



Advocacy & Accountability

Representing Over 3 Million People in Massachusetts Communities Since 1985

Friday, May 13, 2022

Remote Connection via Zoom

10:00 AM

Attendees

Michael Rademacher	Arlington	Lou Taverna	Newton
John Sullivan	Boston	Brendan O'Regan	Saugus
Jay Hersey	Brookline	Richard Raiche	Somerville
John Sanchez	Burlington	Sam Stivers	Southborough
Julie Greenwood-Torelli	Cambridge	Susan Herman	Stoughton
Lou Mammolette	Chelsea	Andrew Pappastergion	MWRA Board of Directors
David Pavlik	Lexington	Joe Foti	MWRA Board of Directors
Yem Lip	Malden	Joe Favaloro	Advisory Board Staff
Maurice Handel	MAPC	Matthew Romero	Advisory Board Staff
Elena Proakis Ellis	Melrose	James Guidon	Advisory Board Staff

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY

A. Opening Roll Call

A commencing roll call was voted as follows:

Name	Community	Vote
Michael Rademacher	Arlington	Yes
David Manugian	Bedford	
John P. Sullivan, Jr.	Boston	Yes
Jay Hersey	Brookline	Yes
John G. Sanchez	Burlington	Yes
Julie Greenwood-Torelli	Cambridge	Yes
Lou Mammolette	Chelsea	Yes
David Pavlik	Lexington	Yes
Yem Lip	Malden	(arrived after roll vote)
Maurice Handel	MAPC	(arrived after roll vote)
Elena Proakis Ellis	Melrose	Yes
Jeremy Marsette	Natick	(arrived after roll vote)
Lou Taverna	Newton	Yes
Nicholas J. Rystrom	Revere	
Brendan O'Regan	Saugus	Yes
Richard Raiche	Somerville	Yes
Sam Stivers	Southborough	Yes
John P. DeAmicis	Stoneham	

B. Approval of Executive Committee Meeting minutes from April 15, 2022

Maurice Handel moved for the approval of the drafted April 15, 2022 Executive Committee minutes.

Michael Rademacher seconded the motion, and it was added to the omnibus roll call vote for the end of the meeting.



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C. Report of the Executive Director

Executive Director, Joe Favaloro, noted that Beth Card was appointed as the next Commonwealth Secretary of Energy and Environmental Affairs/MWRA Board of Directors Chair. The Advisory Board looks forward to working with Beth again. He also noted that it was likely that the June Executive Committee meeting would be a remote/in-person hybrid.

D. Action Item: Nomination of an Advisory Board Representative to the MWRA Board of Directors for a three-year term from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025

Incumbent Joe Foti explained that he still has a passion for serving on the Board of Directors and would love to continue serving should the Executive Committee and the Advisory Board see it fit. He added that he was looking forward to the implementation of hybrid meetings and getting a chance to meet and connect with new members then. Fellow Board Member Andrew Pappastergion praised Mr. Foti's effective service and explained that Mr. Foti remaining on the MWRA Board of Directors was important for the Advisory Board.

E. Action Item: Approval of the FY 2023 Advisory Board Operating Budget

Executive Director, Joe Favaloro, presented the final draft of the Advisory Board's FY23 Operating Budget. He the proposed budget would be \$599,470, a 0.7% increase from the approved FY22 budget.

Richard Raiche moved for the approval of the proposed FY23 Advisory Board Operating Budget of \$599,470. Michael Rademacher seconded the motion, and it was added to the omnibus roll call vote for the end of the meeting.

F. Action Item: Approval of the Advisory Board's Comments and Recommendations on the MWRA's Proposed FY23 CIP and CEB

Director of Finance, James Guidod, presented the Advisory Board's Comments & Recommendations on the MWRA's proposed FY23 Capital Improvement Program and Current Expense Budget. A combined rate revenue requirement of 2.85% was recommended, reduced from the initially proposed 3.42%. Overall, spending recommendations would yield a 3.58% water utility rate increase and a 2.45% sewer utility increase if they were passed as written. Influences on this year's budget review process include the MWRA personnel vacancy rate, use of rate stabilization on the water utility rate, and the nearing 2030 MWRA pension full funding date.

