

**MWRA Board of Directors Meeting  
November 18, 2015  
Voting Summary Sheet**

Item Name	Type	Notes	Vote	Discussion Highlights
Approval of Minutes	n/a	n/a	Unanimous	
Report of the Chair	n/a	n/a	n/a	*
Report of the Executive Director	n/a	n/a	n/a	*
Approval of the Seventy-First Supplemental Bond Resolution	Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Authorized: Issuance of up to \$55 million of MWRA General Revenue Bonds</li> <li>Funds will be used for Spot Pond and Deer Island Electrical</li> </ul>	Unanimous	*
PCR Amendments – November 2015	Approval	<p>The Board approved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5 title changes</li> <li>2 grade changes</li> <li>Estimated Annual Impact: -\$32,316 to -\$9,291</li> </ul>	Unanimous	*
Appointment of Senior Program Manager of Process Control & Project Support	Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointed: Ms. Lisa Bina</li> <li>Salary: \$104,005 (Unit 9, Grade 30)</li> <li>Effective: Date designated by Exec. Director</li> </ul>	Unanimous	*
Appointment of Program Manager, Electrical, Engineering and Construction	Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointed: Mr. Jorge P. Silva</li> <li>Salary: \$103,855 (Unit 9, Grade 29)</li> <li>Effective: Date designated by Exec. Director</li> </ul>	Unanimous	
Appointment of Program Manager, Electrical, Deer Island	Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointed: Mr. Darius Boyce</li> <li>Salary: \$87,681 (Unit 9, Grade 29)</li> <li>Effective: Date designated by Exec. Director</li> </ul>	Unanimous	
Appointment of Senior Program Manager, Engineering, Deer Island	Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointed: Mr. Brian F. Driscoll</li> <li>Salary: \$117,682 (Unit 9, Grade 30)</li> <li>Effective: Date designated by Exec. Director</li> </ul>	Unanimous	
Appointment of Director of Procurement	Approval	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appointed: Ms. Carolyn Francisco Murphy</li> <li>Salary: \$137,000 (Non-Union, Grade 16)</li> <li>Effective: Date designated by Exec. Director</li> </ul>	Unanimous	
Workers' Compensation Third Party Administrator Services, Contract A601	Contract Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awarded: PMA Mgmt. Corp. of New England</li> <li>Amount: Not to exceed \$155,850</li> <li>Term: Jan. 1, 2016 through Dec. 31, 2018</li> </ul>	Unanimous	*
Digested Sludge Line Pump Replacement, Phase 2, Contract 6281	Contract Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awarded: Walsh Construction Company</li> <li>Amount: \$2,591,100</li> <li>Term: 548 calendar days from NTP</li> </ul>	Unanimous	*
Supply and Delivery of Soda Ash to the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant, Bid WRA-4103	Contract Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awarded: Tata Chemicals Soda Ash Partners</li> <li>Amount: Not to exceed \$11,398,680</li> <li>Term: Jan. 1, 2016 through Dec. 31, 2018</li> </ul>	Unanimous	
Northern Intermediate High Section 110 – Reading and Woburn, Contract 7471	Contract Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awarded: Albanese D&amp;S, Inc.</li> <li>Amount: \$9,888,000</li> <li>Term: 808 calendar days from NTP</li> </ul>	Unanimous	*
Wachusett Aqueduct Pumping Station, Contract 7157	Contract Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awarded: BHD/BEC JV 2015, A Joint Venture</li> <li>Amount: \$47,011,000</li> <li>Term: 1,260 calendar days from NTP</li> </ul>	Unanimous	*
Alewife Brook Pump Station Rehabilitation, Contract 6797	Contract Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Replaced Sept 16, 2015 vote as follows</li> <li>Awarded: Barletta Engineering Corp.</li> <li>Amount: \$12,560,000</li> <li>Term: 853 calendar days from NTP</li> </ul>	Approved, Mssrs. Foti, Blackmon and Peña Opposed	
Rehabilitation of Anaerobic Digesters, Primary Clarifiers and New Influent Gates at Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plant, Contract 7277A, Change Order 9	Contract Amendments /Change Orders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contractor: R. H. White Construction Co., Inc.</li> <li>Amount: Lump sum of \$12,085.95</li> <li>No increase in contract term</li> </ul>	Unanimous	
Delegated Authority Report – October 2015	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Please see related staff summary</li> </ul>	n/a	*
FY16 First Quarter Orange Notebook	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overall trends for the 1<sup>st</sup> Qtr of FY16 remain the same as last Qtr of FY15</li> <li>Numerous Training and Safety Programs are in place at the Authority</li> <li>Cross-functionality of staff is focus to sustain a prolonged event, such as a snowstorm</li> </ul>	n/a	*
FY16 Financial Update and Summary – October	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>YTD expenses were lower than budget by \$9 million or 4%</li> <li>Revenues were higher than budget by 0.4% or \$862,000; net variance is \$9.9 million</li> <li>Favorable debt service savings will be deposited into defeasance acct for targeted</li> </ul>	n/a	*

