

CHARLES RIVER POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT  
66 Village Street, Medway, MA 02053

Minutes from May 24, 2023 Monthly Meeting – 4:00 p.m.

The meeting was held in the John McCahill Conference Room at the District's treatment facility. In attendance were, Chairman David C. Formato, District Commissioners Ted Kenney, Douglas M. Downing, Wolfgang Bauer and Mark Cataldo and Executive Director Elizabeth Taglieri, Engineer Kristen Mucciarone and Executive Secretary Barbara W. Maffeo.

The following attachments were presented during the monthly meeting and are on file at the District with the approved minutes.

- Prior Year Comparison of O & M Budget (July 2021 – April 2022 vs. July 2022 – April 2023);
- Year to Date O & M Budget versus Actual (July 2022 – April 2023);
- Overview of FY 2023 Budget dated May 24, 2023;
- Septage Revenue – Prior Year Comparison (July 2021 – April 2022 vs. July 2022 – April 2023);
- Sewer connections (April 2023);
- Handout reflecting Credit Card Expenses Statement dated April 7, 2022–May 5, 2023;
- Handout reflecting Chemical Bid Results vs. Budget dated May 24, 2023;
- Handout reflecting CRPCD Bank Account Balances as of April 30, 2023;
- Copy of Warrant #23-11 dated May 24, 2023.

Item #1– Approval of Warrant #23-11.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cataldo and seconded by Commissioner Downing to approve Warrant #23-11 as shown in the agenda.

a. O & M \$389,643.36

VOTED: That the District approves the preceding motion. The vote was unanimously approved.

Item #2 – Vote to Authorize the Executive Director to Execute a Two-Year Agreement for Aquatic Toxicity Testing Services with the Option to Renew for an Additional Two Years with New England Bioassay.

Typically, the Director would sign contracts and inform the Commissioners of the agreement. This contract is for two years with the ability to renew for an additional two years at the District's discretion. The price for the additional two years would increase based on the Boston Consumer Price Index (CPI). Procurement guidelines require a vote on contracts longer than three years. The District's supplier prices increased fifty percent, but the prices are in line with the other three quotes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cataldo and seconded by Commissioner Kenney to authorize the Executive Director to Execute a Two-Year Agreement for Aquatic Toxicity Testing Services with the Option to Renew for an Additional Two Years with New England Bioassay.

VOTED: That the District approves the preceding motion. The vote was unanimously approved.

Item #3 – Update on Chemical Bid Results.

The Director provided a handout reflecting the Chemical Bid Results vs Budget. There was a brief discussion related to the increase in prices and providers. Chemical bid prices are very volatile. This handout reflected a nine-month bid. The District will go out for bids in April 2024 to have the pricing better align with the budget. Commissioner Bauer pointed out that bidding the chemicals for a two-year period may result in a lower price. The Director will consider advertising a one year and a two year contract to be able to compare prices. Overall, it is estimated that the chemicals may be \$40,000 over the amount budgeted for FY24.

Item #4 – Engineer's Report.

- a. Landfill Monitoring Report. The Engineer recently submitted the semi-annual report to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP).
- b. Update on Sludge Market. The Synagro plant in Woonsocket, RI is having issues with their incinerator. The District has received calls from surrounding plants who use Synagro for sludge removal stating that they are very limited on their sludge intake. While this was a problem for other wastewater treatment plants from Massachusetts the District does not send the sludge to this facility anymore. The Engineer reminded the Commissioners that the District contracted with a vendor (WWSI) to pick up and dispose of the District's sludge. Part of WWSI's contract required the vendor to be responsible for the disposal of the sludge should the place for disposal be unable to accept it. The contract between WWSI and the District expires in 2027.

Item #5 – Executive Director's Report.

- a. NPDES Compliance Report. The treatment facility was in compliance for the month of April 2023.
- b. Sewer Connection Approvals – April 2023. The following sewer connections were approved earlier on an individual basis. (gallons per day – gpd).

Millis	5 homes	1,100 gpd
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- c. Update on Omya – Chemical to Replace Hydrated Lime. The Director is targeting the end of June 2023 for the trial to begin. The chemical is estimated to cost about \$35,000 more than hydrated lime, which was reduced from \$55,000 due to the large increase in the price of lime for this upcoming contract. Representatives from Omya are planning to attend the Board meeting in July and hope to have some preliminary results to report on.

