



# TOWN OF EDGARTOWN

WASTE WATER DEPARTMENT  
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## **TOWN OF EDGARTOWN BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS**

### **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2016**

#### **WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:**

Mr. Scott Ellis, Acting Chairman  
Mr. Sean E. Murphy, Commissioner

#### **WASTE WATER COMMISSIONER ABSENT:**

Mr. Glen S. Searle, Chairman

#### **EWWD STAFF PRESENT:**

Mr. David Thompson, Facilities Manager  
Mrs. Pia Webster, Administrative Assistant

#### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

The Board of Waste Water Commissioners of the Town of Edgartown scheduled their Regular Meeting for Thursday, September 22, 2016, at 4:00 p.m. in the conference room at the Edgartown Waste Water Treatment Facility, located at 330 West Tisbury Road, Edgartown, Mass. At 4:12 p.m. Acting Chairman Scott Ellis called the meeting to order. Also present from the Board was Waste Water Commissioner Sean E. Murphy.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **REPORT/BOARD NOD: REPLACEMENT OF CPU IN LAB FIRE PANEL AND SIGNAL BOOSTER OUTPUT BOARD.**

Facilities Manager David Thompson provided a recent history of staff's experiences with SimplexGrinnell, beginning with the fire panel in the operations building ordered at a cost of \$7,225.00 in April 2015 and ending many thousands of dollars later with glaring problems still unsolved. So, the Facilities Manager related, he had asked Ralph Aiello of ESS Electronic Security Systems "to quote me a whole new system." In the meeting that day, he said, Mr. Thompson was looking for the Board's go-ahead on a Sale and Installation Agreement with SimplexGrinnell in the amount of \$4,447.98 "to replace (1) CPU in the Lab Fire Alarm panel to clear all system grounds and (1) signal booster output board due to the signals being inoperable in the Pretreatment Building."

Commissioner Murphy asked if Mr. Thompson intended to place the cost of the new system from ESS as an Article on the Special Town Meeting Warrant the following April. The Facilities Manager replied that the alarm system was one of the Components listed in the Condition Assessment as needing replacement; it would be a piece of the Capital Programs plan and an FY18 Warrant Article. Administrative Assistant Pia Webster wanted to know how much the system would cost. “Big bucks,” responded Mr. Thompson.

Mr. Thompson explained, “we’re paying SimplexGrinnell four thousand dollars to come twice a year... It’d be a lot cheaper with ESS... They’re [SimplexGrinnell is] taking us to the cleaners.” Regarding Commissioner Murphy’s question about a Special Town Meeting Warrant Article, the Facilities Manager said that by that point the Department would need to replenish the Special Services Account (0144005/530016), the Operating Budget line out of which the current fix by SimplexGrinnell would be paid.

Returning to the matter at hand, Acting Chairman Ellis turned to Mr. Thompson and said, “You got the nod,” referring to the above-described Sale and Installation Agreement with Simplex-Grinnell in the amount of \$4,447.98. Commissioner Murphy agreed.

#### **REPORT: SEPTEMBER 12 INCIDENT AT VINEYARD GOLF CLUB.**

The Facilities Manager related that on September 12 the operator who checked the charts reported “we didn’t have enough flow at Vineyard Golf Club [VGC]. Where’s the flow?” While Mr. Thompson went to the Morgan Woods substation to check there for trouble, a call came in from VGC about backup in the clubhouse basement. He said the club intended to file a claim against the Town. “Basically, it’s on us,” said Mr. Thompson.

The Facilities Manager described the difficulties of pulling the floats that operated the VGC substation alarms in order to diagnose the problem. “The float is thirty-five feet deep,” he said, “and you have to send a forty-foot ladder down the pump chamber after pumping down the station.” Mr. Thompson explained how the procedure required three operators, two in the substation and one at the panel, which was in the clubhouse basement. They found that one of the floats had sheared away from the control float bracket; while the redundant run float had not triggered the alarm at the Facility.

The reason was that Department staff had wired inputs to the alarms in December 2013 with the installation of an auto-dialer and had asked the then maintenance manager to install an analog line, outside of the club’s switchboard system. This had been done, but the Department had not been told. So the necessary linkage was never completed. “It’s still on us because the station failed,” said Mr. Thompson, adding that they would also install a new rack of floats.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

##### **EWWTf BED VALVE REPLACEMENT PROJECT.**

###### **A. Results of Requests for Quotes re: Labor and Equipment**

The Facilities Manager went over the results for the Request for Quotes for Bed Valve Replacement at the Facility, which were as follows: Fenner Construction LLC of Chilmark,



Mass., \$5,500.00 (submission arrived after deadline); Farrissey Tele Comm Inc. of Oak Bluffs, Mass., \$5,800.00; and Pride Environmental & Construction of Berkley, Mass, \$39,540.00.

Commissioner Murphy wondered why the range of quotes was so broad. Mr. Thompson answered that the first two firms were Island-based, while Pride Environmental & Construction was not. That was why bids came in so high at times, he said, because of the expenses involved in bringing equipment and workers to the Vineyard. "Unfortunately, Fenner missed the deadline by an hour," he added. In any event, the Facilities Manager was pleased with the results, having expected the job to come in at around \$15,000.00.

**B. Acceptance of Bed Valve Replacement Quote Chosen by Facilities Manager.**

In view of the lateness of the Fenner quote, said Mr. Thompson, "my recommendation is we accept the quote from Farrissey." "Okay," said Acting Chairman Ellis. "Agreed," said Commissioner Murphy.

