

MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING OF THE BRISTOL COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

Thursday, September 26, 2024
450 Child Street (Boardroom), Warren, RI

Board Members Present:

Juan Mariscal, Chairman
Thomas Kraig, Vice-Chairman
Christopher Stanley, Secretary/Treasurer (*arrived 5:06pm*)
Robert J. Martin, Board Member
John M. Jannitto, Board Member
William F. Gosselin, Board Member
Richard E. Fournier, Board Member
(1 Open Board Member Position)

Board Members Absent:

Stephen Gross, Board Member

BCWA Staff Attending:

Stephen H. Coutu, Executive Director
Michael Crawford, Deputy Executive Director
Daniel Hughes, Finance Manager
Colin O'Hara, Engineering Project Manager
Lauren DeRuisseau, HR/Executive Assistant

Others Attending:

Legal Counsel Joseph Keough

1. Call to Order

Pursuant to proper notice, the Board Meeting of the Bristol County Water Authority was called to order by Chairman Mariscal at 5:01pm.

2. Public Input

There was no public input.

3. Finance Committee: Board Vote on Recommendation of Claim from 38 Nayatt Road, Barrington

(Appendix A)

Chairman Mariscal stated that he had served as acting Chair for the Finance Committee. On January 6th, there was a 2-inch main break on Nayatt Road. The crew made the repair and once the water was turned back on, sediment made its way into certain fixtures at 38 Nayatt Road. The customer was not getting any flow through the bathroom fixtures and a plumber was required to make repairs. Two repairs were made, the first for \$1,161.90 and the second for \$599.85. The total claim is for \$1,761.75. Based on information provided by the Executive Director, the Committee's recommendation is to pay the claim.

Director Stanley arrived at 5:06pm.

Director Jannitto moved the following motion seconded by Director Gosselin

Motion: To accept the recommendation.

Motion passed unanimously by aye vote.

4. Board Vote on Contract Addendum No. 8 to Pare Corporation for Additional Construction Phase Services Associated with the Dam Removal Project (Appendix B)

Executive Director Coutu stated that this request is for additional work items to our engineering consultant, Pare Corporation. The total amount is \$175,810.00, and they would only bill us for work actually performed. They have done some additional engineering and permitting work. This amendment addresses those work tasks plus some additional work items we have requested, one being to extend the amount of earth material being removed on the western bank of the upper dam, which requires additional permitting from DEM. The task order also includes additional construction observation services for up to four months. This work, and the work done by Pare to date, is reimbursable by grant funds.

Director Martin made the following motion seconded by Director Stanley

Motion: To be approved.

Motion passed unanimously by aye vote.

5. Minutes

a. Personnel Committee Meeting – 8/29/24

Director Jannitto moved the following motion seconded by Director Martin

Motion: Approval of the Personnel Committee minutes.

Motion passed with (7) aye votes and one abstention by Director Fournier

b. Board Meeting – 8/29/24

Vice-Chairman Kraig moved the following motion seconded by Director Martin

Motion: To approve.

Motion passed unanimously by aye vote.

6. Executive Director Report

- Pawtucket Pipeline – we are still waiting to hear back from East Providence and their consultants on review of the 60% plans. In accordance with the cost sharing agreement, a request for reimbursement was prepared along with an invoice to East Providence for the 60% design costs in the amount of \$302,688.79.
- Pawtucket Agreement was sent back following the Board's actions at the last meeting. The General Manager had no issues with the contract terms or language and will present it to their board at the October 8th meeting.

- Demo of the water treatment plant – there will be a presentation of the analysis of the old station structure at the Properties Committee meeting on October 2nd.
- Upper dam – making final grades on the embankments and creating the breach.
- Public information – survey cards were sent out to approximately 2,400 customers whose lead service lines we do not have information on. The survey will assist in identifying the type of materials that their private side service is made of.
- Hydrant flushing – hydrant flushing has begun and notices have been placed in the local papers as well as on our website and Facebook page.

Operations report:

- The town is working on a sewer repair in Barrington that impacted our water mains. There were a few main breaks after the piping was isolated but everything is stable now.
- The pump station is fully operational with only a few minor items to address.
- Work continues on the pipe on Gooding Avenue to determine the source of corrosion.

Engineering report:

- Dewcon completed the cleaning and lining of the water main on State Street in Bristol. They are also upgrading equipment valves and hydrant services.
- The bypass system was set up in Warren. Dewcon will be cleaning and lining Maple Street within two weeks.

7. Financial Report

(Appendix C)

Finance Manager Dan Hughes provided a financial summary for August 2024.

8. Board Member Town Council Reports

There were no reports.

9. Update on Lead Service Line Replacement Program and Customer Survey

(Appendix D)

We have a total of 15,705 services. On the public side, we have 47 galvanized iron services with the lead gooseneck connectors and 21 galvanized iron services on the public side without the goosenecks.

Currently, there are 2,362 private side service lines that consist of unknown material within our district. By law, we need to identify all pipeline materials. Approximately 2,400 survey cards were sent out to customers whose private side service line material is unknown. Executive Director Coutu provided a demo of the lead service line replacement program survey that customers can complete in order to assist in identifying the material used in their private side lead service lines. The survey can be completed through a QR code link or via the BCWA website.

Chairman Mariscal requested that the survey card information be sent to the local town papers for extra coverage.

10. Executive Session

Director Stanley moved the following motion seconded by Vice-Chairman Kraig

MOTION: To go into Executive Session
(re. litigation of North Farm v. BCWA pursuant to RIGL s. 42-46-5 (a)(2); Executive
Session Minutes – Board Meeting 8/29/24)
Motion passed unanimously by aye vote.

The Board entered Executive Session at 6:02pm.

The Board returned to open session at 6:21pm.

Director Martin made the following motion seconded by Director Stanley

MOTION: To seal the minutes from the Executive Session.
Motion passed unanimously by aye vote.

- 11. Next Scheduled Meeting(s):**
i. Board Meeting – October 24, 2024

12. Adjournment

Director Martin made the following motion seconded by Director Stanley

MOTION: To adjourn.
Motion passed unanimously by aye vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:22pm.

Christopher Stanley
Secretary