

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

MINUTES OF

July 14, 2020

Buzzards Bay Water District 15 Wallace Ave. Buzzards Bay, MA 02532

Meeting held remotely via ZOOM @ 3:00 pm

MINUTES

Present:

Wendy Chapman, Chairperson

Joe Carrara, Commissioner

Judith Flynn, Commissioner

Skip Barlow – Commissioner

Jonathan Hobill - DEP

Jennifer Kelson- Treasurer

Barry Woods- Admin. Support

Steven Souza – Superintendent

Meeting was held remotely via Zoom and recorded by Jennifer Kelson, Treasurer.

Minutes

The meeting was called to order by Wendy Chapman, Chairperson, at 3:00 pm.

Discussion with DEP on PFAS (polyfluorinated compounds) Testing

Jonathan Hobill from DEP held an informational discussion on new PFAS testing and requirements for water departments. Jonathan offered background and history on PFAS and new drinking water regulations. Jonathan has been working with the PFAS issue for over 6 years. He described the issue that Hyannis has experienced when PFAS was discovered in their water. Hyannis had to develop a treatment plan to remove this compound in the water. There are other communities on the Cape that have had positive hits for the PFAS compound.

PFAS compounds are used in many materials such as food packaging, paper wraps, fried food wraps, it is injected in microwave popcorn, and is used in some fire-fighting foam. PFAS has been shown to have detrimental effects to health, especially in children.

DEP is currently offering a free analysis/testing to communities. This year testing is optional. Next year testing for PFAS will be mandatory. Testing requires 4 quarters of analysis. If 2 come back as undetected samples then the last two can be waived. New sources coming online will also be required to have this testing.

Contamination is most often seen in areas that have airports and fire training centers. Hyannis has both sources of contamination. Jonathan stated that he does not foresee it to be an issue for Buzzards Bay, but we may have very low detects. We may even come back totally clean. This is just his gut reaction.

Wendy asked what are the benefits of testing now? Jonathan stated that one of the benefits is that it would be free, and we would be ahead of the curve.

The Board will discuss the free testing and decide at the next meeting whether to go forward with the free testing.

Jonathan asked that a member of the board forward him an email with their decision as soon as possible.

Joe Carrara made a MOTION to adjourn the meeting. Joe seconded that motion. Wendy took a roll call vote.

Joe answered "aye."

Judy answered "aye."

Wendy answered "aye."

It was unanimous.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:29 pm.