

Minutes of the
Regular Meeting of August 14, 2012

WATER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mr. James E. Kelleher, Chairman
Mr. Robert L. Burnham, Water Commissioner
Mr. John S. Lovewell, Water Commissioner

EWD STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. Fred R. Domont, Water Superintendent
Mr. Shane A. Ben David, Foreman
Lindsey Mercier, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS:

Nell Coogan, Legislative Liaison

Meeting Called to Order:

Meeting was called to order by Mr. Kelleher at 4:05pm

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes for the meetings held in March, April, May, June and July are not available at this time.

Old Business:

Proposed Wintucket/State Forest Land Exchange:

Mr. Burnham stated that the reason that Ms. Coogan was invited to the meeting was that the Water Department would like to start the process again of coming up with a proposal to swap land at Wintucket with land in the State Forest for two new wells to be installed. A discussion was held as to what steps were taken previously and what some of the stumbling blocks were.

The Commissioners are proposing that the southernmost section of the Wintucket property, approximately 30 acres, is swapped with land in the State Forest. The land in the State Forest that is being considered for the swap is located in the northwest section in Edgartown. Ms.

Coogan will contact Senator Wolf about the proposed swap and keep the Commissioners informed of the situation. Ms. Coogan left the meeting at 4:45pm.

RFP / Standpipe Paint Project / Future USDA Borrowing:

Mr. Kelleher asked about the status of the request for proposal (RFP) for the Standpipe painting. Mr. Domont said Leo Yuskus from Haley and Ward was willing to assist the Water Department in preparing an RFP. Mr. Lovewell then questioned what was wrong with the RFP he proposed. Mr. Domont told him nothing was wrong with it. Mr. Burnham suggested that engineers the Water Department is familiar with should be contacted to see if they are interested in submitting proposals for the painting of the Standpipe. It was discussed that a minimum of three engineers should be contacted. The three that were mentioned were Tata and Howard, Haley and Ward and Environmental Partners. Mr. Burnham motioned that the three engineers mentioned are contacted to see if they would be interested in submitting a proposal. Mr. Lovewell would not second the motion. He would like to see the RFP put in the newspapers also. Mr. Burnham extended the motion to include the RFP being run in the MV Times and the Vineyard Gazette. Mr. Kelleher seconded the motion and the Commissioner's voted unanimously to approve Mr. Burnham's motion.

SCADA:

Mr. Lovewell has concerns about air being drawn into the pumps at the wells. Mr. Ben David said there are alarms in place that notify the Water Department when it is getting shallow. Mr. Lovewell would like to know the total depth of the wells, from the bottom up to the static water level. He would also like to know the elevation of the groundwater.

USDA –September Deadline for Grants:

Mr. Domont has gone over the figures he has that pertain to the spending of USDA loans. According to Mr. Domont's figures the Water Department did not overspend. Mr. Domont's figures show that the Water Department still has \$136,107.86. A discussion followed and Mr. Burnham motioned that the Water Department hire an accountant to see if their numbers concur with Mr. Domont's. Mr. Lovewell seconded the motion and the Commissioner's voted unanimously to approve Mr. Burnham's motion.

Assistant Superintendent / Department Assistant Positions Status:

A discussion was held pertaining to changes in Pay Grade. The Personnel Board is requesting documentation to warrant a reclassification of the position from Chief Operator to Assistant Superintendent. Mr. Ben David went from being Foreman to Chief Operator which resulted in a one-grade increase, from Grade 9 to Grade 10. Mr. Burnham would like to set the Assistant Superintendent position in a grade that is equal to his responsibility. A meeting needs to be held with the Personnel Board. There is a tentative meeting set for September.

Mr. Domont stated that the Department Assistant deserves a one-grade increase. The Pay Grade is still what it was when the town took over the Water Department even though the customer base has almost doubled. Mr. Domont stated that Wastewater pays a grade higher than the Water Department. This issue will also be addressed at the meeting with the Personnel Board.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bank Statements:

Mr. Lovewell had questions about some withdrawals in the bank statements. Ms. Mercier informed him the withdrawals were made to cover the Water Departments warrants. Mr. Burnham requested that Ms. Mercier keep track of the warrants submitted and to make sure they coincide with the withdrawals being made.

Personnel Board Letter:

A letter will be sent to the Personnel Department to inquire why the evaluation of Mr. Domont, by Mr. Lovewell, was not approved.

Water Terminations:

As of today there are eight Water Department customers that have had their water terminated for non-payment. Mr. Domont credited Mrs. Ben David and Ms. Mercier for doing an outstanding job during terminations.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Burnham motioned, Mr. Lovewell seconded and the Commissioners voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 5:20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsey Mercier
Administrative Assistant

APPROVED:

**BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF EDGARTOWN**

James E. Kelleher, Chairman

Robert L. Burnham, Water Commissioner

John S. Lovewell, Water Commissioner