

**Board of Commissioners
Minutes
October 16, 2017
Public Session
(approved November 20, 2017)**

Present: L. Woods, G. Keller, J. Comer, J. Balcom, Superintendent R. Miner, Business Manager J. Lavoie

Excused: T. Pellegrino

Financial Review - No review due to annual audit

R. Miner noted that the audit was done last week. He noted that no surprises were found during the audit.

Non-Public

A motion was made by T. Pellegrino and seconded by J. Balcom to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3 II(d) "...Acquisition, sale or lease of property", RSA 91-A:3 II(e) "...pending claims or litigation...", and RSA 91-A: II(a) "...dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee...". The motion passed 5-0-0.

After the non-public session

A motion was made by T. Pellegrino to seal the minutes of the non-public session of September 18, 2017. The motion passed 4-0-0.

1. Board of Commissioners to review minutes from the September 18, 2017 Public and Non-Public Sessions.

A motion was made by J. Balcom and seconded by J. Comer to approve the Public and Non-Public minutes from September 18, 2017 as written. The motion passed 3-0-1 with G. Keller abstaining.

2. Board of Commissioners to discuss possible benefits change with Michele Holton and Debbie Clayton from Health Trust.

This item was discussed in Non-Public session.

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3. Board of Commissioners to discuss PFOA Investigation regarding:

- **Feedback regarding the Public Information Meeting on 10/10/17**
- **Treatment of all wells and previous cost estimates**
- **Consideration of a MVD customer survey regarding treatment options**
- **Change of meeting time, location or live streaming meetings**

R. Miner questioned whether a survey is worth pursuing. L. Woods noted that he has no comments on a survey until the survey is formulated and the control of the survey is determined.

J. Balcom noted that there is a misconception among some members of the public that the District is satisfied and that 70 ppt is okay. He noted that the patience shown by members of the public is commendable. He noted that solutions to such problems take time. There is some vocal opposition and that some people want immediate satisfaction. He noted that the District loses public support by not reaching out to the public.

L. Woods noted it will take 3-4 months to formulate a cogent survey by that time it will almost be time for the Annual Meeting. He noted that the best way to take the pulse of the community is at the ballot box. He suggested that a Warrant Article be written that suggests that 1 or 2 wells be treated; let the public know the effect of this on rates and the timeline for this project.

J. Balcom noted there are so many repercussions, since water is so basic. He noted that it is hard to see how a good survey could be created.

R. Miner noted that the Board had discussed changing the time and place of their meeting a year ago. L. Woods asked that the information collected a year ago be refreshed for the next meeting of the Board. L. Christensen noted that the District could ask the town to tape the Board meetings and put the meetings on the cable channel. If the meetings were moved to Town Hall they could be live streamed. There would be no cost for either of these two options.

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Kenneth Ayers of 19 Jakes Lane noted that a lot of people don't know what is going on. They might feel more comfortable if they knew the staff and what is happening behind the scenes. He noted that in the end people want clean safe water. He questioned whether a central filtration system is possible.

L. Woods noted that the District deals with public money and it is incumbent on the District to spend this money wisely. The public needs to be aware of the costs associated with District projects. He noted there has been a lot of discussion regarding emerging contaminants. This is a many faceted problem.

K. Ayers noted that many times members of the public are not aware of meeting times.

4. Board of Commissioners to hear presentation from Lou Niles of Niles International about a possible pilot study with MVD for treatment of PFAS and other contaminants.

L. Niles explained the differences between his process for removing contaminants and the process using Granulated Activated Charcoal (GAC). He noted that his process removes smaller particles. His company is ready to move to a pilot system. The residual material from his process can be reused causing no disposal problem. The pilot system will show when break-through occurs. L. Niles noted that his system could last for years. The total cost of the pilot system is \$94,196. There would be some cost sharing with the District. The bulk of the costs are monitoring and testing.

M. Metcalfe questioned the duration of the pilot. L. Niles notes the pilot would run until break-through. This system could be gravity or atmospheric. L. Niles noted that pressure aids in the removal of contaminants. The flow rate is 10 gallons per minute under 40 psi.

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5. Board of Commissioners to discuss electrical management with Doug Langdon of Axcess Group.

D. Langdon noted that the District's current contract for electricity expires on the meter read in November. The current contract is for \$.0665 per kilowatt hour. D. Langdon suggested that he bring recommendations to R. Miner within the week. The Board concurred and gave the Superintendent the authority to make a decision regarding an electrical contract.

Non-Public Session

A motion was made by J. Balcom and seconded by J. Comer to go into Non-Public session per RSA 91-A:3 II(a) "...dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee..." The motion passed 4-0-0 on a roll call vote.

After the Non-Public session

(G. Keller left during the Non-Public session.)

A motion was made by J. Balcom and seconded by J. Comer to seal the minutes of the October 16, 2017 Non-Public session. The motion passed 3-0-0.

6. Old Business

There was no old business at this time.

7. New Business

There was no new business at this time.

8. Superintendent's Report

PRIMEX - PRIMEX was in this week looming at the District's schedule exposure.

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R. Miner vacation - R. Miner noted he will be on vacation next week, October 23 through October 27.

9. Questions from the Public

Joe Anderson questioned hydrant charges. R. Miner noted these charges are for the maintenance and upkeep of the fire hydrants in town. The hydrant charge is a flat rate of \$16.25 per quarter. There seemed to be a discrepancy in J. Anderson's bill. J. Lavoie noted that she will bring this to the attention of the person who does billing.

J. Anderson noted that the cost of the fire hydrants should be spread fairly throughout the town not just paid for by residences within 600 feet of a hydrant. R. Miner noted that for the most part all customers are within 600 feet of a hydrant.

When J. Anderson noted a possible discrepancy in his bill it was noted that staff would look at this for him.

Steve Miller of 42 Belmont Drive noted that he has no problem with the price and quality of MVD water. He noted that the people at the October 10th meeting seemed ill-informed. He noted that he would like to see a letter to the School Board and the Town informing them of actions being taken by the District. L. Woods noted that the MVD continues to show results below the 70 ppt health advisory. J. Balcom noted there is so much misinformation. He thought it was a good idea to send information to the School Board and Town. S. Miller noted he is totally satisfied with what the Board is doing.

Kenneth Ayers of 19 Jakes Lane, questioned what is happening with the possible temporary filtration system from New York. L. Woods noted that the District is currently negotiating with St. Gobain Performance Plastics (SGPP). The Board has had one face-to-meeting and attorneys for both parties have had 2 or 3 phone conferences. It has taken 12 months to receive a report from SGPP's hydrogeologist. The possibility of temporary treatment has become a less viable option from the District's perspective. J. Balcom noted that wells 4 & 5 will not be on-line until the District is convinced that the water from these wells is safe.

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10. Questions from the Press

There were no questions from the press at this time.

Adjourn

A motion was made by J. Comer and seconded by J. Balcom to adjourn at 6:40 PM.
The motion passed 3-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Rita Pointon, Recording Secretary