

# ***Dighton Water District***

**192 Williams St.  
No. Dighton, MA 02764**

**Sue Medeiros  
Patrick Menges  
Gregory Olsen**

***COMMISSIONERS***

*Carol A. Stevens*  
***TREASURER***

July 9, 2013

The Board of Commissioners of the Dighton Water District met at 7:00 P.M. in the conference room of District Headquarters, on Tuesday, 9 July 2013. Chairman of the Board of Commissioners, Susana Medeiros called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Commissioner Patrick Menges and Commissioner Greg Olsen were in attendance.

Pledge of Allegiance

Bid Opening 7:10 Audit

The first bid was The Braver Group PC of Providence RI with a bid of \$10,000 to \$12,000. The second bid was from MLB CPA, LLP of Norwell, MA with a bid not to exceed \$15,000.

Patrick made a motion to take bids under advisement and allow the Clerk/Treasurer to recommend to us who she thinks will best meet the needs of the District. Greg second the motion, all were in favor.

Meeting with Scheduled Guests - Cancelled

Approve Minutes

Patrick Menges asked that the record show that the minutes of the regular meeting of the Commission of June 11, 2013 and of executive sessions of the Commission on 11, 14, 17, 19 and 27 June stand approved as prepared for the Boards approval by the District Clerk.

Greg Olsen seconds the motion. Sue Medeiros declared the minutes of these meetings approved.

#### Reading of Correspondence

#### Financial Condition

Carol Stevens asked the Board at the District Accountant request whether the Capital Improvement balance will stay in the Capital Account or will be included in the General Operating Fund. Patrick said to stay in the Capital Improvement Account for now. Sue Medeiros made a motion to accept the balances in the Capital Improvement Account and Stabilization account as prepared by the District Account. Motion carried.

#### Budget to Actual Balances

Patrick suggested making an interlineal transfer for two budget lines, Legal and Outside Contractors, which are over budget. Patrick motioned to make an interlineal transfer of \$2,246.25 from Engineering to fill the breach in Outside Contractor the same amount. Greg Olsen seconded the motion, all were in favor and the motion carried. Patrick made a motion to take \$336.00 out of Management Consultant for Legal. Greg Olsen seconded and all were in favor and the motion carried.

#### Outstanding Receivables

Sue Medeiros entertained a motion to accept the outstanding receivable report presented by the District Accountant. All were in favor, motion passed.

#### Outstanding Debt

Sue Medeiros read the balance owed on the Treatment Plant as \$4,642,328.64 final payment due on July 15<sup>th</sup> 2025 and the Transmission Line as \$1,014,145.46 final payment due on July 15<sup>th</sup> 2026. Total balanced due is \$5,656,474.10. Sue entertained a motion to accept the report of Tina Bragga District Accountant on balances owed on the plant and the transmission line. Patrick seconded the motion and all were in favor, carried.

The Commissioners discussed the request to encumber funds in the Well Source Development line of \$90836.22 and a refund for \$2,241.56 which is still waiting for additional back up. Patrick made a motion that the individual for whom the refund is being encumbered be notified and given 30 days to respond. The motion was seconded and all were in favor. Motion carries.

Patrick made a motion that subject to the forgoing \$93,077.78 as detailed in the District Accountants requested accounts to encumber for fiscal year 14. There was a short discussion on the total, the motion was seconded and voted, all in favor, motion carries.

The commissioners then signed the warrants. Sue Medeiros entertained a motion to accept and approve the warrants as prepared by the District Accountant. Patrick seconded the motion, no discussion, all were in favor, motion carried.

Website Update - Patrick questioned if website updates would continue to be updated by the present individual or if the District would invest in the necessary software. Updates will continue to be updated as it has in the past. Patrick asked if the consolidated manual was going to be added to the District's website. Carol Stevens said she would check but thinks it may be too large. Patrick is not worried if the answer is no with the 1927 laws and the chapter 359 we probably don't need this on the website. Patrick then asked if the website was up to date with budget to actual balances, contract, meeting minutes, meeting notices. Carol Stevens said they were up to date. Patrick also would like a photo of the new District sign with the High School students that worked on it to be placed on the website.

Superintendents Report - Charles Cestodio passed out copies of his report. Charles reported that the CCR reports had been mailed, well cleaning has been completed, Cedar Street #1 and Walker Street #1 have been cleaned and are now ready for the peak of the operating season. The tanks and clear wells have also been cleaned at the plant. Charles reviewed the rest of his report to the Commission. Charles stated that letters have been sent to the Selectmen regarding removal of the backflow at the South Station Fire house with no response, Patrick said it would be taken care of. There was a discussion of whether the District should search out additional prices on engineering services. The board then had a discussion on what to do about the possibility of a tie in with taunton sewerage for the removal of waste water from the Williams Street treatment plant. A motion was made that commissioner Olson assist the superintendant in drafting a plan to seek out the cost of the tie in and also to draft a letter to be sent to the DPW asking for audience with the proper representatives. The motion passed. A meeting was tentatively scheduled for August 17<sup>th</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 pm to further discuss this topic. The towns meter program was discussed. The towns fire hydrants were discussed and a plan was made to have the project finished by winter and doing this by addressing the worst meters first. Employees were approved to go to an iron and manganese regulation trends and treatment opportunity's class. All in favor. Patrick Menges then moved to accept the superintendents report as a report of progress and the superintendent should continue to function as outlined. Motion carried.

Old Business- Patrick Menges motions that all the bi-laws and articles of organization be complete for the IRS and for them to be tax exempt for the acquisition of the land for the Walker Street well field. In return for the acquisition of the land the owner will be offered a dollar for dollar amount of tax deductions. All in favor motion carries. If that plan fails then the district will also seek eminent domain. The legal fees for this process will cost approximately 900 dollars and be taken from the 2013 fiscal year. Somerset Avenue real estate was discussed. Any person interested in buying the property must be willing to pay the advertising fee for the auction and then they may purchase the property at the auction. Until that time the district will be utilizing the building for storage. The status of the DOR five year forecast will be discussed at the next meeting. The topics include prioritizing capital mass, online and direct deposits, and exploration of GIS for the assessor's office.

Review and revision of water rates, a three tier system was discussed and will be discussed further at the next meeting. A motion by Patrick Menges to revise tier 2 of the water rates and take them to review was not carried. Water discoloration as a result of tank flushing was discussed. Greg Olson motioned to look at the water rates personally and get back to the board at the meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> of August. Motion carries. The waste water lagoons were previously discussed in the superintendents' report. Motion by Sue to have Patrick continue to work with the state reps and Somerset water board and report to the next meeting. Motion carries. Water discoloration was discussed and was decided cleaning should be done in "off" times of the year meaning April or September when water use is low. The intern application was discussed.

New Business- The drinking water fountain at the plant should be repaired at least one of the two. Also the need to replace upcoming position due to retirement was discussed and put on the agenda for the next meeting.

Announcements- Union contract negotiation on July 23<sup>rd</sup> 2013 at 4:00 pm, next regular meeting of commissioners on Tuesday August 13<sup>th</sup> 2013 at 7:00 pm, anyone interested in being on Dighton's water district finance committee contact the office at 508-824-9390.

Acknowledgements- Thanks to the makers of our new signs, Dorian Jefferson for putting the consolidated district manual online and can be alerted as needed. Well and tank cleaners, fire and highway departments for hydrant class participation, and clerk/treasurer for procurement of the time clock.

Public Input

Motion to adjourn at 10:45 pm, all in favor motion carries.

Respectfully Submitted,

Tina Bragga & Mark Prichard  
Assistant Clerk/Treasurer

Board of Water Commissioners

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