



Summary of:

MWRA Board of Directors' Meeting

August 13, 1997

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A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority was held on August 13, 1997 at the Authority Headquarters in Charlestown. **Present:** Chair Trudy Coxe, Gubernatorial Representative; Norman Jacques and John Carroll, Advisory Board Representatives; Joseph MacRitchie, City of Quincy Representative; Robert Spinney, City of Boston Representative; Marie Turner, Town of Winthrop Representative; Sam Mygatt, Gubernatorial Representative. **Absent:** Andrew Pappastergion, Advisory Board Representative, Don Mitchell, Gubernatorial Representative; Vincent Mannering and Lorraine Downey, City of Boston Representatives.

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AGENDA

Report of the Chair

No report.

Report of the Executive Director

Mr. MacDonald spoke of the preparations underway for the events to be held on Deer Island, Friday, August 15, 1997 to mark the beginning of secondary treatment.

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APPROVALS

PCR Amendments

The Board unanimously voted to approve the amendment to the Position Control Register as listed in the staff summary and filed with the records of the meeting.

Under the Massachusetts General Law, the Thermal Power Plant requires a licensed First Class Engineer to have responsibility for the facility. The Sewerage Division requested approval to create a regular full time position to perform these functions and will eliminate a vacant position in order to do so.

Letter of Credit: Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York

The Board voted unanimously to authorize the Executive Director to extend the MWRA's \$350 million irrevocable direct-pay Letter of Credit with Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York from January 20, 1998 to January 19, 1999 at a cost of \$538,000.

Credit enhancement for MWRA's Tax-Exempt Commercial Paper Program is provided by a \$350 million irrevocable direct-pay Letter of Credit provided by Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York. This will expire January 20, 1998. Mr. Wissman explained that having a Letter of Credit from a premier American bank has helped make the Authority's commercial Paper Program so successful.

Authorization to Issue Refunding Bonds

The Board voted to adopt the nineteenth Supplemental Resolution authorizing the issuance of up to \$300 million of Massachusetts Water Resources Authority General Revenue Refunding Bonds, 1997 Series D and the supporting issuance resolution, provided that the total amount of refunding savings shall be not less than \$10 million in gross cash amount and that the net present value of the refunding savings shall not be less than 4.5% of the aggregate principal amount of the bonds refunded thereby.

Ken Wissman, Treasurer, explained that there may be a window of opportunity during the next few months for the Authority to retire the old borrowings and issue new bonds at a lower rate. They need two things in order to be ready to do a refunding: the official statement must be brought up to date and they need authorization from the Board of Directors. If interest rates improve over the next several months, staff would like to be prepared.

Extension of Date for MARAD and Massachusetts Heavy Industries Closing

The Board voted unanimously to authorize the Executive Director to amend Sections 41, 4b and 4d of the Escrow Agreement with Massachusetts Heavy Industries and Fleet Bank in order to allow the closing date with MARAD to occur at any time until September 30, 1997, in order to accommodate Massachusetts Heavy Industries and MARAD final negotiations prior to their closing on the yard renovations.

Maggie Debbie, Director of Real Property, reported that all parties are working diligently to get the final details done. They believe the approvals will occur during the first part of September.

Boston Harbor Project Change Order Management Report No. 45: Additional Delegated Authority for Change Orders to Contract Nos. 5722, 5492 and 5745

The Board voted unanimously to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve change orders as may be needed to the following contracts up to the following amounts:

5722 North main Pump Station J.F.White/PKF-Mark, III \$300,000.

5492 Sec. Clarifier Batteries A&B J.F.White/PKF-Mark, III \$400,000.

5745 On-Site Thermal/Power Plant J.F.White/PKF-Mark, III \$400,000. +

180 Cal. Days

Proposed Amendments to MWRA Sewer use Regulations to Provide for a Group Permit for Food Processing Facilities and other changes

The Board voted unanimously to authorize staff to publish notice of proposed amendments to MWRA Sewer Use Regulations, 360 C.M.R. §§ 2.00 and 10.00, as presented and filed with the records of the meeting, in the Boston Globe and Massachusetts Register for public notice and comment.

