

New Hampshire Drinking Water. Groundwater
& Groundwater Trust Fund Advisory Commission

March 9, 2020
Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

Sen. Chuck Morse	Andrea Kenter	William Boyd, III
Sen. Tom Sherman	Rep. Deborah Hobson	Bernard Rousseau
Rep. Kevin Maes	Rodney Bartlett	Robert Scott
Marco Phillipon	Christopher Way	Fmr Sen. Richard Russman

Also Present: Allen Brooks, Esq.
Assistant Attorney General
Department of Justice

(The meeting convened at 9:01 a.m.)

Opening Remarks:

Chairman Morse: Southern New Hampshire Project is moving right along. We are hoping to turn the water on June 15th. Also, PFOAs legislation got a green light from the Finance committee.

Update: Development of the 2020 Award Plan & Revisions to the Commission Rule Sets Subcommittee, Rodney Bartlett, Chair

**Move to accept minutes from Tuesday, January 21, 2020 by William Boyd, III.
Bernard Rousseau second.
Unanimous consent. Motion Adopted.**

**Move to accept minutes from February 25, 2020 by William Boyd, III.
Marco Phillipon second.
Motion adopted.
Unanimous consent. Motion adopted.**

Erin Holmes, P.E. DWGTF Administrator, DES

Changes to the Commission rules to source water protection grants by Paul Susca.
Paul Susca, DES

- Change #1 – Proposal is to amend that if there is contamination on the site, it should be cleaned up. Clean-up of contamination is not eligible to be a part of the project.
- Change #2 – Re: Easements held by a 3rd party, change to “If an easement is held by a State Agency, there wouldn’t be a need for an additional third-party right of enforcement.”
- Change #3 – Under Match requirements, strike out paragraph two, simply that all projects would require a 50% match.
- Change #4 – Evaluation Criteria – if a land conservation plan that identifies land as being important for water quality protection.
- Change 5 - #11 language being added to explain what is meant by project readiness

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Change 6 – #12 & #13 these are new criteria to be considered.

Change 7 – Documented land development pressure in the area of the project.

Discussion continued.

Senator Sherman moved to accept changes.

William Boyd second.

Unanimous Consent. Motion Adopted.

E. Holmes, DES:

Proposed 2020 application submittal deadlines. These are the same timelines as 2019.

Bernard Rousseau motioned to adopt new dates.

Fmr. Sen. Russman second.

Unanimous consent. Motion Adopted.

E. Homes, DES:

Proposed 2020 Allocation Budget Summary. This was presented to Chairman Morse for review and approval. Takes 20% of the corpus that was presented in February with a few edits. This amount accounts for projects that were already obligated.

Discussion continued.

Commissioner Scott pointed out that the Trust Fund's desire is to have as much loan as possible.

William Boyd motions to approve budget allocation.

Marco Phillipon seconded.

Unanimous consent. Motion adopted.

E. Holmes, DES – 2020 Award Plan

2020 Award Plan – Flow Chart

Discussion Continued.

Chair Morse: There were flaws in the application process when the local community hasn't taken a vote to support the project. The engineering firm quite often applies and indicates they will get back in touch if the project is "awarded." The Commission would like that to stop.

Erin Holmes: The purpose of these eligibility criteria is to just increase the quality of the application.

The first requirement is the submittal of an Authority to Submit form.

The second requirement is a submittal of a Project Planning Document.

Finally, the concept that DES has the authority to determine these projects as ineligible if both forms are not submitted.

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**Marco Phillipon moved to accept the new Award Plan requirements.
William Boyd second.
Unanimous consent. Motion adopted.**

E. Holmes – Commission review piece.

The point is to incentivize outside non-Drinking Water Trust Fund funding and emphasize those loans over grants.

Chair Morse: Still has questions about the three-tier approach. This will be on hold until Asst. Commissioner Freise returns. Topic should be added to April agenda.

Southern NH Regional Water Project Update

Mike Unger, DES

Plaistow was the genesis of the Southern New Hampshire Project being one of the most significant areas of contamination in the state and a key player in the MtBE lawsuit.

Four components of the project are a pump station at the Atkinson-Plaistow line, a storage tank in Plaistow, water mains to connect the core of the project into Plaistow's existing fire suppression system and some extensions to contaminated properties.

Discussion continued.

Requesting an additional \$2,709,300 to finish the project. The proposed drinking water infrastructure is necessary for the Town of Plaistow to accept water from the Southern New Hampshire Regional Water Interconnection project to address drinking water contamination and support economic development.

Motion to increase funding to finish Southern NH Interconnection project by William Boyd, III.

Seconded by Fmr. Sen. Russman

Unanimous consent. Motion adopted.

Special Projects Assistance Programs:

Peterborough Jaffrey Project Update – Rodney Bartlett

Addressing the DWGTF today to inform residents that there is the potential for funding to come from the Trust Fund. We are in the process of finalizing our USDA Grant and they would like a reasonable expectation of support from the Trust fund in this project.

We are sharing an overall map to where the wells are located, Jaffrey's interconnection, and Peterborough's interconnection. There are perchlorate and nitrate concerns.

Discussion continued with Jon Frederick, Town Manager, Town of Jaffrey.

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Motion to approve Jaffrey – Peterborough Project request Commission support from the Trust fund by Senator Sherman.

Seconded by Marco Phillipon.

Discussion continued.

Unanimous consent. Motion adopted.

Town of Newmarket

Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce Engineers

The MacIntosh Well Water Treatment Facility Project was originally submitted and approved in the fall of 2018. Newmarket is seeking additional funding due to regulatory changes in Arsenic levels, design modifications and industry, equipment and vendor cost escalations. Newmarket is seeking an additional \$2,057,000 consisting of \$1,075,000 in Loans and \$882,000 in grants.

Discussion continued.

Senator Sherman made a motion to increase the funding amount.

William Boyd III seconded.

Discussion continued with Mr. Rousseau.

Unanimous consent. Motion Adopted.

Pilot Program for Private Well Treatment of PFAS & ARSENIC.

Commissioner Scott – DES (for Clark Freise)

Towns are particularly concerned about contaminants in their drinking water. Londonderry has articulated they would be interested in doing program to investigate water quality whether it is a dollar for dollar match with the homeowner, Trust fund or other party and have a reserve fund they are willing to spend on this.

What the Department is looking for today is interest from the Trust fund that perhaps we could move forward if this is something the Trust fund would support as a pilot program.

Discussion continued.

William Boyd motioned to allow DES to come up with a pilot program design for private water well testing discussion purposes.

Deborah Hobson seconded.

Unanimous consent. Motion Adopted.

Meeting adjourned 11 a.m.