Maurice Handel moved for the approval of the Advisory Board's Comments and Recommendations on the MWRA's Proposed FY23 CIP and CEB. Elena Proakis Ellis seconded the motion and it was added to the omnibus roll call vote for the end of the meeting.



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G. Proposal to Modify MWRA Policy #OP.10 to Waive the Entrance Fee

Executive Director, Joe Favaloro, gave a brief update on the Advisory Board's ongoing discussions relating to a possible five-year entrance fee waiver for incoming water communities into the MWRA system. He noted that discussion in the April Advisory Board meeting prompted questions regarding communities that had already paid entrance fees. He noted that the Advisory Board's Stoughton Representative, Susan Herman had submitted a letter on the proposed policy changes and that it was added to the topic information packet. Ms. Herman noted that Stoughton's letter was a comprehensive position from the Stoughton Selectboard and asked that members read and review the letter carefully. Mr. Favaloro noted that, in response to questions from Reading, he encouraged Reading to submit a letter as well. Mr. Favaloro went on to say that he requested a legal opinion from the MWRA regarding already paid entrance fees and that we would notify the Executive Committee when it became available. Brendan O'Regan asked if there was potential for entrance fees already paid to be returned to those communities. Mr. Favaloro noted it was unlikely but the legal opinion from the MWRA would help answer the question. The next Advisory Board discussion on the topic will likely be in June due to the heavy agenda of the May Advisory Board meeting.

H. Updates

- Regulatory Issues: Deputy Executive Director, Matt Romero, noted that the MWRA is scheduled to meet with EPA to discuss the Deer Island NPDES permit. The Advisory Board has stepped up its outreach to Environmental law firms to assist if the office should appeal either the Clinton or Deer Island permits. Currently, three firms are preparing proposals for review.

I. Approval of May 19, 2022 Advisory Board Meeting Agenda

Maurice Handel moved for the approval of the proposed May 19, 2022 Advisory Board Meeting Agenda. Elena Proakis Ellis seconded the motion, and it was added to the omnibus roll call vote for the end of the meeting.

J. Approvals and Adjournment

Maurice Handel moved for the adjournment of the meeting following the omnibus roll call vote. Elena Proakis Ellis seconded the motion.

A roll call vote for:

- Approval of Executive Committee Meeting minutes from April 15, 2022
- Nomination of Joe Foti as Advisory Board Representative to the MWRA Board of Directors for a three-year term from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025
- Approval of the FY 2023 Advisory Board Operating Budget
- Approval of the Advisory Board's Comments and Recommendations on the MWRA's Proposed FY23 CIP and CEB
- Approval of May 19, 2022 Advisory Board Meeting Agenda
- Meeting Adjournment

was made and was voted as follows:



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Name	Community	Vote
Michael Rademacher	Arlington	Yes
David Manugian	Bedford	
John P. Sullivan, Jr.	Boston	Yes
Jay Hersey	Brookline	Yes
John G. Sanchez	Burlington	Yes
Julie Greenwood-Torelli	Cambridge	Yes
Lou Mammolette	Chelsea	Yes
David Pavlik	Lexington	Yes
Yem Lip	Malden	
Maurice Handel	MAPC	Yes
Elena Proakis Ellis	Melrose	Yes
Jeremy Marsette	Natick	Yes
Lou Taverna	Newton	Yes
Nicholas J. Rystrom	Revere	
Brendan O'Regan	Saugus	Yes*
Richard Raiche	Somerville	Yes
Sam Stivers	Southborough	Yes
John P. DeAmicis	Stoneham	

*Brendan O'Regan abstained from voting on the Approval of Executive Committee Meeting minutes from April 15, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

Michael W. Rademacher, Secretary

These minutes reflect the discussion of the meeting. The Advisory Board maintains audio recordings of Executive Committee meetings that are available upon request.