

# Water Supply District of Acton

693 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE  
P.O. BOX 953  
ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS 01720

TELEPHONE (978) 263-9107

FAX (978) 264-0148

Commissioners Meeting  
Water Supply District of Acton  
Meeting Minutes  
April 13, 2015

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## Agenda:

- A. Annual Appointment & Board Realignment
- B. Comments from Citizens
- C. Approve Minutes from the March 30<sup>th</sup> Meetings
- D. OLD BUSINESS:
  - 1. Update on South Acton Water Treatment Plant Project.
  - 2. Discussion of Nuclear Metals/Starmet Superfund Site in Concord.
- E. NEW BUSINESS:
  - 1. Discussion of the District's Interaction with the Massachusetts Division of Local Services (MA DLS)
  - 2. Approval of minutes for the Executive Session from February 2, 2015 and Release of Approved Executive Session Minutes from Recent Legal Proceedings as Public Record.

The Board of Water Commissioners meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 30, 2015 at the Acton Water District Office by Mr. Leonard Phillips.

## Present at Tonight's Meeting:

Commissioners: Ronald Parenti (Chair), Leonard Phillips, Stephen Stuntz  
District Manager: Chris Allen  
District Treasurer: Mary Jo Bates  
District Counsel: Mary Bassett  
Commissioners Secretary: Lynn Protasowicki  
Finance Committee: David Butler  
WLMAC: Barry Rosen  
Moderator: Richard O'Brien  
Clerk: Charles Orcutt, III  
Acton Selectman: Janet Adachi

## A. Annual Appointment & Board Realignment

Mr. Parenti made a motion to appoint:

- Mary Bassett as District Counsel
- Mary J. Bates as District Treasurer
- Maureen Mara as District Auditor
- Chris Allen as Assistant Treasurer
- Lynn Protasowicki as Board Secretary

Mr. Phillips seconded the motion and was unanimously approved.

Mr. Orcutt swore in Mr. Phillips following his re-election and also swore Mary Bassett, Mary Jo Bates, Chris Allen and Lynn Protasowicki.



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Mr. Stuntz made a motion to elect Mr. Parenti as Chairman. It was seconded by Mr. Phillips and unanimously approved.

## **B. Comments from Citizens**

No comments this evening.

## **C. Approve Minutes from the March 30th Meeting.**

Mr. Parenti moved to accept minutes of the meeting held on March 30, 2015 and Mr. Phillips seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

## **D. OLD BUSINESS:**

### 1. Update on South Acton Water Treatment Plant Project.

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that the plant is still not on-line and has not yet been certified by the MassDEP. EverSource was onsite today updating the main power circuit at the Lawsbrook well; School Street well was updated last week; and the Scribner well will be updated by Wednesday, 4/15. The MassDEP will be on-site on Thursday, April 16<sup>th</sup> for inspection and, if approved, then grant partial certification for plant to start pumping. This is due to the Assabet 1A & 2A wells still pending connection to the raw water supply to the plant.

The filter manufacturer, Pall, has been on-site performing start-up of the filtration system and conducting classroom training for the operators. Currently, there will be 2 operators running the pump stations and treatment plants. Expectations are that all 10 operators will be capable of running the system. Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that he has also been attending the training.

Paving was scheduled to begin on April 21<sup>st</sup>; however, it has been postponed due to lack of an approved change order for Waterline Industries. Paving was originally part of Contract #2, and since JP Cardillo's contract was terminated, Waterline will be overseeing the paving as a change order to Contract #1. Lazaro Paving of Acton, MA will be doing the work.

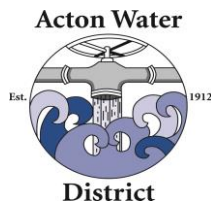
Site work continues at the main plant with painting, electrical work, hauling away unused materials from the site, and performing final site grading.

Mr. Allen stated that the District has submitted the application to the Town of Acton for the plant's connection to the Sewer District. The Privilege Fee for this connection is \$71,000, which will be paid this week.

Mr. Phillips requested a site visit on a future Saturday, Mr. Allen will set that up with John Mallin, the Resident Project Representative (RPR) from Wright-Pierce Engineers.

### 2. Discussion of Nuclear Metals/Starmet Superfund Site in Concord.

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that he, Counselor Bassett, Mr. Mostoller and Ray Talkington of Geosphere met last Thursday to review names of attorneys who specialize in Environmental Law. They narrowed down the candidates to 4. Counselor Bassett contacted these 4 attorneys and scheduled interviews with 2 of them and is waiting on hearing back from the other 2. The Commissioners agreed to let the group meet with all 4 candidates and then when the choice has been made for 1 or 2 of the best candidates then at that time they will meet with those candidates to help make the final decision. Counselor Bassett stated that the goal of



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retaining an attorney who specializes in Environmental Law is for that person to be able to represent the District's interest in dealing with the MassDEP and the EPA. Everyone agreed that an environmental attorney is needed to guide the District through the Superfund process and help the District protect its water sources in the area of Acton.

## Other Old Business:

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that the town of Concord held their Annual Town Meeting and the voters approved a warrant article, Article #55 on the warrant, to appropriate \$200,000 to improve the site at 37 Knox Trail to accommodate access to the soon to be purchased WR Grace property just over the town line in Concord. The existing building will be used for office space by the Concord Schools and Town of Concord.

## **E. NEW BUSINESS:**

### 1. Discussion of the District's Interaction with the Massachusetts Division of Local Services (MA DLS)

Mr. Allen informed the Commissioners that the District responded to the survey that was emailed to all municipal entities in Commonwealth of Massachusetts regarding their priorities and concerns for the Baker/Polito Administration. The District provided input, at the urging the Massachusetts Water Works Association (MWWA), on the newly adopted amendment to the Water Management Act (WMA) stemming from the Sustainable Water Management Initiative (SWMI). The many pitfalls of the new statute have most public water suppliers in the state gravely concerned about the future of water withdrawals. Since the conclusion of the survey, Governor Baker issued Executive Order #562 "To reduce unnecessary regulatory burden" that requires review of "Onerous" regulations by all state departments.

### 2. Approval of minutes for the Executive Session from February 2, 2015 and Release of Approved Executive Session Minutes from Recent Legal Proceedings as Public Record.

Mr. Stuntz moved to approve the minutes for the Executive Session from February 2, 2015 and Mr. Phillips seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Mr. Stuntz moved to release the approved Executive Session minutes from recent legal proceedings involving Joseph P. Cardillo & Son (Contractor for Contract #2 for the South Acton Water Treatment Plant) claims against the District arising out of a water main project as public record. Mr. Phillips seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

*Mr. Parenti moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. and it was unanimously voted.*