

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

**Summary of Notable Activities and Reports
from the
3/27/2024 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. Connection to the Pawtucket Water Supply System Project:** Design and permitting work continues. An Agreement with the Pawtucket Water Supply Board is under review by BCWA legal counsel.
- 2. Phase II Water Treatment Plant Demolition:** A canopy structure is under construction on the grounds formerly occupied by the treatment plant. Plans and specs are being prepared for the demolition of remaining plant structures.
- 3. Upper and Lower Kickemuit Dams Removal Project:** No further work on the upper dam will be done until May 1st in accordance with our permits.

On the Lower Dam, the contractor has removed the fish ladder and graded the channel and the western bank of the river. In addition, backflow tide gates are being installed on the stormwater culverts along Serpentine Road.

- 4. Water Meter Replacement Program:** There are 17,392 water meters in operation in the BCWA service area. The water meter replacement program is nearly complete with only nine meters left to be replaced. Replacement is done by the BCWA with the cooperation of the customer. Additional efforts are on-going to complete the replacement of all meters. Over 99.9% of customers have complied with the BCWA metering replacement requirements. Those customers that have not allowed replacement of their meters up to this point will be mailed additional notices that their water service could be shut-off unless the BCWA can install a new meter.
- 5. Modification to Pension Agreement:** A minor modification was approved by the Board to standardize benefits and contributions for all BCWA employees. This affected only two employees.
- 6. Hope Street Pumping Station:** Hope springs eternal! After many delays due to supply chain issues, the Hope Street Pumping Station project is nearing the operational stage. Our contractor, RP Iannuccillo & Sons, continue to work to complete all the improvements. Staff and consultants are working out the details on the operations of the pump station. A request has been made to RIDOH to perform a



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conformance inspection. Once that is done, we will have an approval to activate the pump station. Testing of the station operations is expected to begin in April.

- 7. Lead Service Line Replacement Program:** Letters have been sent to 130 customers that are known, or suspected to have, lead service connections advising them of the BCWA's program, the health effects and sources of lead as it relates to drinking water, and how lead or exposure to lead can be reduced.

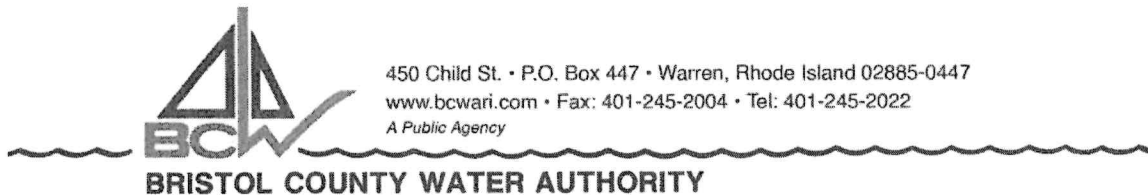
In response to these letters, staff has received phone calls, conducted inspections, met with customers and performed water testing. At this point, there does not appear to be a high degree of interest in this program to replace customer-owned water service lines that may contain lead. The BCWA is offering 0% financing of waterline replacement identified as part of this program on the customer's side of the water service connection. The BCWA will, however, continue to carry out its program to remove lead services in its portion of the service line from the main to the curb stop. Additional notices and efforts will be made to educate and inform our customers of this program and the need to reduce exposure to lead hazards.

- 8. 2025 Water Main Renewal and Lead Service Line Replacement Contract Award:** Bids were received and an award was made to the lowest bidder, Dewcon, Inc., for the BCWA's annual water renewal projects. This year these projects include:

Street Name	Date Installed	Approx. Length
Barrington		
Rumstick Road	<1935	1,800 feet
Chachapacasset Road	<1935	1,750 feet
Bristol		
State Street	<1935	1,900 feet
Warren		
Bradford	<1935	280 feet
Maple	<1935	1,030 feet
Locust Terrace	<1935	340 feet

Included in this bid was the work to be done by the BCWA in replacing its portion of the water services lines that have lead. There are about 123 public side water services and 64 lead gooseneck connections that will be replaced.

- 9. Engineering Inspection Services Contract:** The Board approved a contract with Pare Corporation for inspection services on the BCWA's 2024 construction projects.
- 10. Award of Agricultural Land Lease:** The BCWA seeks bids on an annual basis regarding the use and maintenance (haying the fields) for its properties on Bushee



Road and Kinnicut Avenue in Warren. This year the bid was awarded to Frerichs Farm for \$5,200 per year.

11. **Public Information:** A letter has been prepared to be sent to all BCWA customers advising them of the FY2025 rate increase of 5% for water use. There are no changes to miscellaneous fees and charges. There is still a senior discount of \$16.06 per quarter.
12. **Annual Write-Offs:** The BCWA approved an annual net write-off of \$33,773.47 or only 0.20% of total revenues!
13. **Personnel Changes:** Susan Rabideau, P.E. of Bristol, the Engineering Project Manager at the BCWA, is retiring after 10 years. She has been responsible for managing the distribution rehabilitation projects as well as many other notable programs and activities. During her tenure, the BCWA replaced or rehabilitated more than 20 miles of water mains using in-house engineering and operations staff for the design and oversight for most of this work. As part of her work, there were over 300 new water connections. Susan also was the driving force in judging local science fairs, the Rhode Island State Science Fair, and awarding prizes to Bristol County students who did water-oriented projects. Her expertise, enthusiasm and spirit will be missed. Enjoy a well-deserved retirement!
14. **Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the BCWA Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, April 25, 2024.

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Respectfully submitted,

Juan Mariscal, Chairman, BCWA
3/28/2024