

Nantucket Water Commission

Minutes of Thursday, July 11, 2024

A meeting of the Nantucket Water Commission was held on Thursday, July 11, 2024, in the conference room at the Wannacomet Water Company facilities at 1 Milestone Road, Nantucket, Massachusetts.

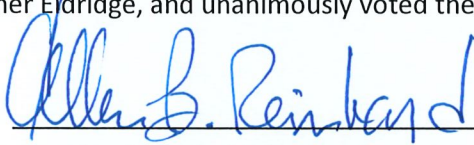
Commissioners Present: Commissioners Allen Reinhard, Robert Benchley, Curtis Barnes, Nelson Eldridge and John Pearl were present. *Commissioners Absent:* None. *Staff & Guests:* Mark Willett – Director, and Linda Roberts Project Coordinator. *Public:* None.

1. **Call Meeting to Order:** Commissioner Reinhard recognized a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 8:00 AM.
2. **Acceptance of Agenda:** Motion made by Commissioner Eldridge, seconded by Commissioner Barnes, and unanimously accepted the agenda as presented.
3. **Public Comment:** None.
4. **Review of Minutes from June 13, 2024.** Postponed until August 8, 2024.
5. **Production, Billing and Rainfall Reports:** Director Willett provided the production, billing, and rainfall reports. The drought condition has been removed since the rainfall is better than last year and with predictions of a long-range weather pattern of rain every two weeks, we should be good for the summer season. Last week the lightning did not hit tanks or pump stations but alarms went off at Washing Pond. Wannacomet and Sconset had the second largest production for June just under last year's production. Billing is going well, and our staff continue to work with those who need time to pay. We are planning on purchasing some of the more expensive Ally water meters which can be controlled from the office to shut offenders who habitually don't pay and park on top of the meters. The DEP continues to test private wells.
6. **Director's Review and Updates:**
 - a. **New Well Project:** The Director provided the Commissioners with a copy of the new well project book that was submitted to Massachusetts DEP (Department of Environmental Protection). It's a very large document which is too large to email. Well #17 is 216 feet in depth and has no detection of any PFAS. Well #20 capacity is great producing 42.5 gallons per minute. Emery and Garrett have never seen a specific capacity safe withdrawal form their resources. There is a clay layer between the deep well and the middle level. There is some recharge detected in the middle level. Discussion about the glacial lake and where they might be located. A drill rig expedition is being planned for the Indian Ocean in 2025 with Dr. Person and others backed by NATO countries including England, France, Germany and America. It's been more than ten years since we have had money and resources to study the two aquifers.
 - b. **Distribution System:** Director Willett provided an overview of the distribution system.
 - c. **Future Capital Projects:** The Director is meeting with the Town Manager and Finance Director to discuss future capital projects. The department will need \$4,200,000 in FY 2026 for starting projects like Arkansas Avenue, Dukes Road, Pine Grove Lane and Ramos Court. Fire hydrants will be bid in the fall. The hydrant work is dependent on proper temperatures for coating hydrants. We will continue to be chasing PFAS.
 - d. **Hydraulic Model:** Town Administration has contracted CDM Smith to continue the ground water study using the water hydraulic module. The consensus of the Commission was that they strongly support this contract.
 - e. **Personnel update:** Director Willett provided the Commissioners with a review of salaries paid for other municipal employees in relation to our Operations Manager and Business

Manager. After discussion and review a motion was made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Eldridge and unanimously voted to increase the annual wages for the Operations Manager to \$135,000 and the Business Manager to \$125,000. Commissioners wished to note the importance of the Director in identifying and recognizing this and have their support. Motion was made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Eldridge and unanimously voted to authorize the 4% Cost of living increases be effective July 11, 2024 as discussed previously. Director Willett will do a personnel review for comparisons of other staff for the Commissioners to review at the next meeting.

7. **Discussion, amendment, and execution of any personnel or vendor contracts:** The Director and Business manager continue to work with the Finance Director on the emergency needs for the replacement generator for Lovers Lane and antenna for Siasconset. E J Prescott had to fly over a crew to assess the problem with the Sconset antenna, check cables and review the meter reading system. Motion was made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Eldridge and unanimously voted to pay E J Prescott the \$18,250.
8. **Commissioner's Comments and Reserved for Unforeseen Items for Discussion not anticipated by the Chair.** Commissioners discussed Wannacomet apparel.
9. **Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Eldridge, and unanimously voted the regular business meeting at 9:46 AM.

Approved: _____



Date: _____



The meeting packet included 7/11/24 Agenda, reports, and information on the Mondo Board.