

# NEW HAMPSHIRE DRINKING WATER AND GROUNDWATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Minutes of August 30, 2018 Meeting

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The meeting was convened at 10:05am.

Members present included: Sen. President Chuck Morse, Chair; Sen. Dan Feltes; Paul Sanderson; Rep. Chris Christensen; Rep. Suzanne Smith; Andrea Kenter; Bernard Rousseau; Former Senator Richard Russman; David Paris; William Boyd, III; Commissioner Robert Scott; Rodney Bartlett; and Tim Vadney

Acceptance of the minutes from the July meeting were moved by Rep. Christensen and seconded by Sen. Feltes. Motion was adopted unanimously. Rep. Suzanne Smith and Rodney Bartlett abstained.

Acceptance of the minutes from the August 15<sup>th</sup> meeting were moved by William Boyd, seconded by Former Sen. Russman. Motion was adopted unanimously.

Paul Susca from the Department of Environmental Services provided an overview of the water supply land conservation applications. 22 were received by the department, asking for a total of \$3.8 million from the Trust Fund. The review panel to go over the applications will meet on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Sen. Feltes moved that former Senator Russman serve as chair of the review panel, seconded by former Sen. Russman. Motion was adopted unanimously.

Commissioner Scott discussed the change needed in the language regarding securing capacity from Manchester Water Works for the Southern New Hampshire Project. A concern was brought forward by the Department of Justice that the language approved in April was too restrictive. The verbatim motion made by Commissioner Scott reads:

“for the Commission to amend its April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018, vote to approve the disbursement of \$11.2 million for the MSDC, to allow the Department to use these funds either to purchase the MSDC directly or otherwise secure the MSTC and the resultant supply of water for the Southern New Hampshire Water Interconnection Project; and further move that terms of the expenditure, resale of MSTC credits and/or water supply and any recoupment of these funds shall be in a manner negotiated by the Department.”

After discussion, Sen. Feltes seconded the motion. The motion was adopted unanimously.

Erin Holmes from the Department of Environmental Services reviewed the four loan and grant disbursement processes that the Commission could adopt for awards. Details of the four processes were distributed to the Commission.

Discussion turned to revisiting the application process and taking the lessons learned in the first round and using them to refine the process. Sen. Morse proposed setting up a subcommittee to review the process.

Erin Holmes presented to the Commission a worksheet for commission members to fill out and return to the Department their feedback on the process, what worked and what did not work, and to rank their priorities of what the Commission should use as criteria when ranking projects in the future. Sen. Morse encouraged Commission members not to mince their words in what they felt needed to be done better.

Erin Holmes relayed to the Commission that two projects that the Trust Fund had approved funding for had received that same afternoon word they would be the recipient of Rural Development Grants, making funding from the Trust Fund unnecessary. The two projects were both in Plymouth, the Foster St. Generator Replacement Project and the improvements on Bayley Ave and Langdon Park Road.

Sen Feltes moved to remove the two Plymouth projects in question, seconded by Rep. Christensen. Motion was adopted unanimously.

Rep. Christensen moved to approve the remaining list of projects recommended by the subcommittee, seconded by Sen. Feltes. Motion was adopted unanimously.

In place of those projects, the Department recommended funding the Plymouth Holderness Well Supply project, also in Plymouth. The grant request for the project is for \$1.65 million with a contribution of \$1.65 million for a total of \$3.3 million. Rep. Smith provided some details of the project; there is a particular concern for the existing well because it is within 200ft of I-93, causing salination issues. Discussion ensued to the merits of the \$1.65 million grant; the Commission learned Plymouth has been committing a lot of resources towards drinking and sewer water systems.

Sen. Russman made the motion to include the Plymouth Holderness Well Supply project on the funding sheet, seconded by Sen. Feltes. Motion was adopted unanimously.

Andrea Kenter asked what should be done with emerging contamination projects that are time sensitive. Sen. Morse asked they be sent to Josh Elliott in his office.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.

JWE