

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING
HYBRID MEETING MINUTES
September 6, 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	No online or in person subscribers
Arthur E.J. Levesque, Commissioner	
Benjamin Morris, Superintendent	
Robert H. Lemieux, Sr., Commissioner - hybrid	
Jennifer Wood, Treasurer - hybrid	
Cheryl Balkus, Clerk	

II. District Member Forum –There were no questions or comments from the board. Commissioner Levesque motions to suspend the remaining minutes of the forum. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in Favor. Approved. The forum ended in 1 minute and thirty-seven seconds.

III. APPROVE MINUTES

A. August 23, 2022, Meeting Minutes - Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the August 23, 2022, meeting minutes. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

IV. FINANCE

A. Approve August 29, 2022, Warrants – Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the August 29, 2022, warrants. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in Favor. Approved.

B. Approve September 5, 2022, Warrants- Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the September 5, 2022, warrants. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

The warrants consist of phone, insurance, payroll, leak detection, chemicals, office expense, repair and maintenance, small tools, motor vehicle expense, postage, technology, Grindestone Well \$101,244.35. The total of the warrants \$121,192.24

V. ADMINISTRATION –

A. Application for License Belculfine - Commissioner Levesque motions to approve the application for license. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in favor. Approved.

B. Rules & Regulations update –

Per the superintendent provided a draft of the rules and regulations with highlighted areas of updates and there is still a great deal to look at however what we have currently are some main items to address now. The cover page has most recent date of being updated.

Section 4I: Service Pipes and Connections – independent service lines. With multifamily renovations meaning completely gutting, pulling permits. To have each individual unit to be metered will require to have their own separate service lines. With the current situation with one service is that all tenants /owners can have all

their service shut off. With the separate services we would have the ability to terminate each unit. Per Chairman Bergin replace word tenant to each "unit".

Section 6: Meters

To remove excepting those feeding sprinkler systems. The industry is beginning to track these with a meter.

Having equipment mounted on side of the house with a remote reader. With today's technology we no longer do not do this, remote readers no longer needed this will be removed.

Testing of any meters that are 2 inches and larger.

A review was done of what the recommendations have been and added a schedule of when the meters should be tested. This was also recommended from the M36 audit. It protects both the district and the customer to ensure that it is recording properly.

Frozen water meters

Property owners are responsible for their meter, to make sure that it does not freeze and if so, they are responsible for replacement and charged for another meter. There is nothing written to charge for the additional work to thaw a service. This should be updated to add that the property owner can be responsible and charged for the additional hours.

There were no additional comments or issues from the board with all the above.

Section 9n Fire Services

Item N: To add metered usage on a fire service will not be billed in the event of an actual emergency (sprinkler activations or fire dept usage) all non-authorized usage of water through the meter will be charged to the customer. Commissioner Lemieux was online and had comment and questions that were difficult to hear. The Superintendent and Commissioner where able to clarify the purpose of this section.

Per the Superintendent this for new businesses that are having meters installed to the fire system. It would be difficult to do this for an existing business unless they are going to be doing a full renovation and the business would be required to have the system metered. The customer is charged a fire protection fee charge. The purpose of this is if the customer also wanted to empty their storage tank it's on them to pay for not fair to our subscribers. Chairman Bergin suggests adding flow testing will be charged.

Article IV Section 4 Insurance

To change the amount of a contractor's minimum from \$100,000.00 to \$500,000.00

Article V S6

The regulation specifies to subdivisions and not towards commercial development Wants to add or other project which has the approval of the Planning Board.

Water use restrictions

We are currently not using Henshaw Pond however we still hold the Water Management Act Permit, and we should update it to read (inactive regulation due to water purchasing and act has the restriction in there)

Refunds

Unsure why all this in here may have been put in place in 1980's and does not apply to us. All sections 1-7 of refunds to be removed.

Drain Layer Application

Update license no that the office will issue number and added additional verbiage of their requirements.

Per the Superintendent there are no other revisions at this time, he will prepare a new version to provide to the board for a final approval at next meeting.

VI. Operations

A. Superintendent's Report

Auditors started today.

Tank cleaning done along with recommendations, not a lot of immediate needs for repairs. Exterior of the tanks need cleaning and will see if there are any special requirements so ensure water internally remains safe. There are two ladders that require updates for safety. The Greenville tanks concrete has small cracking of the tanks surface – no depth to it to impede to the actual interior of the tank. May involve drilling into the cracks and sealing them. To follow up with our engineers at Tata & Howard. The tank is 60 years old we did do a rehab in 2016 and we need to begin thinking about what to do with it for the future. Per Chairman Bergin for the ladder addition, we should ask if the physical tank design can accommodate and what pitfalls will we run into drilling into a 60-year-old tank. Per the superintendent the walls are 16-18 inches thick.

Delay in meter inventory and the agreement we have of what we pay per month for the transmitters is for 10-year period, after this expires, we can renegotiate to potentially lower the rate. We are in year 5 of the 10-year contract.

Well update: 98% complete and in the process of coordination of electrician, contractor, RE Ericson of the chemical feed pump so we can do a tentative start up and blow water out of hydrant, testing properly, contact MADEP with samplings, once in the clear will be able to go live. Lowery System who designed will come in to give an overview of the backwash process to our two operators and the Superintendent.

Valve exercising should begin in the next two weeks.

Hydrant flushing on hold with drought conditions. If something changes by end of September, we might do flushing in October.

VII. Communications – Nothing to report

VIII. PERSONNEL – Nothing to report

IX. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

A. Approval of Next Meeting – Commissioner Levesque motioned to hold the next meeting Hybrid Tuesday, September 20, 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 Levesque motions to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Chairman Bergin. All in Favor. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm

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