

**TOWN OF EDGARTOWN
BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF THE
REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 25, 2020
CONDUCTED VIA ZOOM TELECONFERENCE**

WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Mr. Glen S. Searle, Chairman
Mr. Scott Ellis, Commissioner
Mr. Sean E. Murphy, Commissioner

EWWD STAFF PRESENT:

Mr. William G. Burke, Facilities Manager
Mr. Joseph Rock, Chief Operator
Ms. Jennifer Smyth, Department Assistant, Meeting Host
Mrs. Pia Webster, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mr. Ian B. Catlow, P.E., Vice President, Tighe & Bond

PREFATORY REMARKS

This being a teleconferenced meeting, Admin Assistant Pia Webster read into the record a prepared statement titled "Introduction to Teleconference," which outlined the governor's Executive Order and the current State of Emergency declared in the Commonwealth due to the Coronavirus Pandemic; and included cautionary words about the public nature of the video conference and the means by which those listening in could obtain copies of the materials being discussed.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:

The Board of Waste Water Commissioners of the Town of Edgartown held their Regular Meeting on Thursday, June 25, 2020, at 3:00 p.m. via the Zoom teleconference app. At 3:01 p.m. Chairman Glen S. Searle called the meeting to order and read into the record a written statement titled "Teleconference Meeting Ground Rules."

While awaiting the sign-in of Tighe & Bond engineer Ian B. Catlow, Chairman Searle moved ahead to Other Business.

OTHER BUSINESS:

CHIEF OPERATOR'S REPORT.

Chief Operator Joseph Rock reported on, among other topics, the call-out on May 26 to the Yacht Club, where the Operators found that condensate and cooling water from the interior walk-in freezers and air conditioners was overwhelming the wastewater pumps. Also, the crew from Robert B. Our Company, Inc. had at last started to install the Scum Pump at the Plant, a project begun back in January 2019. Responding to a question from the Chairman about the Yacht Club situation, Mr. Rock explained about the wiring, as well as the solution he had proposed to the Club's site manager. "Condensate is not supposed to go there," he said.

The Chief Operator also reported on his and the Facilities Manager's decision to accept a series of loads from hauler James Clark of Eastland Company to empty an abandoned 20,000-gallon pool filled with murky water. Charging the Tight Tank rate of 14 cents per gallon, the income generated was good for the Town, he said. What was bad was that the Septage Receiving flow meter was not able to calculate the more-watery waste as well it could the usual waste types, failing to register the entirety of the loads. So after consulting with Mr. Clark, agreed-upon manual adjustments were made to the gallonage by Admin Assistant Webster based on the size of Mr. Clark's tank.

Facilities Manager William G. Burke explained that the strap-on-type flow meter currently in use in Septage Receiving was simply not as accurate as other models; moreover, it was not tamper-proof. It should be replaced, he said, by a permanent magnetic flow meter. The Chief Operator added that in order to accept the series of loads from Eastland, the level of the septage holding tank had to be lowered, with the load acceptance coordinated with the loads from other haulers. Mr. Catlow had signed into the meeting by this point, 3:13 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS:

UPDATE: IAN B. CATLOW ON PROGRESS OF CIP PROJECTS.

Mr. Catlow, Vice President of Tighe & Bond, Inc., reported that he had sent in 100 percent of the plans and specs for the **Dunham Road Station Upgrade**, having e-mailed them to the Facilities Manager 15 minutes earlier. The project, he said, was "in good shape to bid." The **Facility Upgrades Project** and the **Septage Storage Project** were not quite ready, he added. Returning to the Dunham Road project, Mr. Catlow noted that he had been going back and forth with the **Temporary Construction Easement**, creating a legal instrument to go back to the surveyor to then take to the owner. But that did not stand in the way of the bid, he stressed. Mr. Catlow reported that he had spoken to parties at ITS, the firm that had upgraded the PLC at the Chase Road Station, about **upgrading the PLC at the Dunham Road Station**.

Mr. Catlow also related that Tighe & Bond Staff Engineer Sam Taugher had visited the Plant on May 27 to look at the **Rapid Infiltration Beds**. At just three to six inches deep, he had gotten into "really clean sand," which indicated that no bad infiltration had transpired. Once the plant material was cleared and three to six inches of dirt were removed, the beds would be in as fine a condition as they had been the last time they were restored. Also, Mr. Taugher had found groundwater a full nine feet below the beds, which was good news, since it meant not having to replace top material.

Mr. Catlow continued that he had reached out to Robert B. Our and concluded there were two ways to approach this. If the material that was removed were to be moved to somewhere else on the site, the cost would be \$80,000 to \$100,000. But if it were to be hauled away, that would add another \$200,000 to \$250,000 to the project. The Department might be able to dispose of some of the material at the Goodale's sand pit. Highway Superintendent Allan DeBettencourt had said that John Keene Excavation of West Tisbury could do the work and that the Highway Department could use the fill.

Waste Water Commissioner Sean E. Murphy asked if the Conservation Commission had to be consulted about the Infiltration Beds Project. Mr. Catlow replied that he had not checked yet. Six inches was a lot of material, he went on. If the Highway Department could take it, that option was a "no-brainer." Chief Operator Rock pointed out that the Facility had an area for brush disposal that staff could mow down and then use for disposal of at least some of the plant material.

OTHER BUSINESS [Continued].

FACILITIES MANAGER'S REPORT.

The Facilities Manager spoke about how the crew was rehabilitating the old shed, and having Cole Powers electrify it, for the purpose of storing the trailer generator.