- d. Update on Staffing. The junior co-op students from Tri-County are working out well. They will be working the full summer and during their senior year next year (which is every other week). One senior co-op will join the staff as a full-time employee in the end of June. There is a new operator on staff. However, another operator is moving out of the area so that will be a vacant position. The Director will be interviewing a person on Friday with a Grade 4 license.
- e. Update on Insurance for FY 2024. The District's insurance agent, Berry Insurance will be reaching out to different insurance carriers for comparison prices.
- f. Update on Boy Scout Troop Tour. A local troop and leader were given a tour recently. The tour went very well.
- g. Update on NEWEA Poo and Brew Tour on April 26, 2023. This event went well. One person on tour spoke to the Director regarding open positions at the District. She will be in contact with this person.
- h. Update on Presentation at the Franklin Town Council Meeting on May 3, 2023. This presentation went well also and the Director is hoping to have a tour scheduled in July. In addition, the Director will annually reach out to the council and the other three Town's select board members after the elections to invite new members on a tour of the facility.
- i. Update on Discussion with Franklin and Bellingham on Force Main Inspections. This was an information sharing discussion regarding the aforementioned. The next steps will be digging test pits for soil testing and ultrasonic test to determine if any corrosion of the pipe exists at these spots.
- j. Update on Variable Frequency drives (VFDs) for Positive Displacement (PD) Blowers. The PD blowers were installed in 2000 and are in good working order. The VFDs have been overheating and need a retrofit at a cost of \$65,000. The equipment will be ordered now and installed at a later date.
- k. Update on Easement Clearing at Interceptors. Franklin has an approved vegetation plan to remove brush at their easements on their sewer pipes. They have been slowly clearing theirs. Of the thirteen miles of interceptor the District owns, nine miles are in Franklin. The Director plans to focus on the inspections at the Black Swamp Interceptor (BSI) and Shepard's Brook Interceptor (SBI) and then can try to work on the easement clearings. The Director also mentioned the town of Franklin has been doing this work in house with a machine to clear the brush.
- l. Update on Bank Account Balances as of April 30, 2023. A handout was presented for the Commissioners review.
- m. Draft NPDES Permit Language on Climate Resiliency Plans. The District's NPDES Permit expired in 2019 and the District is awaiting a new permit. The Director noted that in the last couple of months wastewater treatment plants have been receiving their Draft NPDES Permits with new requirements for climate resiliency plans. This new requirement would have to be completed within a year of the permit being issued. Co-permittees will also have to provide climate resiliency plans as a requirement of their permit.

Item #6 – Public Comment. There was no public comment at today's meeting.

Item #7 – Approval of Minutes from April 12, 2023 Monthly Meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Kenney and seconded by Commissioner Cataldo to approve the monthly minutes as amended, and to forward a copy of the minutes to all attendees of the meeting.

VOTED: That the District approves the preceding motion. Commissioners Formato and Bauer abstained from voting as they were not in attendance. The vote was unanimously approved.

Item #8 – Anticipated Topics for Wednesday, June 14, 2023 Monthly Board Meeting at 3:00 p.m.

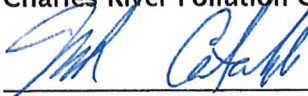
- a. Discussion and Vote on Cost-of-Living Adjustment. Commissioner Bauer requested the Director check with other treatment plants for their wage rate schedules. There was a brief conversation about advertising outlets for potential new hires.
- b. Update on OPEB Trust Fund and Transfer of \$30,000. Transfer of OPEB monies can be voted on at a monthly meeting.

A motion was made by Commissioner Cataldo and seconded by Commissioner Kenney to adjourn the Monthly Meeting and open the Annual Meeting.

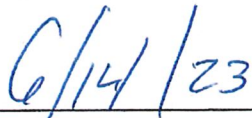
VOTED: That the District approves the preceding motion. The vote was unanimously approved.



Barbara W. Maffeo, Executive Secretary  
Charles River Pollution Control District



Mark Cataldo, Clerk  
Charles River Pollution Control District



Date

The preceding is presumed to be a complete and accurate account of the items discussed and agreements made unless the District is notified to the contrary within seven days of distribution.