

**MFN Regional Wastewater Meeting  
August 4, 2020**

**MEETING MINUTES  
(VIRTUAL MEETING – GOTOWEBINAR)**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mansfield: Michael Trowbridge, MFN Secretary  
Mansfield: Jess Aptowitz  
Mansfield: Matthew Teixeira  
Norton: Mike Yunits, MFN Chairman  
Foxboro: Chris Gallagher, MFN Vice Chairman  
Foxboro: Richard Pacella

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Lee Azinheira

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Norton: Diane McElligott

GUESTS PRESENT: Chris Rositer, MFN  
John Stanbrook, MFN Treasurer  
Renee Gauthier, Secretary

- 1) Reorganization of MFN Commissioners by Executive Director  
Discussion:

**Motion:** Nominate Mike Yunits as Chairman for FY'21.  
(Trowbridge/Aptowitz); all in favor; unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Yunits – No  
Trowbridge - Yes  
Aptowitz – Yes  
Teixeira – Yes  
Gallagher – Yes  
Pacella – Yes

**Motion:** Nominate Chris Gallagher as Vice Chairman for FY'21.  
(Trowbridge/Aptowitz); all in favor; unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Yunits – Yes  
Trowbridge - Yes  
Aptowitz – Yes  
Teixeira – Yes  
Gallagher – Yes  
Pacella – Yes

**Motion:** Nominate Michael Trowbridge as Secretary for FY'21.  
(Aptowitz/Pacella); all in favor; unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Yunits – Yes  
Trowbridge - Yes  
Aptowitz – Yes  
Teixeira – Yes  
Gallagher – Yes  
Pacella – Yes

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes (6-2-20)

Discussion:

**Motion:** To approve Meeting Minutes of 6-2-20.  
(Trowbridge/Aptowitz); all in favor; unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Yunits – Yes  
Trowbridge - Yes  
Aptowitz – Yes  
Teixeira – Yes  
Gallagher – Yes  
Pacella – Yes

3) Update of Construction Projects

a) Projects Closed Out

Discussion: Lee reported all paperwork has been completed by CDM and are closing out with Norton with conservation commission. He said even with additions to project, still almost \$2.6 million below approved borrowing. Lee will speak to DEP to adjust borrowing amount.

4) Approval of Bills

Discussion:

Warrant 21-02:

**Motion:** To approve Capital Warrant 21-02 in the amount of \$34,096.85 and to authorize the Executive Director to be the only signature required for the warrant. (Trowbridge/Aptowitz); all in favor; unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Yunits – Yes  
Trowbridge - Yes  
Aptowitz – Yes  
Teixeira – Yes  
Gallagher – Yes  
Pacella – Yes

Discussion - Warrant 20-29:

**Motion:** To approve Expense Warrant 20-29 in the amount of \$35,214.85 and to authorize the Executive Director to be the only signature required for the warrant. (Trowbridge/Aptowitz); all in favor; unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Yunits – Yes  
Trowbridge - Yes  
Aptowitz – Yes  
Teixeira – Yes  
Gallagher – Yes  
Pacella - Yes

Discussion - Warrant 21-03:

**Motion:** To approve Expense Warrant 21-03 in the amount of \$65,604.54 and to authorize the Executive Director to be the only signature required for the warrant. (Trowbridge/Aptowitz); all in favor; unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Yunits – Yes  
Trowbridge - Yes  
Aptowitz – Yes  
Teixeira – Yes  
Gallagher – Yes  
Pacella - Yes

- 5) Community Updates
  - a) Mansfield

Lee said Easton is in process of running the sewer pump station at the five (5) corners location. Mike Yunits inquired when it will start; Lee said they have already had a soft start.

b) Foxborough  
Nothing new.

c) Norton  
Mike Yunits said the ongoing sewer project has crossed the highway and they are almost to Leonard Street. He stated that \$1.4 million has been appropriated at the Norton Town Meeting for the West Main Street sewer and they have received approval for the blasting permit, which will begin soon.

6) Approval of Annual Landfill Post Closure Monitoring Contract

Discussion: Lee explained that this is a new requirement from DEP and MFN is also required to report groundwater information twice per year and gas monitoring quarterly. The contract for \$28,760 is for the all the monitoring for the year and includes the final report that is required to be submitted at end of year.

**Motion:** To Annual Landfill Post Closure Monitoring Contract in the amount of \$28,760.00.  
(Gallagher/Pacella); all in favor; unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Yunits – Yes  
Trowbridge - Yes  
Aptowitz – Yes  
Teixeira – Yes  
Gallagher – Yes  
Pacella - Yes

7) Plant Operations Update – Chris Rositer

Discussion: Chris stated that there were no real issues to report at the plant, that it was still running great. He stated that the vibration issues have been brought to an acceptable level. A mechanical seal failure occurred but the plant maintenance staff made threading adjustments and they are rock solid now, no vibration, which will save on the bearing and seal wear.

8) Rail Trail Right-of-Way

Discussion: Mike Yunits discussed the meeting that he and Lee attended with Mansfield Town Counsel regarding the Rail Trail right of way. He stated that funding is scheduled to be on the TIP 2022. Mike said that apparently there is an issue with the way the land takings were done and both counsels agree that confirmatory taking needs to be done along the

easement, involving title search of properties and may involve paying some people along the way. Mansfield counsel is taking responsibility of the research in Mansfield and Norton counsel with do the same for Norton. Jess Aptowitz inquired about the cost of doing this and asked what would happen if we did nothing. Lee stated that the Rails to Trails project would die. Mike stated that both Norton and Mansfield have an interest in getting this done and taken care of once and for all. Jess inquired how things would be handled if one of the property owners wanted an unreasonable amount of money for an easement. Mike Yunits said that there is already a sewer line through the easements, therefor the appraisal would most like not be too high. Lee recommended presentation be done for the Commission after title searches are done. Mike Trowbridge inquired if the land could be taken by adverse taking; Lee said they had been advised to do the takings by confirmatory taking, although he was not sure why. Mike Yunits said they will get more information and Lee will get a copy of maps at time MFN took over for review.

**9) Executive Director's Report**

Lee discussed the running of the plant by Town of Mansfield employees. He said according to Appendix I of the agreement, which deals with operations, sec 2.1 & 2.2, a review would be done within three (3) years of substantial completion, which occurred in September 2018. He stated he believes a decision needs to be made about if the plant will continue to be run as it has by the Mansfield employees sooner rather than later. He also said that Mansfield needs to be notified prior to completion of the three (3) year period by December 3rd, which could be interpreted as this year. Lee stated that feels the staff has been doing good job, but the Commission needs to review and vote on how they wish to proceed. Mike Yunits suggested putting on the next agenda and requesting and member get any concerns or ideas to Lee.

**10) Any Items Not Anticipated 48 Hours Prior To This Meeting**

**11) Future Agenda Items –**

**12) Next Meeting – September 1, 2020, 6PM.**

**Motion:** To adjourn at 6:35PM.  
(Trowbridge/Aptowitz); all in favor; unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Yunits – Yes  
Trowbridge - Yes  
Aptowitz – Yes  
Teixeira – Yes  
Gallagher – Yes  
Pacella - Yes

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Trowbridge

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of District Secretary

9/8/20  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Acceptance