

**Bangor Water District
Board of Trustees**

**Minutes of the
Regular Monthly Meeting
June 24, 2014**

The regular meeting of the Bangor Water District Board of Trustees was held at 3:45 p.m. in the Hughes Building, 614 State Street. Present were:

Rick Fournier
John Lawler
Stan Miller
Gerry Palmer
Robert Sypitkowski
Dan Wellington

being more than a quorum of Trustees. Absent: Trustee Hamilton. Also in attendance: General Manager Moriarty, District Engineer Pershken, Finance Manager Bailey, Office Manager Marchegiani, and Mike Howie, BWD's forestry consultant. In the absence of the chair, Vice-Chair Sypitkowski chaired the meeting. The clerk kept the minutes.

Minutes: The minutes of the June meeting were accepted as presented.

Treasurer's Report: As part of an on-going series of budget report discussions, Bailey explained "customer advances," which are monies set aside to rebate to developers who pay for new main extension. The refunds – issued during a maximum 10 year-period – are rebated as new meters are installed on the extensions. In discussing the current financial reports, Bailey noted that more wages are being allocated to capital projects as the construction season progresses. After several questions, the Treasurer's Report was accepted as presented.

Progress Report: as presented.

Public Comment Period: None.

Old Business:

Engineer's Report: Pershken reported that

- Broad Street project – service connections have been made to majority of buildings with a few left to go. Project is replacing water pipe and valves that are 100 +/- years old.
- Main Street project – ahead of schedule with approximately 3,000 feet of pipe installed. Pipe is being wrapped in plastic as extra precaution against corrosive soils.
- Union Street project – laterals completed across Union Street, and now working at either end of bridge.
- Roofs at Hermon pump station and Hermon control valve site have been replaced with metal roofs.

AWWA conference: Moriarty reported on several conference highlights, including a tour of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority treatment facility which is almost identical to Bangor's but on a much larger scale.

New Business:

2014 harvest: Page said the harvest in early August would focus on a 51-acre plot previously harvested in 2000. After expenses, BWD hopes to net \$19,000 on the project. The anticipated harvest of 1400 tons is below the minimum sustainable level of 1600 tons.

Lead monitoring: Page reported that BWD had passed the most recent monitoring round of lead testing, indicating the possible success of the corrosion-control pilot project. As a result, the next round of sampling will take place in mid-2015 at a reduced number of locations. She reminded the Board that no lead is present in the District's system or water, but that it can leach from customers' plumbing and fixtures.

Customer billing and payment options: Moriarty said paperless billing and payment through the District's software provider partner would be available to interested customers by the end of July. She noted the options would not come without some cost, but were clearly the standard for today's customer service.

Electric year planning: Moriarty said the District's electrical costs last year totaled \$175,078, which reflects a 43 percent reduction since 2008. The reductions have been achieved through a variety of means, including participation in cost-saving programs, internal efficiencies, and supply contracts with favorable rates. She noted that the contract for the treatment plant runs out at the end of December, and rates are projected to be substantially higher going forward. Moriarty said BWD typically works with Maine Power Options, which usually provides a brief window for a decision. After discussion, it was upon motion being made and duly seconded, unanimously

VOTED: to authorize Moriarty to negotiate and sign the electrical supply contract for Floods Pond.

MPUC Consumer Assistance Division Report: Moriarty summarized information provided to the MPUC about utility collections and complaints. Of the five complaints filed in 2014, all were related to high water use. In 2014, BWD issued 45,000 bills for water sales.

Write-offs for bad customer debt: Moriarty said \$1,110 had been written off between January – June 2014 as uncollectible. Abatements for the same period under the Board's new policy totaled \$1,400. In 2014, BWD billed \$5.6 million in water sales.

Main break at 614 State Street: Moriarty updated the Board on clean-up activities following the 20-inch main break that flooded the meter room. The 20-inch line is a replacement priority for next year.

Board correspondence: as presented.

Other business: none.

Hearing no further business to come before the meeting, it was upon motion being made and duly seconded, unanimously
VOTED: to adjourn at 5:07 p.m.

Dan Wellington, clerk

Rick Fournier

John Lawler

Stan Miller

Gerry Palmer

Robert Sypitkowski