

BRUNSWICK AND TOPSHAM WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
September 9, 2024

President Philippon called the Meeting to order. Roll call was taken.

Others present were: Vice President Kay, Trustees Ivery, Meunier, Glidden-Lyon, and Moll, Treasurer May, General Manager Douglas, Director of Finance Knowles, and District Engineer Schofield.

Absent: N/A

AGENDA ADDITIONS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES:

The Board reviewed the minutes of the Public Hearing held on July 8. A motion was made by Trustee Meunier and seconded by Trustee Glidden-Lyon to approve the minutes. There was a unanimous vote in favor of the motion.

The Board reviewed the minutes of the meeting held on August 13. A motion was made by Trustee Meunier and seconded by Vice President Kay. There was a unanimous vote in favor of the motion.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Director of Finance Knowles reviewed the Financial Reports for the month ending August 31, 2024.

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Androscoggin River Crossing

District Engineer Schofield informed the Board that the river crossing project has been completed. The District will begin pressure testing and disinfection this week, once all tests pass the main will be in service.

Galvanized Service Replacement Program

District Engineer Schofield has informed the Board that the pilot program to replace customers' galvanized service lines has commenced. The work has been finished on Whittier Street and Bowdoin Street. Originally, the District planned to cover the cost of replacing the services at no expense to the customer. However, legal counsel advised that Maine PUC rules do not permit the funding to be utilized in this manner. The federal funding comprises 55% forgiveness, with the remaining 45% to be repaid over 10 years at 0% interest. Consequently, the District has revised the program to cover 55% of the cost of replacing the service line, while passing on the 45% loan terms to the customers.

Of the seven customers on Whittier and Berry Street that had galvanized services replaced, all seven have opted into the program

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:

Brunswick Executive Airport Spill

General Manager Douglas informed the Board that the spill at Hanger 4 in the Brunswick Executive Airport resulted in around 5 feet of foam throughout the hanger, when approximately 1,450 gallons of AFFF product mixed with 50,000 gallons of water. This mixture escaped into the storm and sewer systems, as well as the environment. The Fire Department, aware of the aquifer boundary and storm drain system, recognized the potential impact of the incident, which was low for the District, due to the location. The District's response efforts focused on public communication, covering topics such as the aquifer boundary, test results, and additional monitoring. If the incident were to occur in BTWD's aquifer, the District would likely activate Maine WARN requesting assistance most likely from Portland Water District with a public information officer.

Jordan Ave/Navy Update

General Manager Douglas informed the Board a kick-off meeting was held on 8/29/24. The contractor is working on submittals and determining the best approach for fulfilling the subgrade improvements. The district met with the Navy on 9/25 to review reimbursement requests, increased monitoring expenses, and the method for providing the remaining funding.

PFAS – Class Action Lawsuit

General Manager Douglas updated the Board on the class action lawsuits. The District received updated good-faith estimates for the four class actions in progress. The value of the estimates for the four class action suits totals just over \$4.1 million.

SECOND INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: None

A motion was made by Vice President Kay and seconded by Trustee Glidden-Lyon to adjourn to Executive Session Per Title 1, MRSA Section 405 (6) (A) to Discuss Personnel Issues and Section 405 (6) (E) to Discuss Legal Issues. There was a unanimous vote in favor of the motion at 6:06 p.m.

A motion was made by Trustee Glidden-Lyon and seconded by Trustee Meunier to adjourn from executive session and return to the regular meeting. There was a unanimous vote in favor of the motion at 6:21 p.m.

Action Item: 24-20 District Charter (CWD)

No action was taken due to a lack of a motion.

A motion was made by Trustee Glidden-Lyon and seconded by Trustee Meunier to adjourn. There was a unanimous vote in favor of the motion at 6:21 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be held on October 21, at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Deacetis
Recording Secretary