**C. Acceptance of Sole Source Purchase of Mueller Valves Through Ferguson Waterworks.**

Mr. Thompson related that Ferguson Waterworks of Harwich, Mass. sent a truck over to the Island twice a week and would be charging nothing for freight, resulting in "a huge savings." At a cost of \$19,002.22, no other supplier had been able to come close, he said. Seventeen thousand dollars of the cost would come out of the Warrant Article 62 Account, the Facilities Manager explained, and the rest from the Equip, Repair, Replace & Upgrade Account. The Department would pay for the work by Farrissey out of the Special Services Account, he concluded.

Acting Chairman Ellis and Commission Murphy accepted the sole source purchase of the Mueller valves through Ferguson Waterworks at the cost of \$19,002.22.

**REPORT: TIGHE & BOND UPDATES.**

Mr. Thompson reported that he and Ian Catlow of Tighe & Bonde, Project Manager of the Dock Street Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Project, were thinking about arranging an onsite preconstruction meeting for later that month or early October. Its purpose would be to review the construction schedule, the bypass pumping plans and other project elements.

Also, Mr. Catlow had coordinated with a number of influent screen manufacturers and thought he had a reasonable set of selection criteria ready for the bid. Lastly, Mr. Catlow had worked on providing additional documentation for several Tighe & Bond invoices related to the Dock Street Project, making them acceptable for grant fund reimbursement.

Acting Chairman Ellis asked if the Dock Street Project would be starting in a month. "After the Derby," replied Mr. Thompson. "How long will it take?" inquired Commissioner Murphy. "Six weeks," answered Mr. Thompson, adding that the project would only begin after the weekend of the Martha's Vineyard Food & Wine Festival, whenever that was. "I had to reassure everybody of that," he said.

The Facilities Manager expressed concern that he had only \$36,000.00 worth of wiggle room on this project, which was not much. The Board members agreed.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**FACILITIES MANAGER'S REPORT.**

"It's all in there, the usual crazy month of fun," began Mr. Thompson, referring to the August Facilities Manager's Report. Moving on to more recent news, he related an "unfortunate" incident that had resulted when an operator had left a couple of bolts on the radiator of the Plant's emergency generator. At the next generator test, the bolts had been sucked into the radiator fan and punched holes into the radiator, which was brand-new and had just been installed in August. So staff had removed the radiator and were taking it the following Monday on a daytrip to Hyannis for repairs.

"I've got some good news," Mr. Thompson went on. "We've got another unfunded mandate." He related that Mass EPA had recently mandated that any new wastewater projects would only be eligible for State Revolving Funds if there was a Fiscal Stability Plan (FSP) submitted along with them. The Condition Assessment already included most of the requirements of an FSP. Thus, Mr. Thompson had agreed with the GHD Inc. engineers to substitute the term "Fiscal Stability Plan" for the term "Capital Improvement Plan" in the title of the final Condition Assessment report. The Facilities Manager also related that he had been looking at a free US EPA program called CUPPSS (Check Up Program for Small Systems) that would assist him in fulfilling the O&M requirement.

The following Tuesday a septic pump truck from Podgurski Corporation of Canton, Mass. would be coming over on the eight o'clock ferry. Mr. Thompson planned to cone off the Dock Street Project area and "clean up Dock Street within an inch of its life" in anticipation of the project.

The last item concerned the side wall tarps (designed for grain) that the Facilities Manager had purchased for about \$3,000.00 to keep the water inside the sludge-cake loads hauled off-Island by Howland Disposal Service.

**FINANCIAL REPORTS.**

Admin Assistant Webster reviewed a report titled "FY17 Septage Income as of September 21, 2016," indicating Total Septage Volume thus far of 669,431 gallons (compared to 625,322 in FY16) and Total Septage Billed of \$145,842.71 (compared to \$134,052.49). Despite the apparent growth, noted Mrs. Webster, the Department had experienced a considerable slowdown in septage business since its peak in July.

Turning to the next report – "FY17 Operating Budget Expenditures as of September 26, 2016" – Admin Assistant Webster pointed to the New Equipment Account, reduced to 17.9 percent of its budget; and the Equip, Repair, Replace & Upgrade Account, down to 49.6 percent of its original allocation. "We've been hit hard in those areas," she said. On the other hand, Operating Budget expenditures stood at 28.6 percent used at a point in the fiscal year when 24.1 percent could be expected.

Next, Mrs. Webster referred the Board members to an August 19, 2016 memorandum she had written to Town Accountant Kimberly G. Kane, inquiring about the failure of the Department's



end-of-FY16 capital account balances to be carried forward into FY17. She wondered, she said, what she ought to do next. After a brief discussion, the Admin Assistant agreed she would resend a copy of the original memo and follow it with a telephone call.

Lastly, Mrs. Webster went over a new report called "FY17 Uncommitted Receipts Breakdown by Month." She explained that she had developed this report because the Department now had quite a few types of Uncommitted Receipts, five of which, for instance, were deposited into a single MUNIS account, FY17 Miscellaneous. Commissioner Murphy wanted to know who had made the FOIA requests in July. Troy Maciel's former wife and a real estate broker, replied Mrs. Webster. Commissioner Murphy clarified that these had not been FOIA requests, *per se*. Right, said the Admin Assistant, although she had found it helpful to insist that real estate agents put their requests in writing; it held down the paperwork.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

The Commissioners considered the **Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 18, 2016**. There being no comments or amendments offered, Commissioner Murphy made a motion to approve as written, seconded by Acting Chairman Ellis. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Acting Chairman Ellis asked for a motion to adjourn, which Commissioner Murphy provided. Acting Chairman Ellis seconded, and the motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Acting Chairman Ellis adjourned the meeting at 4:47 p.m.


Respectfully submitted,

Pia Webster  
Administrative Assistant

APPROVED:

BOARD OF WASTE WATER COMMISSIONERS  
TOWN OF EDGARTOWN

  
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Scott Ellis, Acting Chairman

  
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Sean E. Murphy, Commissioner