The Authority would like to create a group permit for companies that process food rather than through individual sewer use discharge permits. This will streamline the permitting process for facilities that process food. These facilities have generally had a minimal impact on MWRA's effluent and sludge quality, however, some food service industries have the potential to discharge fats, oils and greases that may cause or contribute to sewer blockages in municipal and MWRA interceptors. The Group Permit will be issued to address these companies' potential impacts, while freeing up staff resources needed to address higher priority dischargers (cooling towers, dental facilities, vehicle maintenance and repair facilities, etc.).

Framingham Extension Relief Sewer: Acquisition of Property Rights from MBTA

The Board voted unanimously to authorize the acquisition of the following real property rights at the West Natick Train Station parking lot from the Massachusetts Bay Authority (MBTA) in connection with constructing the new force main for the Framingham Extension Relief Sewer: (1) Permanent Easement (1,499 s.f.) For \$14,700.00; and (2) Five-Year Temporary Construction Easement (15,874 s.f.) for \$47,700.

As part of the Framingham Extension Relief Sewer Project, a new force main is being constructed to provide sufficient capacity to meet peak flows and reduce overflows. Permanent and temporary construction easements are needed at the West Natick MBTA Station for construction of the main through a portion of the property.

Submission of Notice of Project Change for CSO Facility Upgrades

The Board voted (Ms. Coxe abstained) to authorize staff to submit the Notice of Project Change for CSO Facility Upgrades to the MEPA Unit of EOEPA, in accordance with state regulations.

In four of the five CSO facility upgrades, installation of dechlorination capability will be more difficult than originally anticipated. It was originally anticipated that a feed system could be configured within the existing pipes or facilities with little off-site impacts, but that is not possible. Program adjustments must be made and this Notice of Project Change informs MEPA of these issues.

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CONTRACT AWARDS

TRAC Information System Upgrade: Black & Veatch

The Board voted to authorize the Executive Director to execute a fixed priced, sole source contract with Black & Veatch for the rewrite and upgrade of the TRAC Information System in an amount not to exceed \$450,000 with a contract term of 24 months.

The TRAC information system requires a major upgrade to comply with the year 2000 date requirements, changing business needs and technology upgrades.

Hauling and Disposal of Minor Residuals: Browning-Ferris Industries, Inc.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the award of a contract for the Hauling and Disposal of Sewage Treatment

Minor Residuals to the lowest responsive bidder, Browning-Ferris Industries, Inc., and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute and deliver said contract in the bid amount of \$1,781,988. for a contract period of 730 calendar days from August 1, 1997 to July 31, 1999.

Sewage Treatment Minor Residuals are by-projects of wastewater pre-treatment and primary treatment processes. These minor residuals include grit, screenings and treated scum screenings. This contractor will provide proper containers and haul material for disposal at a landfill.

Mill Cove Emergency Relief Siphon: Contract 6368

The Board voted unanimously to approve the award of contract no 6368, Emergency Mill Cove Relief Siphon, to the lowest responsive bidder, and to authorize the Executive Director to execute, under delegated authority, said contract for an amount not to exceed \$2,950,000 for a contract period of 380 calendar days.

Due to the emergency nature of this project, the FY98 State Budget included language directing the Authority to construct the relief siphon by January 10, 1998. Six general contractors from the local area, familiar with local labor practices, environmental protection laws, customs of local governments, and successful completion of previous projects with the Authority, were invited to submit bids. The general contractors were instructed to use one of six horizontal directional drilling firms which had demonstrated the capability, experience and successful past performance on large diameter drilling projects similar to the Mill Cove relief siphon. The siphon will be 48" diameter and 1500 feet long.

Bids were opened the day before this meeting and, since staff did not have time to evaluate each bid, the Board authorized the Executive Director to award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, not to exceed \$2,950,000.

Deer Island Air Permit Compliance Program: ENSR

The Board voted unanimously to approve the recommendation of the Consultant Selection Panel to select ENSR to provide consulting services to the Authority for technical support for continuation of the odor and combustion emissions compliance testing program, training on the trailer-mounted Continuous Emissions Monitoring System, review of odor and combustion permit conditions, air permits negotiation assistance, and permit management and planning, and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute a contract with ENSR in an amount not to exceed \$239,151. from the date of the NTP through July 31, 2000.

Ancillary Design Modifications - Phase III: R. Zoppo Corp./Interstate Engineering Corp., Joint Venture, Contract 6180

Ancillary Design Modifications - Phase III is a group of separate construction packages that are design enhancements to the Boston Harbor Project resulting from the design review process.