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• defeasance in spring</li> <li>• CIP YTD spending totals \$34.8 million, \$0.4 million or 1.3% higher than budget; with the removal of Community Assistance Programs and CSO projects, underspending is \$5.4 million or 21.2%</li> </ul>		
OPEB Trust Investment	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5-Member Board of Trustees chose to invest \$10 million for OPEB with the Massachusetts Pension Reserve Investment Trust (PRIT)</li> <li>• Trust is managed by Pension Reserves Investment Management (PRIM)</li> <li>• Actuarial studies will be done every two years</li> </ul>	n/a	*
Update on Valve and Piping Replacement, Various Facilities – Deer Island Treatment Plant, Carlin Contracting Co., Inc., Contract 7275	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Valve replacements began in the Winthrop Terminal Facility</li> <li>• To date, seven shutdowns of varying duration (4 to 8 hours) have been completed</li> <li>• Three 48" force main isolation valves have been replaced and a temporary force main for dewatering pipes has been installed on Deer Island</li> </ul>	n/a	*
Emergency Response Drill – Wachusett Reservoir	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An Inter-Agency Response Drill was conducted on October 15, 2015</li> <li>• An emergency simulation was conducted at Wachusett</li> <li>• Emergency response plan was implemented</li> <li>• Agencies worked together in a Unified Command</li> </ul>	n/a	*
Remediation of Direct Discharges at Wachusett Reservoir	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To date, \$8 million from MA DOT has been spent for stormwater improvements to eliminate discharges into Reservoir</li> <li>• In-house staff has been trained in the use of equipment to respond to a reservoir spill</li> </ul>	n/a	*
Update on Lead and Copper Rule Compliance – Fall 2015	Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MWRA system-wide lead levels in September 2015 sampling round were below 15 ppb for 20<sup>th</sup> consecutive sampling round</li> <li>• MWRA continues to meet copper standard</li> <li>• Two communities were individually above Lead Action Level</li> </ul>	n/a	*

Administration and Finance
  Wastewater
  Water
  Personnel
 \* Advisory Board position



MWRA Advisory Board Summary  
of the  
MWRA Board of Directors Meeting  
Wednesday, November 18, 2015

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority was held on November 18, 2015 at the Charlestown Navy Yard. Present: Chairman Matthew Beaton and Brian Peña, Gubernatorial Appointees; John Carroll, Andrew Pappastergion and Joseph C. Foti, MWRA Advisory Board Representatives; Henry Vitale, Kevin Cotter and Austin Blackmon, City of Boston Representatives; Jack Walsh, City of Quincy Representative; Paul Flanagan, Town of Winthrop Representative. Absent: Jennifer Wolowicz, Gubernatorial Appointee.

**Report of the Chair**

Chairman Matthew Beaton stated that he had one MWRA related update – fish stocks in the Wachusett Reservoir are doing well, noting that this is a resource that he has utilized.

