

BRUNSWICK AND TOPSHAM WATER DISTRICT
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
November 18, 2024

Vice President Glidden-Lyons called the Meeting to order. Roll call was taken. Others present were: Trustees Ivery, Meunier, Moll, and Philippon, Treasurer May, General Manager Douglas, Director of Finance Knowles, and District Engineer Schofield.

Absent: President Kay

AGENDA ADDITIONS: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES:

The Board reviewed the minutes of the public hearing and regular meeting held on October 21. A motion was made by Trustee Meunier and seconded by Trustee Ivery to approve the minutes. There was a unanimous vote in favor of the motion.

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

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

DISTRICT ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Old Bath Road Water Main Extension

District Engineer Schofield reported to the Board that the town of Brunswick, with funding from the EPA and Cumberland County, will be installing 10,800 feet of water main along Old Bath Road and Bay Bridge Road. This new infrastructure will connect to the District's system at the Bay Bridge Mobile Home Park. Once the new water main is operational, the District will take ownership of the infrastructure.

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT:

Special Water Quality Report on PFAS

General Manager Douglas informed the Board that the District has received positive feedback from both customers and partnering agencies regarding the special water quality report on PFAS.

Jordan Ave/Navy Update

General Manager Douglas informed the Board that work is underway for the raw and finished water lines for the facility addition. The results from the demonstration pilings and load testing were positive. Next month, the focus will shift to preparing the subgrade. The contractor anticipates having a revised project schedule ready by December.

Metering System Update

General Manager Douglas informed the Board that the District has not needed to implement the expanded abatement in recent weeks. Additionally, the District is exploring companies that can help optimize its data collection and management systems, aiming to enhance its efficiency.

MPUC Ruling on MRRA Operating as a Utility

General Manager informed the Board that the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) on November 6, issued a ruling finding that MRRA is operating as a water utility and subject to the Commission's jurisdiction under Title 35-A. MRRA was directed to file within 120 days of the Order a schedule, rates, and terms and conditions.

Health Insurance Costs

General Manager Douglas informed the Board of a recent meeting with the District's health insurance broker, during which quotes and policies from various health insurance companies were reviewed. The District will likely renew its current plan with a 14.3% increase, as competing plans were either more expensive or returned no value for the cost savings.

Holden Facility Tours Increasing

General Manager Douglas informed the Board on the District's ongoing efforts to host and accommodate requests for tours of Holden Station. These tours serve as a valuable opportunity to share information about PFAS and the public water supply with the public.

BTWD Hosting MWUA's December Bimonthly Meeting

General Manager Douglas informed the Board on the upcoming Maine Water Utility Association's bimonthly meeting, which will take place on Thursday, December 19. This meeting will celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act and include tours of the new facility.

SECOND INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Action Item: 24-26 2025 Operating Budget (DOK)

A motion was made by Trustee Meunier and seconded by Trustee Philippon to approve the 2025 Operating and Maintenance Budget. There was a unanimous vote in favor of the motion.

Action Item: 24-27 2025 Proposed Capital Budget (DOK)

A motion was made by Trustee Meunier and seconded by Trustee Philippon to approve the 2025 Proposed Capital Budget. There was a unanimous vote in favor of the motion.

Action Item: 24-28 Taylor Well 2R Invitation to Bid (TCS)

A motion was made by Trustee Meunier and seconded by Trustee Ivery to authorize the engineering department to release an invitation to bid on behalf of the Board of Trustees for Taylor Well 2R. There was a unanimous vote in favor of the motion.

A motion was made by Trustee Ivery and seconded by Trustee Meunier to adjourn to Executive Session Per Title 1, MRSA Section 405 (6) (E) to Discuss Legal Issues. There was a unanimous vote in favor of the motion at 5:57 p.m.

A motion was made by Trustee Meunier and seconded by Trustee Ivery to adjourn from executive session and return to the regular meeting. There was a unanimous vote in favor of the motion at 6:03 p.m.

A motion was made by Trustee Meunier and seconded by Trustee Ivery to adjourn the meeting at 6:03 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

The next regular meeting will be held on December 9, at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Linda Deacetis
Recording Secretary