Board members were very discouraged to see only two qualified bids for a contract of this magnitude. The bids received ranged from \$25 to \$44 million. Norman Jacques questioned the need for each project on the list suggesting that some issues could be addressed at a later date. Walter Armstrong responded: "This is not a desirable job. It is in multiple locations all over Deer Island. The bid climate is still going to be influenced by the Central Artery. Inflation is being tracked at 5% a year. We need all of these projects and need to do these jobs now while we still have the transportation system in place." After a lengthy discussion, staff asked for the opportunity to present this contract again in more detail.

Rehabilitation of Commonwealth Avenue Pumping Station: Methuen Construction Company, Contract 6132

The Board voted unanimously to approve the award of Contract No. 6132, Rehabilitation of Commonwealth Avenue Pumping Station, to the lowest responsive bidder, Methuen Construction Company, Inc., and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute and deliver said contract in the bid amount of \$5,593,941. For a period of 840 days.

The Commonwealth Avenue Pumping Station is a 53-year old facility serving Newton. The station's three electric pumps and motors are undersized and nearing the end of their useful lives. The facility is also susceptible to power failure which can result in interruptions of service. Modernization of the pump station will provide the City of Newton with reliable water service delivery. The major elements of this project include improvements within the existing station and construction of an adjacent building to increase pumping capacity and reliability.

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CONTRACT AMENDMENTS/CHANGE ORDERS

Wachusett Interim Corrosion Control Facility: CH2M Hill Eastern, Inc., Contract 5068, Amendment 4

The Board voted unanimously to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Amendment No. 4 to extend the time for completion of Contract No. 5068, Wachusett Interim Corrosion Control Facility, with CH2M-Hill Eastern, Inc. by 18 months to December 30, 1998.

The contract term extension is needed to carry out additional lead and copper sampling programs and continue providing assistance to MWRA's partial user communities in dealing with the proposed water quality changes.

Ancillary Deer Island Design Services and ESDC: Severdrup Corporation, Contract 5570, Amend. 3

The Board voted unanimously to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Amendment No. 3 to increase the contract price on Contract No. 5570, Ancillary Design Services, and ESDC, with Sverdrup Corp., in the amount of \$373,329.

Secondary Treatment Facilities - Phases I & II Design and ESC: Malcolm Pirnie, Inc., Contract 5701, Amendment 8

The Board voted unanimously to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Amendment No. 8 to increase the contract price on Contract No. 5701, Secondary Treatment Facilities Phases I and II, with Malcolm Pirnie, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$2,275,000.

Residuals Facilities Phases I and II, Design and ESC: Camp Dresser & McKee, Inc., Contract 5758, Amendment 4

The Board voted unanimously to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Amendment No. 4 to increase the contract price on Contract No. 5758, Residuals Facilities Phases I and II, Design and ESDC, with Camp Dresser & McKee, in an amount not to exceed \$1,233,380. And to extend the time for completion to March 31, 1999.

As a result of delays in completing construction and testing, additional field coordination efforts by the PDE will be required to support the contractor through project completion, including functional and performance testing. PDE support services during the one-year warranty period, which were not previously budgeted, are also provided for in this amendment.

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OTHER BUSINESS

The Board received a letter from the MWRA Labor Coalition requesting a 30-minute meeting to present a statement of common goals. Members agreed that a meeting would be beneficial to all.

In addition, the Board received a progress report on the Outfall tunnel and a brief report from Dr. Bela Matyas, MD, PHD, head of Epidemiology for the State of Massachusetts, who commented on the Task 8 Committee report. Dr.

Matyas said that in general, the MWRA has a very good water supply, but there are a couple of things that are happening that make that water supply somewhat tenuous. "There is a lot of discussion about pathogens in the water supply and of the optimum solution. The Task 8 group felt that at the current time that we are doing well, so the phase-in approach seems to make a lot of sense. It is practical and it will address public health issues and lead." He felt that the Task 8 recognition of the need for an immediate increase in chlorination as a temporary approach was appropriate. "The MWRA is doing a lot of testing. It is through that process that we have learned a lot."

Trudy Coxe thanked Dr. Matyas for his comments and said that the quality of oversight for the Task 8 Committee was superb.

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This summary does not include every item discussed by the Board nor the full extent of the discussions. Please contact Patty Cross at the Advisory Board Office with questions, comments and requests for additional information.