

**MFN Regional Wastewater Meeting  
February 1, 2022**

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

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

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:       Lee Azinheira

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

GUESTS PRESENT:           Chris Rositer, MFN  
  Joe Cove, MFN Counsel  
  Josh Reinke, Interim DPW Director  
  Matt Violette, MFN Treasurer  
  Renee Gauthier, Secretary

1) Approval of Meeting Minutes (1-11-22)  
Discussion:

**Motion:** To approve Meeting Minutes of 1-11-22.  
(Aptowitz/Gallagher); 6 in favor; Pacella abstained.

Roll Call Vote:  
Yunits – Yes  
McElligott - Yes  
Trowbridge – Yes  
Aptowitz – Yes  
Teixeira – Yes  
Gallagher – Yes  
Pacella – Abstained

## 2) Approval of Bills

Discussion - Warrant 22-14:

**Motion:** To approve Expense Warrant 22-14 in the amount of \$68,317.46 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

McElligott - Yes

Trowbridge – Yes

Aptowitz – Yes

Teixeira – Yes

Gallagher – Yes

Pacella – Yes

## 3) Community Updates

### a) Mansfield

Lee said contractor has finished lining the sewer section of County Street and will forward the bills to Foxboro for payment.

### b) Foxborough

Nothing new.

### c) Norton

Nothing new.

## 4) FY2023 Budget for Approval

Discussion: Lee said the insurance company has not released the FY2023 numbers as of yet, so the numbers are the same as the budget sent out a month ago. Matt Violette has the letters to the three (3) towns bonding letters ready to mail out once the budget is approved as they need to be sent by February 1<sup>st</sup>. Diane inquired if there was any particular project planned for amount in the Engineering/Architecture line item. Lee explained that after March 1<sup>st</sup>, he will be paid out of that line item, no longer through Town of Mansfield. Diane also inquired about the increase to the training budget, Lee stated that the increase was due to additional training for OSHA requirements. Joe Cove suggested reading the full motion into the meeting record, for bond counsel clarification.

### **FY2023 MFN Budget Approval**

**Motion:** “I move that the sum of One Hundred Fifty-Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$157,500.00) be hereby appropriated from MFN Wastewater District Retained Earnings, Two Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$200,000.00) be hereby appropriated from MFN Wastewater District Septage and Earnings on Investments Revenues and Five Million Nine Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand Two Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars (\$5,974,262.00) be hereby appropriated from assessments to MFN Wastewater District member Towns according to the percentages as set forth in the attached document entitled “**MFN WASTEWATER DISTRICT FY23 BUDGET SYNOPSIS**”, for a total to be appropriated of Six Million Three Hundred Thirty-One Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty-Two Dollars (\$6,331,762.00), to defray the expenses of the MFN Wastewater District for the ensuing 12-month period beginning July 1, 2022.” (Trowbridge/Aptowitz); all in favor; unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Yunits – Yes

McElligott - Yes

Trowbridge – Yes

Aptowitz – Yes

Teixeira – Yes

Gallagher – Yes

Pacella – Yes

5) Trail/MFN Parcels in Norton

**Discussion:** Lee gave an update on the trail parcels. Lee had a conversation with the appraisers regarding the difference between fee simple takings and easements and went on to explain that the fee simple taking cost 20 percent more. He stated that MassDOT only requires easements. Joe Cove said he and Lee discussed the options and he doesn't think it is necessary to do the takings fee simple. He went on to explain that most State Department of Transportations do not use fee simple takings, that for sewer utilities and public way projects use easements. Lee stated that beginning in March he would have more available time to dedicate to this project as he will be retired from the Town of Mansfield at that point. Joe Cove said he conferred with some colleagues who have been dealing with a large number of easements and they suggested having a central person to handle the communications with all parties to coordinate the process, to act like a business manager. Joe did say that he was aware an engineering firm in Boston that might handle this sort of thing, but that Lee has knowledge and time; he would be able to coordinate. Lee said that Mike Yunits has an attorney who has been providing assistance for Norton, so he could work with him to try to keep the project moving as expeditiously as possible.

6) Executive Director's Report

Chris Rositer gave an update on the progress of the plant's groundwater discharge permit submittal, he said it should be ready for submission this week. He also stated that for years

they were required to submit NPDES permits, but as of now, it seems they will be allowed to do submit a general permit through the EPA.

7) Any Items Not Anticipated 48 Hours Prior To This Meeting

8) Next Meeting – Tuesday, March 1, 2022, 6 PM.

9) **Motion:** To adjourn at 6:15 PM.  
(Trowbridge/Aptowitz); all in favor; unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Yunits – Yes

McElligott - Yes

Trowbridge – Yes

Aptowitz – Yes

Teixeira – Yes

Gallagher – Yes

Pacella – Yes

Respectfully submitted,  
Jess Aptowitz

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

3/1/22

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Date of Acceptance