

Tri-Town Monthly Report To Bristol, Barrington & Warren Town Councils

Summary of Notable Activities and Reports from the July 30, 2024, BCWA Board of Directors Meeting

For detailed information on any of these subjects presented herein, please go to the BCWA website at www.bcwari.com. Minutes and videos of all Board meetings are archived on the website.

- 1. FY2024 Financial Audit: The report was presented by Mary Sahady of Hague, Sahady and Company, the BCWA's independent auditor. The opinion of the auditor was a "clean" opinion, i.e. that the BCWA's "financial statements present fairly in all material respects." In addition, regarding BCWA's internal controls, the auditor "reported no instances of non-compliance and there were no matters relative to Internal Controls identified and reported."
- 2. Connection to the Pawtucket Water Supply System Project:
 - a. Draft Water Purchase Contract: Attorney Sandy Mack presented a draft contract with the City of Pawtucket/Pawtucket Water Supply Board. The Board had many valuable suggestions for inclusion or modification of the draft contract which will be presented to the City and the PaWSB.
 - b. Design and Permitting:
 - i. Roadway utility "60% completion" plans were forwarded to the City of East Providence for their review
 - ii. The Geotechnical Recommendations Report was completed
 - **iii.** Railroad crossing "30% completion" plans were forwarded to the Railroad's consultant for review
 - iv. Easement plans for private and public properties have been completed
- 3. Water Treatment Plant Buildings Demolition: An architectural analysis of the old Station Structure was received and is under review by staff. It will be presented to the BCWA Properties Committee soon.
- **4. Upper and Lower Kickemuit Dams Removal Project:** Grading of the embankment and installation of coffer dams continue at the Upper Dam. Work on the Lower Dam is complete.
- **5. 2024 Water Distribution Projects:** Work continues on the cleaning and lining projects on Chachapacasset Road in Barrington and State Street in Bristol.
- **6. Major Purchases and Contracts:** No action items this month.
- 7. Lead Service Line Replacement Program: Staff continue to meet with customers regarding projects on their property. Only one private (non-BCWA) lead-based connection has been

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completed by the BCWA contractor. Several more are in progress. The purpose of this project (for which BCWA can provide no-interest financing) is to remove lead-based water lines thereby removing a potential health hazard.

- 8. Rhode Island Supreme Court (RISC) Decision on North Farm Home Owners Association (NFHOA) vs BCWA: (Appeal # 2022-167-Appeal; PC 17-4623) As reported last month, the RI Supreme Court was favorable to the BCWA's position. As a result, the BCWA notified the NFHOA of outstanding fees owed to the BCWA. Funds that had been held in escrow were used to make a partial payment that was owed. In response, the NFHOA filed additional litigation against the BCWA. A pre-hearing conference was held with a judge who will determine the disposition of these new legal actions.
- 9. CrowdStrike Incident: In July, there were major worldwide computer glitches and failures due to a problem with CrowdStrike, a prominent software security provider. There were minimal impacts on BCWA IT operations. One software application was affected and only lasted about 24 hours. All core software applications remained fully operational and online ensuring there were no disruptions to our ratepayers.

10. Public Information

FY 2024 Annual Financial Report Issued: As noted earlier herein, the BCWA's Annual Report was issued to Board members at the meeting. Copies of the report will also be distributed to local elected public officials and public libraries. Limited copies are available on request.

Project Information Notices were sent out to customers in the water main rehab project area on State Street in Bristol.

Notices were sent to impacted customers for the next phase of the high service area expansion in the Hope Street Pump Station project.

11.Next Meeting: Thursday, August 29, 2024, 5:00pm. BCWA Offices, 450 Child Street, Warren.

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Respectfully submitted,

Juan Mariscal, Chairman, BCWA