**Report of the Executive Director**

MWRA Executive Director Fred Laskey offered congratulations to Henry Vitale and the Boston Water and Sewer Commission for receiving the 2015 Platinum Award for Utility Excellence from the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies.

Mr. Laskey stated that he was relieved to report that the second cell of the Spot Pond tank has been approved by DEP for a 30-day test. Staff hopes to hold a dedication ceremony in December.

The City of Lynn used MWRA water while repairing its tank, which provided the MWRA with \$600,000 in revenue. Lynn has completed those repairs.

December 16<sup>th</sup> has been designated as the Annual Meeting of the Board for the purpose of election and appointments of MWRA officers, Retirement Board members and Committee assignments.

**Approvals**

**Approval of the Seventy-First Supplemental Resolution**

The Board voted to adopt the Seventy-First Supplemental Resolution authorizing the issuance of up to \$55,000,000 of Massachusetts Water Resources Authority Subordinated General Revenue Bonds and the supporting issuance resolution.

Treasurer Matt Horan stated that the \$55 million will be used to fund Spot Pond and Deer Island electrical projects.

Mr. Vitale asked about the closing costs. Mr. Horan said the closing costs are about \$30,000 with legal fees.

Mr. Vitale asked what the security is for the bondholders. Mr. Horan said it is on par with variable rate debt.

## **PCR Amendments – November 2015**

The Board voted to approve amendments to the Position Control Register, as presented and filed with the records of the meeting.

Human Resources Director Karen Gay Valente reported that there are three title changes, one title and position downgrade and one filled position upgrade due to additional responsibilities.

### **Appointment of Senior Program Manager of Process Control & Project Support**

The Board voted to approve the Executive Director's recommendation to appoint Ms. Lisa Bina to the position of Senior Program Manager, Process Control & Project Support (Unit 9, Grade 30) in the Operations Division, at an annual salary of \$104,005 to be effective on the date designated by the Executive Director.

Board Member Jack Walsh asked how internal candidates are prioritized; do they receive preference at all? Director of Human Resources Karen Gay-Valente stated that staff spends a significant amount of time reviewing each of the positions. Internal promotions are running at more than 70% versus hiring from the outside; the Authority looks internally first.

Mr. Vitale said in regard to the Senior Program Manager position, if we didn't have anyone in-house, someone outside would cost \$104,000 or more. Ms. Gay Valente said staff would look at the qualifications and entrance requirements of the candidate, who may have a lot of additional years of experience. We would look at their salary needs and ensure internal equity. It would be done on a case-by-case basis based on the position.

Mr. Laskey noted that training within the MWRA has helped with diversity and has worked well.

### **Appointment of Program Manager, Electrical, Engineering and Construction**

The Board voted to approve the Executive Director's recommendation to appoint Mr. Jorge P. Silva, P.E. to the position of Program Manager, Electrical (Unit 9, Grade 29) in the Engineering and Construction Department, at an annual salary of \$103,855, to be effective on the date designated by the Executive Director.

### **Appointment of Program Manager, Electrical, Deer Island**

The Board voted to approve the Executive Director's recommendation to appoint Mr. Darius Boyce to the position of Program Manager, Electrical (Unit 9, Grade 29) in the Deer Island Capital Engineering Department, at an annual salary of \$87,681, to be effective on the date designated by the Executive Director.

### **Appointment of Senior Program Manager, Engineering, Deer Island**

The Board voted to approve the Executive Director's recommendation to appoint Mr. Brian F. Driscoll, P.E. to the position of Senior Program Manager (Unit 9, Grade 30) in the Engineering Services Department, Deer Island Treatment Plant, at an annual salary of \$117,682, to be effective on the date designated by the Executive Director.

### **Appointment of Director of Procurement**

The Board voted to approve the Executive Director's recommendation to appoint Ms. Carolyn Francisco Murphy to the position of Director of Procurement, Administration Division (Non-Union, Grade 16) at an annual salary of \$137,000 to be effective on the date designated by the Executive Director.

