

Nantucket Water Commission
Minutes of Thursday, August 11, 2022

A meeting of the Nantucket Water Commission was held on Thursday, August 11, 2022, in the conference room at the Wannacomet Water Company facilities at 1 Milestone Road, Nantucket, Massachusetts.

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Allen Reinhard, Curtis Barnes, Rob Benchley, and Nelson Eldridge were present. *Absent:* John Pearl. *Staff & Guests:* Mark Willett – Director, Shelby Campbell – Business Manager and Linda Roberts – Project Coordinator. *Public:* None.

1. **Meeting Called to Order:** Commissioner Reinhard called the meeting to order at 8:02 AM.
2. **Acceptance of Agenda:** Motion made to accept the agenda as presented by Commissioner Eldridge, seconded by Commissioner Benchley, and unanimously accepted.
3. **Public Comment:** None.
4. **Review of Minutes July 14, 2022:** Motion was made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Eldridge to approve the minutes of the July 14 meetings minutes, as presented. The motion was unanimously consent.

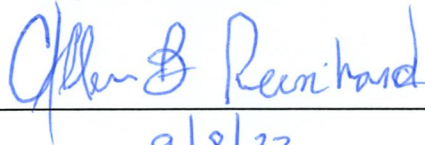
Production, Billing and Rainfall Reports: Director Willett reported that production and billing continues to be up for Siasconset. This July was the highest amount of water pumped in the history of Siasconset. Discussion about rainwater and the drought monitoring well at Russell's Way took place. Director Willett continues to monitor the wells and in touch with other water companies in Massachusetts. Rainfall is higher for the first seven months of 2022 over 2021 and 2020. After discussion, the Motion made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Eldridge, and unanimously voted to have the Director proposed a plan for water protection when drought conditions occur.

Discussion regarding the continued shortage of meters took place. We continue to receive inquiries about deduct meters which we have not had since last August. Director Willett continues to correspond with the owner of 31 Shimmo Pond Road whose letter was reviewed by the Commissioners at last month's meeting.

5. **Director's review and update:**
 - a. **More PFAS updates** – Director Willett provided updates on the PFAS grant processes. He shared concerns with residents west of the Airport who are experiencing health concerns. One of the neighbors abuts the airport and has agreed to give easements to her abutting neighbors. Wannacomet staff will go through Airport screening and take the security class so they may obtain their security badges and go on Airport property to run the four-inch water main across the Airport fence for these properties. When the water comes down Monohansett Road these properties can tie into the water main from the front of their lots. Motion made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by commissioner Eldridge, and unanimously voted to authorize the Airport rate of \$2,500 for these homeowners' connection fees. Holdgate Partners has the emergency excavation contract for Wannacomet Water. Initial estimates are for \$25,000 for this extension. Motion was made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Benchley, and unanimously voted to authorize the funds for the water line extension for these abutters as an emergency dig.

- b. **Solar Project** – Director Willett has completed the paperwork for merging the lots into one. Construction plans are being updated. Town Council is reviewing the solar contract for the board to sign. Nick Shuler from the DEP will do the review in October. Power fluctuations continue to impact the pumps.
 - c. **New Well Project and Water Supply – Fire Rescue** – Director Willett updated the Commissioners on the new well progress. The well drillers will be back in the fall. Draft hydrants from the Harbor will improve firefighting and conserve our water. Discussion about FY 2021 – 2033 Ten Year Capital Plan took place. Future needs include: Distribution System Improvements to water main upgrades and extensions, Lead Service Replacement Program, water towers, recoating storage tanks, new pump station, hydrants, employee housing, survey equipment, storage building for Wyers Valley to get items undercover and retained earnings took place.
 - d. **Water Resources Department** – Town Administration would like to have the Water, Sewer, and Storm Water Departments under one person to manage the three entities. Director Willett has met with Deputy Town Manager Rick Sears who is the second Assistant to the Town Manager. Discussions have included the storm drains and other concerns. The next meeting will include the Town Manager and is scheduled for August 19. Director Willett discussed storm water. The Departments could share the Storm Water Management. A funding source or enterprise account is needed to purchase big vac trucks and other equipment. Regulations or enforcement are not in place for storm water collection and run off.
 - e. **Field Trip to North Pasture** - The Commissioners will meet visit the Sconset station another time.
6. **Execution of Contracts or Amendments if any pending** – None
7. **Commissioner's Comments and Reserved for Unforeseen Items for Discussion not anticipated by the Chair.** Commissioner Benchley informed the Commission that work will be done on Sankaty Light House in September. This will require sandblasting and some water to keep the dust down. The crew will be staying for two months at the Preservation Institutes dormitory building. Director Willett will have a hydrant meter set up for them when they need to.
8. **Adjournment:** As there was no further business to come before the Commission, a motion was made by Commissioner Eldridge, seconded by Commissioner Benchley, and unanimously voted to recess the meeting at 9:38 AM.

Approved: _____



Date: _____

9/8/22

Meeting packet included 8/11/22 Agenda, water production billing and rainfall reports.