

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

**Summary of Notable Activities and Reports
from the
2/22/2024 BCWA Board of Directors Meeting**

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

- 1. Connection to the Pawtucket Water Supply System Project:** The design is about 60% complete. Geotechnical work in East Providence had been delayed in response to a request by RI DOT due to the Washington Bridge situation. Fortunately, that work was able to be completed this past month. Meetings with property owners (primarily businesses) along the route has been positive. Portions of the pipeline route will be off-road and will require easements.
- 2. Phase II Water Treatment Plant Demolition:** Additional demolition of plant buildings is scheduled for this year. At the BCWA Board meeting, the Board approved a contract with Pare Engineering to complete a Hazardous Building Material Abatement Plan, a property survey, develop contract and bid specification documents, provide bid solicitation and review services, and provide construction contract administrative services. An evaluation of one building for possible reuse will also be conducted.
- 3. Purchase of Utility Truck:** Using the State of Rhode Island's Master Price Agreement for purchases, the BCWA solicited bids from three prequalified vendors. The Board approved an award of the low bid to purchase a Ford F450 utility vehicle from Jack Madden Ford. This new vehicle is a replacement vehicle and will be used in the maintenance of the water system.
- 4. Upper and Lower Kickemuit Dams Removal Project:** No further work on the Upper Dam will be done until Spring in accordance with our permits.

Demolition of the Lower Dam and excavation of the stream channel was on-going during the month. Due to the uncooperative weather, and in response to our request, the RIDEM and the US Army Corps have extended the seasonal allowance for this work until May 1st.

- 5. Hope Street Pumping Station:** This project's schedule has been severely hampered by supply chain shortages; however work does continue on the project. The HVAC and backup power systems were brought online. Other systems are also being prepared for commissioning.

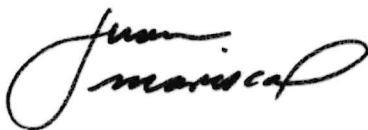
- 6. Distribution System Projects:** The BCWA crews have responded to various frozen water line breaks. In some instances, the repairs have been done relatively quickly and effectively by using a unique encapsulation process.

Plans and specifications were prepared for the solicitation of bids for general distribution systemwide projects in 2024. A Pre-Bid Meeting was held on February 15th. Four contractors and several construction companies and material suppliers downloaded the bidding documents from the BCWA website. This work consists of cement mortar lining of old cast iron watermains and the replacement of lead service connections (“goosenecks”) in the BCWA system.

- 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. This packet of information also included an EPA graphic illustrating and explaining these points. Customers were also advised about water filter pitchers that can be used to remove lead from water. BCWA will make these water pitchers available to these customers with lead services, as well as a six-month supply of filters and instructions on how to use them.
- 8. Customer Service – Use of ‘Payment Portal’:** One of our strategic goals is to promote the use of our online ‘Payment Portal’ payment system. During the month, a notice went out to all customers noting changes to improve the billing system and noting that a customer's account, including billings, is accessible online. In addition, customers were encouraged to e-mail or call BCWA Customer Service with any questions or concerns.
- 9. BCWA Personnel Committee:** The Committee met with the Executive Director to establish his annual performance goals. The Goals were further discussed and approved by the full Board at the February meeting.
- 10. Next Meeting:** The next meeting of the BCWA Board of Directors is scheduled for March 28, 2024.

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Respectfully submitted,



Juan Mariscal, Chairman, BCWA
2/28/2024