### **Contract Awards**

#### **Workers' Compensation Third Party Administrator Services: PMA Management Corp. of New England, Contract A601**

The Board voted to approve the recommendation of the Consultant Selection Committee to select PMA Management Corp. of New England to provide workers' compensation third party administration services and authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute Contract A601 with PMA Management Corp. of New England in a not-to-exceed amount of \$155,850, for a three-year term from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

Board Member Andrew Pappastergion asked staff to qualify the onetime allowance. Benefits Manager Emily Dallman said the onetime allowance of \$53,500 would cover the cost for the transfer of existing claims, including \$8,500 for data migration and \$45,000 to assume responsibility for existing claims. The MWRA does this for every firm so the incumbent does not have the advantage. Mr. Pappastergion said you won't have to spend these funds because you went with the incumbent. Ms. Dallman said that is correct, that is why the request is for \$155,850.

Board Member Henry Vitale asked if this program could be managed in-house. Ms. Dallman stated that staff did some testing and found that it would be more cost-effective to be self-insured and have a third-party administrator. The Authority would need to increase staff to do it in-house.

Mr. Vitale asked if the Authority has a workers' compensation reserve. Director of Finance Thomas Durkin stated that the MWRA has a \$6 million reserve. An analysis is done every year to ensure that sufficient funds are available.

#### **Digested Sludge Line Pump Replacement, Phase 2: Walsh Construction Company, Contract 6821**

The Board voted to approve the award of Contract 6821, Digested Sludge Line Pump Replacement Phase 2 – Deer Island Treatment Plant, to the lowest responsible and eligible bidder, Walsh Construction Company, and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute and deliver said contract in the bid amount of \$2,591,100, for a term of 548 calendar days from the Notice to Proceed.

Board Member Brian Peña noted that the first phase was completed in 2010, yet three others have remained. Engineering Services Manager Richard Adams stated that the first phase was a pilot program.

#### **Supply and Delivery of Soda Ash to the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant: Tata Chemicals Soda Ash Partners, Bid WRA-4103**

The Board voted to approve the award of Purchase Order Contract WRA-4103 for the supply and delivery of soda ash to the John J. Carroll Water Treatment Plant, to the lowest eligible and responsible bidder, Tata Chemicals Soda Ash Partners, and authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute and deliver said purchase order contract in an amount not to exceed \$11,398,680 for a period of three years from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2018.

**Northern Intermediate High Section 110 – Reading and Woburn: Albanese D&S, Inc., Contract 7471**

The Board voted to approve the award of Contract 7471, Northern Intermediate High Section 110 – Reading and Woburn, to the lowest responsible and eligible bidder, Albanese D&S, Inc., and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute and deliver said contract in the bid amount of \$9,888,000, for a term of 808 calendar days from the Notice to Proceed.

Chief Engineer Anandan Navanandan and Program Manager Patrick Barrett provided a presentation on the [Northern Intermediate High Section 110](#).

Mr. Laskey noted that if there were a catastrophic failure in this area, there would be a rapid loss of service in Reading, Stoneham and Woburn and potential restrictions in Wakefield, Wilmington and Winchester. This contract would provide redundancy and allow for inspections/repairs to the current transmission main.

Mr. Foti asked what the duration of the construction would be. Mr. Barrett said construction will take 25 months.

**Wachusett Aqueduct Pumping Station: BHD/BEC JV 2015, A Joint Venture, Contract 7157**

The Board voted to approve the award of Contract 7157, Wachusett Aqueduct Pumping Station, to the lowest responsible and eligible bidder, BHD/BEC JV 2015, A Joint Venture (a joint venture of Barletta Heavy Division and Barletta Engineering Corporation), and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute and deliver said contract in the bid amount of \$47,011,000 for a term of 1,260 calendar days from the Notice to Proceed.

Mr. Navanandan and Senior Program Manager William Sullivan made a presentation on the [Wachusett Aqueduct Pumping Station](#).

