the Board of Directors.

## Information

### **Delegated Authority Report – September 2013**

Director of Administration and Finance Rachel Madden highlighted the September 2013 delegated authority purchases.

Mr. Walsh asked for more information on the wind turbine inspection. Deputy Chief Operating Officer John Vetere stated that a performance and engineering evaluation was being conducted on the wind turbine as the warranty period is coming to an end in October. There was an issue with design rights so staff went back to verify that the design is the way it is supposed to be. Staff will go back to Loomis to do any recommendations that come out of that report. Ms. Madden added that the Charlestown Wind Turbine was funded by stimulus dollars.

### **FY13 Year-End Capital Program Spending Report**

Budget Director Kathy Soni and Budget Manager David Whelan provided the Board with a Fiscal Year 2013 Year-End Capital Improvement Program Spending Report.

### **FY14 Financial Update and Summary as of September 2013**

Ms. Madden summarized the information presented in the staff summary regarding the FY14 Financial Update and Summary as of September 2013.

Board Member Henry Vitale asked if there has been a trend in increasing workers' compensation claims over the years. Ms. Madden stated that two years ago, the Authority was overspent on workers' compensation; however, last year it was on budget. Staff does not anticipate that workers' compensation will be over budget at the end of the year.

Mr. Vitale asked how many employees are out on workers' compensation. Human Resources Director Robert Donnelly said the number is 60+ on average. Staff is not seeing an increase in claims. Payments have been level and on budget. The Authority was hit with large medical expenses over the summer. Injuries and medical expenses are the wild cards.

Mr. Vitale asked if the Authority has a light-duty program. Mr. Donnelly responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Barrera asked if the Authority is self-insured. Mr. Donnelly said yes; the Authority has a third-party administrator to manage the claims. It is supported by a legal team as well.

Mr. Barrera said 60 claims strikes him as a high number. Mr. Donnelly said 60 is the number of all claims, both major and minor, some of which may not even result in one day off.

Mr. Pappastergion asked when people are brought back on light duty, is there a specific duration. Mr. Donnelly said it depends on the injury being evaluated. Staff likes to make it time-certain based on the medical evaluation.

Mr. Pappastergion asked out of the 60 people, how many are actually out. Ms. Madden stated that 12 people are out.

## **Pretreatment Program Annual Industrial Waste Report Number 29**

MWRA is required by its NPDES permit and EPA regulations to submit an annual report to EPA that describes the activities and accomplishments of MWRA's Industrial Pretreatment Program. Staff will be submitting the FY13 Annual Report (Industrial Waste Report #29) to EPA on or before October 31, 2013, the required submittal deadline.

Mr. Barrera asked if staff has a sense of what costs are avoided with the program. Should the Board set a targeted percentage for recovery? Carolyn Fiore, Director of Toxic Reduction and Control, said it is a reasonable idea; staff would need to look at it.

Mr. Carroll said a year ago, we talked about metals in our effluent; how are we doing in that area? Ms. Fiore stated that we have probably already achieved the biggest gains in terms of the amount of metals we can take out in the pretreatment program; however, staff will look at that when we do local limits analysis, which has to be done for the NPDES permit. One metal that continues to be an issue is molybdenum. Mr. Carroll asked if the Authority is meeting allowable limits. Ms. Fiore responded in the affirmative. It was noted that the Commonwealth has a more stringent limit on molybdenum than the federal regulations and most other states.

## **Update on Energy Efficiencies at Deer Island and Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plants**

John Riccio, Superintendent of the Clinton Treatment Plant, David Duest, Manager, Process Control and Daniel O'Brien, Director of the Deer Island Treatment Plant provided the Board with a presentation on energy efficiency improvements made at the Clinton and Deer Island Treatment Plants.

One of the efficiencies involved the installation of nine dissolved oxygen probes and control panels at a cost of \$91,000, which resulted in an annual savings of \$830,000 in electricity with no impact to effluent quality of secondary capacity.

Mr. Barrera asked if these probes are used by other Authorities. Mr. Duest said other plants do use these probes.

Mr. Barrera said the MWRA is getting to capacity in the wastewater system. Is that true in Clinton? Mr. Riccio responded in the affirmative.

Click here to see the [update](#) on energy efficiencies at the Deer Island and Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plants.

## **Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plant; Re-Notice of Draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit – Response Letter to EPA**

Rick Trubiano, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Betsy Reilley, Director of Environmental Quality, and Chris John, Senior Staff Counsel, updated the Board on the Authority's response letter to EPA in regard to the Draft Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plant NPDES Permit. MWRA has requested a 30-day extension of the comment period and has received informal approval via email from EPA. Because of the federal government shutdown, EPA has not formally granted the extension; therefore staff will submit a comment letter by October 17, 2013. Mr. Hornbrook added, with this letter, the MWRA is reserving its rights to contest the terms within the NPDES permit moving forward.

Mr. Pappastergion stated that this is part of the reason we need to push for primacy and inquired what the status of that was. Mr. Hornbrook stated that DEP did issue a report on the matter but it hasn't gone anywhere.

## **Carroll Water Treatment Plant – UV Construction Status and Issues Update**

MWRA Chief Operating Officer Michael Hornbrook, Director of Western Operations David Coppes and Program Manager William G. Sullivan provided the Board with an update on the construction and testing of the Ultraviolet (UV) Disinfection Treatment Facilities at the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant.

The Staff Summary provided information on a transition joint leak. Mr. Carroll asked why the original piece leaked. Mr. Hornbrook stated that staff believes contraction and expansion due to varying temperatures caused the issue.

Staff's presentation can be viewed [here](#).

## **Update on Northern Intermediate High Service Area Redundancy and Hydraulic Improvements**

Fred Brandon, Assistant Director of Engineering, Mark Johnson, Director, Metropolitan, and Pat Barrett, Program Manager, provided the Board with an update on the Northern Intermediate High Service Area Redundancy and Hydraulic Improvements.

Mr. Barrera asked how old the pipe is. Mr. Brandon stated that the pipe was built in the 1970s. MWRA staff is concerned because other communities throughout the United States have had problems with the 1970s pipes.

Mr. Barrera asked what the reaction was at the Selectmen's meeting. Mr. Laskey said he sat down with the Town Manager of Stoneham and he did not say no to the proposed changes.

To view the PowerPoint Presentation made by MWRA staff, please click [here](#).

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*This summary does not include every item discussed by the Board, nor the full extent of the discussions. Please contact Mary Ann McClellan at the Advisory Board office with questions, comments*