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

## Summary of Notable Activities and Reports from the 8/24/2023 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: The design is about 60% complete at this point. In addition, the report on tunneling under I-195 has been submitted to RI DOT for their review. A meeting is also scheduled with RI DEM to discuss the Ten Mile River crossing that the pipeline will entail. A water quality report has been completed on the blending of the water supplies and has been submitted to RI DOH for their review.
- 2. Upper and Lower Kickemuit Dams Removal Project: A pre-construction meeting is scheduled with our contractor, Lucianos Excavation. It is expected that the project will begin in mid-September. BCWA applied for additional funding for this project through the EPA's Southeast New England Program's Stormwater and Natural Infrastructure grant program. Discussions with the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation were held regarding additional funding from them as well. We have had positive feedback on this request.

Once these dams are removed, there may be the opportunity for public recreational or other use of some BCWA properties surrounding the river. Possible uses and issues associated with use of this land is at the initial stages of being evaluated.

- **3. Administration Building Roof:** It is expected that A&M Sheetmetal & Roofing will begin this project in early September 2023.
- **4.** Demolition of the former Child Street Water Treatment Facility: AA wrecking has completed most of the work with some items left to restore the site.
- 5. Hope Street Pumping Station: While delivery of critical electrical components is still considerably delayed, the contractor has been working within the pump station installing the pumps and piping.

6. Distribution System Projects:

- a. A more detailed description on these projects can be found at <u>bcwari.com/2023-water-distribution-system-improvement-program/</u>
- b. The Bradford and Central Streets water project in Bristol is nearly complete.
- c. In Barrington, preparations are underway to start construction of new water line in sections of Governor Bradford Drive. It is also expected that work on Annawamscutt Drive in Barrington will start in September as well.

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- 7. Per- and Poly- fluoroalkyl Substances: PFAS are a group of synthetic chemicals related to industrial and commercial applications since the 1940s and are persistent in the environment. Typically referred to as "forever chemicals" since they do not easily break down. These substances are now being regulated by the State of Rhode Island in drinking water. In addition, EPA is proposing regulations to establish legally enforceable limits. Recently, BCWA tested our drinking water for 29 different PFAS compounds. Only two of the 29 were detected and the levels detected were considerably below the Rhode Island limits. The details of this testing have been posted on the BCWA website.
- 8. Staff Retirement Susan Andrade: Thirty-five years after starting work with the Bristol Water Company and continuing with the Bristol County Water Authority, Engineering Technician Andrade retired on August 17th. Her duties and assignments have been an integral part of everything that the BCWA has accomplished during her career. She began providing much-needed outreach to local schools, including tours of the water treatment plant. She also worked on BCWA's annual science fair, judging area school student projects and at the State Science Fair each year. One of her final tasks was the completion of a digital spreadsheet compiling all BCWA capital projects from 1949 to the present. We wish Sue a long and happy retirement. We will miss her.

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Respectfully submitted, Juan Mariscal, Chairman, BCWA