Board Member Jack Walsh asked how often this pumping station will be used. Mr. Sullivan stated that each pump will be used one hour per month; at the end of the year, the whole station will be brought fully online to exercise the equipment and for staff training for three to four days. This will be done on an annual basis.

Mr. Walsh asked why the Authority wouldn't use this pumping station a couple of times per month. Mr. Sullivan stated that these are 700 horsepower pumps that use a lot of energy. Using the gravity supply versus using electricity is much more cost effective. Mr. Coppes also noted that it would be generating power versus using power.

Mr. Walsh asked if the water in the pipe would be stale. Mr. Sullivan stated that the pipes would be flushed. The process to bring this pumping station online takes six to eight hours.

Mr. Laskey stated that in the history of the water system, this is a major milestone; we will have redundancy all the way back to Clinton.

**Alewife Brook Pump Station Rehabilitation: Barletta Engineering Corp., Contract 6797**

The Board voted, with Msrs. Blackmon, Foti and Peña opposed, to replace the Board's prior vote dated September 16, 2015 with the following: To approve the award of Contract 6797, Alewife Brook Pump Station Rehabilitation, to the lowest responsible and eligible bidder, Barletta Engineering Corporation, and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute and deliver said contract in the bid amount of \$12,560,000 for a term of 853 calendar days from the Notice to Proceed.

## Contract Amendments/Change Orders

### **Rehabilitation of Anaerobic Digesters, Primary Clarifiers and New Influent Gates at Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plant: R.H. White Construction Co., Inc., Contract 7277A, Change Order 9**

The Board voted to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Change Order 9 to increase the amount of Contract 7277A, Rehabilitation of Anaerobic Digesters, Primary Clarifiers and New Influent Gates, Clinton Wastewater Treatment Plant, with R.H. White Construction Co., Inc., for a lump sum amount of \$12,085.95, with no increase in contract term; further, to authorize the Executive Director to approve additional change orders as may be needed to Contract 7277A in amounts not to exceed the aggregate of \$250,000 and 180 days in accordance with the Management Policies and Procedures of the Board of Directors.

## Information

### **Delegated Authority Report – October 2015**

Director of Administration Michele Gillen and Director of Procurement John Sabino provided the Board with a delegated authority report for October 2015.

Board Member Andrew Pappastergion asked how often the ongoing contract for wind turbine maintenance will be utilized. How does spending \$300,000 for maintenance affect payback? Deer Island Treatment Plant Director David Duest stated that there is a \$750,000 total annual operating benefit relative to \$93,500 spent annually on maintenance (for the two Deer Island and one Charlestown wind turbines). The \$322,653 contract is a two-year contract and includes quarterly preventative maintenance, a one-time expense of \$60,000 to repair/replace Deer Island WTs power cables and supports, and time and materials for corrective maintenance. Maintenance is roughly 15% of revenue. Mr. Hornbrook noted that the MWRA is seeking cost recovery for the \$60,000 from the original contractor.

Mr. Pappastergion asked if the \$322,000 is specified or as-needed. Mr. Hornbrook said it is both. We spend what we use. Mr. Sabino noted that the original capital costs were grant funded.

Mr. Walsh asked if MWRA is training staff in wind turbine maintenance. Mr. Hornbrook said yes, we are training staff to inspect the turbines to determine what needs to be done.

### **FY16 First Quarter Orange Notebook**

MWRA Chief Operating Officer Michael Hornbrook provided the Board with an update on the FY16 First Quarter Orange Notebook. He noted that overall trends during the first quarter remain the same as the fourth quarter of FY15.

Mr. Hornbrook highlighted the key performance area of staff training, which allows the Authority to be efficient. Staff is now looking at adding a page to the Orange Notebook for internal and external training of MWRA staff.

Manager of Training and Development George Denhard made a [presentation](#) on the MWRA's Training Programs.

Mr. Laskey noted that the Authority has heeded a point made by the Advisory Board on the MWRA's inability to get construction projects out the door.

