

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
HYBRID MEETING MINUTES
August 2, 2022
7:00 P.M.
CHERRY VALLEY & ROCHDALE WATER DISTRICT**

I. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting called to order by Chairman Bergin @ 7:00 pm

The following were in attendance:

Kevin Bergin, Chairman	4 online subscribers 1 in person
Arthur E.J. Levesque, Commissioner	
Benjamin Morris, Superintendent	
Robert H. Lemieux, Sr., Commissioner	
Jennifer Wood, Treasurer	
Cheryl Balkus, Clerk	

II. District Member Forum – There were no questions or comments from the listening audience, or from the board. Commissioner Lemieux motions to suspend the remaining minutes of the forum. Seconded by Commissioner Levesque. All in Favor. Approved.
The forum ended 1 minute and 28 seconds.

III. APPROVE MINUTES

A. June 28, 2022, Meeting Minutes - Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the June 28, 2022, meeting minutes. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

IV. FINANCE

A. Approve June 30, 2022, Warrants – Commissioner Lemieux motions to approve the June 30, 2022, warrants. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in Favor. Approved.

B. Approve July 4, 2022, Warrants- Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the July 4, 2022, warrants. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

C. Approve July 11, 2022, Warrants – Commissioner Lemieux motions to approve the July 11, 2022, warrants. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

D. Approve July 18, 2022, Warrants – Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the July 18, 2022 warrants. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

E. Approve July 25, 2022, Warrants – Commissioner Lemieux motions to approve the July 25, 2022 warrants. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

F. Approve August 1, 2022, Warrants – Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the August 1, 2022 warrants. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

The warrants consist of office expense, field supplies, pipes, insurance, technology, electricity, payroll, chemicals, telephone, trash, loan payment, meters, City of Worcester \$29,526.09, lab work, repair and maintenance, CVSD service agreement, Grindstone Well \$17,019.25, postage, leak detection for a total of \$180,566.62

G. FY22” Budget Transfer – Commissioner Lemieux motions to transfer \$10,749.80
\$2,365.00 from Pipes to Meters
\$4,314.00 from Lab Work to Repairs and Maintenance
\$3,960.80 from Technology to Heat
\$110.00 from Lab Work to Misc.
Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in Favor. Approved.

H. June Bank Transfer – Commissioner Levesque motions to transfer from the water checking account to the sewer checking account in the amount of \$56,508.02. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in Favor. Approved.

Per Chairman Bergin as a reminder this money is collected by the Water Department on behalf of the sewer district, it is not the Water Departments money.

V. ADMINISTRATION –

A. Application for License – Pierce Builders site work contractor from Connecticut is doing the large warehouse project on Route 56. They have paid the application fee, provided insurance certificate. As a formality need the commissioners sign off of the application. Commissioner Lemieux asked what the process is? Per the Superintendent we are giving them the permission to do work and connect to our system. This is the application to ensure they are doing the work and they are held liable if something were to go wrong. Commissioner Lemieux asked if we investigate them being licensed to do out of state work and where do we look for their license because as per his investigation, he did not locate anything and the certificate we have are we are 100% sure that this is enough of coverage. A license in his interpretation is that they have the qualifications and does not think that there is enough vetting, and a concern going forward in his opinion the application is rather week. The Superintendent agrees that the application needs to be updated. Per Commissioner Lemieux I’m sure that the company is fine and as part of due diligence we should be provided their license. Commissioner Lemieux asked if we could get their license information prior to his signature. Per the Superintendent we could but did not know how soon we would receive it. The work has begun, with all prior applications it has been done this way, work was completed, and the application was signed off when placed on the agenda. Commissioner Lemieux motions to hold off signing the application until licensing is received and to hold up the project. Per the Superintendent this will delay the project, they have written payment for the connections and all other fees. Commissioner Lemieux rescinds to table it. Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the application. Seconded By Chairman Bergin. 2 in favor 1 denied. Application approved.

VI. Operations

A. Superintendent’s Report –

Per the Superintendent there has not been any significant changes with the well project. Certification reports have been received from the company regarding the pumps. The project is 70% complete.

Has been in contact with chemical suppliers and costs are skyrocketing. The chemicals are chlorine and phosphate and to purchase 50-gallon drums to begin with. Investigated combining and purchasing with Leicester Water but this would be a liability for both when picking it up at a location and transporting it. Phosphate is becoming an issue, purchased

a full years' worth because current lead time is 4-5 weeks. 40 gallons should cover us for the entire year. When we mix with Worcester we will be mirroring. Smaller jugs are not certified, next is 15 and wants to stay with something more manageable. There will be additional paperwork to be completed with fire department and per the emergency response plan. We will be in control of the dosage rate and then the equipment will then be able to set it.

Lead & Copper was supposed to start this month. We did begin with 20 samples then received a call from DEP with a different idea to wait until the well is online. If we, did it now without the well online, we would have to do it again when it goes online. Waiting will be a cost savings. 2024 the Lead & Copper sampling is going to change again. This is a very time-consuming and costly process. We need to have 90% of our 40 samples in compliance. If not, we could be subject to more rigorous testing. We begin in July, and it runs till October.

The state increased the drought update, and it does not have effects to us other than what we have in place. Worcester remains to say they have sufficient capacity and does not see that we should change our current restrictions.

The Mass Save heating project has begun and should be completed by end of week for the chemical room and office space. Garage infrared to be completed at a later date.

It came to our attention that the assessor's office had a glitch in the real estate bills and the previous year's liens and betterments were added to the real estate bills. We have a copy of a letter from the town that has been sent to those effected and we also sent a letter to any of our customers that may have been affected. Abatements are being done by the assessor's office; we have increased our communications with them to ensure we collect the correct amounts. Commissioner Lemieux adds that there should be assessors' information added to the letter for them to contact them and to remind them that they are still obligated to pay the amount that was to be liened. Per Treasurer Wood the letters have already been sent out, this is to make the board aware of the situation that took place with the assessor's office.

Per Chairman Bergin the water district should also be issuing a letter to the Selectboard as the Sewer District has. The town should be able to an emergency work around to make the corrections now rather than later. He would like to see this in writing for reasons if it cannot be done. Commissioner Lemieux is also in agreement, we have paid them to do the service. Per office staff will be proactive to ensure that these accounts do not slip through with the assessor's office.

Subscriber Buteau asked if we have a firm date of when pumps for the Grindstone will be delivered. Per the Superintendent we are still waiting for the answer of this. Only thing we received is that the pumps have been tested and certified.

Subscriber Buteau asked how many customers were affected by the assessor's error. Per Treasurer Wood there were 177 customers throughout the town. For us there were 46 water that should not have been added and 12 that should have that did not for water. Per Chairman Bergin and Commissioner Lemieux unacceptable that this happened.

A company reached out to us for hydrant usage for use of dust control. They have paid the associated fees and will be paying for the water being used from the hydrant.

The Superintendent had done a review of the Rules and Regulations of Section 3 that requires some changes. He would like the Board to review and follow up on these changes

at another meeting. In the mean while if the board has comments or questions to email him and if they feel there should be other changes to what he has already.

VII. Communications – Nothing to report

VIII. PERSONNEL – Nothing to report

IX. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A. Approval of Next Meeting –Per the Superintendent the Commonwealth has extended remote meetings till 2023. Commissioner Levesque motioned to hold the next meeting Hybrid Tuesday, August 23, 2022, at the Town Hall Selectboard Room 3 Washburn Square Leicester, MA @ 7:00 PM. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

X. ADJOURNMENT- Commissioner Lemieux motions to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in Favor. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

"This institution is an equal opportunity provider, and employer."