As for the Septage Acceptance Policy currently in effect, Mr. Burke reported that Town Admin James Hagerty had advised him to continue as they had been for now, until Tighe & Bond's Cost-Benefit Evaluation was completed. Commissioner Murphy stated that he agreed 100 percent that first priority should be given to Edgartown property owners. One hundred percent, repeated Commissioner Scott Ellis. One hundred percent, said the Chairman.

Mr. Burke then related how grease from a restaurant in Oak Bluffs had been dumped at the Plant, even though they were accepting grease only from traps in Edgartown restaurants. Also, he said, they needed to get a better handle on what constituted an emergency-pump-out situation, since it struck him that some Health Departments were declaring anything an emergency. Mr. Rock said he had talked for 45 minutes to hauler Russell Rogers, who had expressed concern about the fairness of the system, since some of the Health Agents seemed to be taking the word of the haulers instead seeing for themselves that in fact an emergency existed.

The discussion continued for some minutes. Commissioner Murphy reiterated that waste from Edgartown properties had to be given priority. Mr. Rock remarked that he and the Operators had to become more proactive when the haulers were checking in at Septage Receiving. Asked for his comments on the Septage Receiving Policy, Mr. Catlow said that he and Mr. Burke agreed that it made sense to take a conservative approach at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

**DISCUSS/VOTE: WASTEWATER CIP PROJECT AMENDMENT #3 –
SEPTAGE COST-BENEFIT EVALUATION.**

Commissioner Murphy made a motion to approve Wastewater CIP Project Amendment #3 – Septage Cost-Benefit Evaluation at a lump-sum fee of \$8,100, seconded by Commissioner Ellis.

There being no discussion, the Chairman conducted a Roll Call Vote, with the following result: Mr. Murphy, Aye; Mr. Ellis, Aye; Mr. Searle, Aye.

**DISCUSS/VOTE: WASTEWATER CIP PROJECT AMENDMENT #4 –
TEMPORARY EASEMENT PLAN.**

Commissioner Murphy made a motion to approve Wastewater CIP Project Amendment #4 – Temporary Easement Plan at a lump-sum fee of \$3,500, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. There being no discussion, the Chairman conducted a Roll Call Vote, with the following result: Mr. Murphy, Aye; Mr. Ellis, Aye; Mr. Searle, Aye.

REPORT: MACK GRANITE 64R WITH HOIST PROPOSAL.

Facilities Manager Burke recounted how he had been looking at leasing a truck – a MACK Granite 64R – going out to bid without advertising. Mr. Hagerty had said to him that if the math added up (in addition to its being an incentive for staff members to get their CDLs), he should see where his research took him. Mr. Burke said that based on the amount the Department would be using it, he thought the truck would last for 10 years. It would cost \$100,000 in Year One, he continued, as opposed to the \$140,000 the transport of the sludge cakes off-Island would cost otherwise.

Commissioner Murphy said that he was fine with looking into the matter; if it worked, that would be great. Mr. Burke figured that the Department would put perhaps 13,000 miles on the truck each year. He added that he would get “true, hard numbers.” There ensued a brief discussion about the necessity of pre-booking ferry space for the truck, as well as whether a truck belonging to a Town Department would receive a discounted SSA rate.

**REPORT: ENCUMBERED FY20 OPERATING BUDGET PURCHASES,
INCLUDING BED VALVE INSTALLATION, SCADA ITEM.**

Facilities Manager Burke described a number of expenditures that he wished to pay for out of the FY20 Operating Budget but which he was unable to get delivered and invoiced before the June 30th deadline. These included the SCADA Upgrades from Industrial Technical Services, Inc.; the Bed Valve Replacement Project by Fenner Construction; and possibly CIP Project Amendments 3 and 4. Town Accountant Amy Tierney, he added, had agreed to post the encumbrances. Admin Assistant Webster cautioned that most of the June invoices had not yet arrived and that it would be prudent to take those into account when settling on the encumbered items. Mr. Burke pointed to the \$94,000 balance in the Operating Budget.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the encumbering of FY20 Operating Budget funds as the Facilities Manager saw fit, seconded by Commissioner Murphy. There being no discussion, the Chairman conducted a Roll Call Vote, with the following result: Mr. Murphy, Aye; Mr. Ellis, Aye; Mr. Searle, Aye.

DISCUSS/VOTE: SETTING FY21 MISCELLANEOUS FEES.

Admin Assist Webster went over the Miscellaneous Fees, noting that the Off-Hours Pump-Out Fee had been increased from \$100 to \$150 in FY20, with the same being the case for the House Visit Fee. The Residential Sewer Hook-up Fees had also been raised a year earlier. Chairman Searle

recommended that the Miscellaneous Fees remain as they were, then made a motion to that effect, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. There being no discussion, the Chairman conducted a Roll Call Vote, with the following result: Mr. Murphy, Aye; Mr. Ellis, Aye; Mr. Searle, Aye.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES.

Commissioner Ellis made a motion to approve the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 21, 2020**, seconded by Commissioner Murphy. The Chairman mentioned that one of the Hardship Exemption Abatements voted in that meeting had gone to a resident with two Edgartown properties. Commissioner Murphy noted that the Waste Water Commission took its Hardship Exemption candidate list from the properties evaluated and approved by the Board of Assessors. The Chairman conducted a Roll Call Vote, with the following result: Mr. Murphy, Aye; Mr. Ellis, Aye; Mr. Searle, Abstaining, because he had not attended that meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chairman made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting, which Commissioner Ellis seconded. Chairman Searle conducted a Roll Call Vote, with this result: Mr. Ellis, Aye; Mr. Murphy, Aye; Mr. Searle, Aye. The Regular Meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pia Webster
Administrative Assistant

APPROVED:

BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS
TOWN OF EDGARTOWN

Glen S. Searle, Chairman

Scott Ellis, Commissioner

Sean E. Murphy, Commissioner