Mr. Denhard stated that there are over 400 water and wastewater operators and the Authority holds in-house classes. Nine employees have hoisting licenses. The Authority offers an in-house commercial driver's license (CDL) program as well. These programs allow the Authority to have more operators available to run the equipment.

Mr. Foti noted that the last two training courses he took with the Authority provided all new information. The Authority does a great job.

Mr. Denhard noted that in addition to the training classes, a number of safety programs are also in place. The Authority has a confined-space in-house program.

Mr. Laskey stated with the drop in the head-count over the years, the focus has been cross-functionality to sustain a prolonged event, such as a snowstorm.

### **FY16 Financial Update and Summary – October**

Director of Finance Thomas Durkin provided the Board with an FY16 financial update through October. Debt Service expense through October totaled \$130.3 million, which was \$6.6 million, or 4.8%, lower than budget; this was the most dramatic variance. Staff anticipates coming back to the Board with a defeasance account strategy to target the most challenging years.

There will likely be a 25 basis point increase by the Federal Reserve Board in December. The MWRA has a balanced portfolio. At times the Authority earns more and at other times pays more; the balance has helped the Authority.

Budget Director Kathy Soni said outside of Debt Service, year-to-date Direct Expenses are below budget. Wages and Salaries are budgeted for 1,160 employees; however, the Authority currently has 1,136 employees, with \$84,000 being the average salary. The Authority is making great progress in hiring; six new employees are now on board with four additional new hires coming at the end of the month. Everything else is trending as anticipated.

Mr. Laskey added on the personnel side, the Authority is trying to promote from within. Because of these promotions, it takes a number of backfills before we advertise. Now, in anticipation of that need to backfill, we have begun to post these positions. The process had been taking too long and the goal is to get staffing to 1,150 employees.

Board Member Joseph Foti noted a \$502,000 underspending for watershed land due to timing; is there still a desire to purchase that land? Ms. Soni responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Walsh noted that the Authority budgeted \$6.6 million for CSO spending but actually spent \$13.9 million; how did staff miss that? Mr. Hornbrook stated that an acceleration of costs to meet a court order contributed to the increased spending.

Mr. Vitale asked in what department the two temporary employees work. Budget Manager David Whelan stated that the two temporary employees work in Planning and MIS. Mr. Laskey stated that staff has worked very hard to keep the number of temporary employees down. Mr. Foti stated that he is not opposed to temporary employees, but rather "long-term temporary employees." Is there a need for these positions in the long term if a "temporary" employee is signing on for a second year? Mr. Laskey agreed.



## **OPEB Trust Investment**

Mr. Durkin stated that the MWRA Board of Directors appointed five Trustees to administer the OPEB Trust investment. The Trustees have met three times thus far to work out administrative procedures, accepted practices and management guidelines. Having met with the PFM (Public Financial Management) Group of advisors and surveying other authorities, the Trustees chose to invest with the Massachusetts Pension Reserve Investment Trust (PRIT), which is managed by Pension Reserves Investment Management (PRIM).

Board Member John Carroll asked who the Trustees are. Mr. Durkin responded that the Trustees are MWRA Executive Director Fred Laskey, Budget Director Kathy Soni, Finance Director Tom Durkin, Human Resources Manager Karen Gay-Valente and Treasurer Matt Horan.

Board Member Henry Vitale asked how much is in the Pension Fund. Mr. Durkin said the Pension Fund has nearly \$500 million and is 98.6% funded. Mr. Vitale asked what percentage of OPEB is funded. Mr. Durkin said it is currently 0%, before the \$10 million going toward a \$166 million liability. An actuarial study will be done every two years.

## **Update on Valve and Piping Replacement, Various Facilities – Deer Island Treatment Plant: Carlin Contracting Co., Inc., Contract 7275**

Deer Island Treatment Plant Director David Duest, Rick Adams and Director of Wastewater Operations and Maintenance Stephen Cullen updated the Board on Contract 7275, the [Valve and Piping Replacement](#) project.

Mr. Duest noted that this is one of the most difficult projects undertaken since the Boston Harbor Project. The \$17 million project was awarded in May 2014 to Carlin Contracting Co., Inc.

Board Member Joe Foti asked how much the valves cost. Mr. Adams stated that the valves cost \$38,000 each.

Mr. Carroll asked what happens if there is trouble replacing the valve in seven hours. Mr. Cullen responded that staff has done a hydraulic analysis and came out with a trend based on maximum flow. Staff would have eight hours, plus a two-hour window, before there is a sanitary sewer overflow (SSO). As long as trends flow, we will be fine; we have ten hours before there is an issue and then staff would switch to a contingency plan to use Union Park but there would be some overflows beginning in Boston. Mr. Adams noted that the Authority has backup plans on everything to try to cover all of the bases. MWRA Chief Operating Officer Michael Hornbrook noted that it is still high risk. Mr. Duest added that most of the work has been done in a five to six hour window.

Mr. Walsh stated that he thought one of the replacements took eight hours. Mr. Adams stated that the first valve replacement took 7.5 hours, the first being the most difficult and providing the “learning curve;” however, the last couple of replacements took closer to five hours. Mr. Duest noted that after every shutdown, there are discussions on what we did wrong or right and how to resolve any issues.

Board Member Kevin Cotter asked how many MWRA staff are involved in this process. Mr. Duest stated that Deer Island has additional operational staff in place and maintenance staff, as well, in case of an equipment failure. It would involve ten employees at Deer Island. Mr. Cullen noted that at first, the Authority had two people at 17 sites monitoring the system for the first couple of valve replacements. In all, about 50 people were involved but staff is now relying on meters and the facility.

MWRA Advisory Board Executive Director Joseph Favaloro noted that he has asked MWRA staff to come to the full Advisory Board meeting. The Authority has done an incredible job on keeping communities in the loop. The Advisory Board staff doesn't think the communities have a full appreciation of what is involved because there has been no impact to the communities. That is a compliment to the Authority and its staff. The Advisory Board wants communities to see what went into making these projects go so smoothly.

Mr. Vitale asked what the life expectancy of the valves is. Mr. Adams stated that the life expectancy of the valves is 20 years. Mr. Duest said the valves have to be reliable; it is a safety concern.

### **Emergency Response Drill – Wachusett Reservoir**

Director of Waterworks David Coppes, along with Director of Emergency Planning and Preparedness Andrew Hildick-Smith and Reservoir Operations Program Manager John Gregoire, made a presentation on the [Emergency Response Drill](#) at the Wachusett Reservoir.

Mr. Laskey noted the presence of DCR Regional Director John Scannell and Environmental Quality Section head at DCR Office of Watershed Management Patricia Austin. He stated that the MWRA has a good partnership with DCR.

The shared drill went well. All of the parties now have a unified repository of information.

### **Remediation of Direct Discharges at Wachusett Reservoir**

Mr. Coppes gave a presentation on the [Remediation of Direct Discharges at the Wachusett Reservoir](#). The focus has been to prevent discharges in the Wachusett.

DCR Regional Director John Scannell noted that runoff has been redirected away from the reservoir. To date, \$8 million, funded by the Massachusetts DOT, has been spent on stormwater improvements to eliminate these discharges.

### **Update on Lead and Copper Rule Compliance – Fall 2015**

Mr. Coppes stated that the results of lead sampling for the twentieth consecutive round in a row have yielded good news for the MWRA; however, the cities of Malden and Melrose have to make an educational outreach and will have to do more sampling.

He reported that NBC News is gathering information on lead and drinking water. Flint, Michigan changed the source of its water supply to save money, which resulted in a lead increase. The American Civil Liberties Union, along with the National Resources Defense Council (a national non-profit that advocates on environmental issues), is suing the City of Flint and the State of Michigan for that decision.

Mr. Coppes noted that the MWRA does not have lead service lines in its system and copper levels are low.