

Craftsbury Fire District No. 2 Water Board Monthly Meeting (Quarterly Meeting)

April 26, 2021, 5:30-6:40 pm, Remote Meeting Via Zoom

In Attendance:

Tim Patterson (President)

Jim Flint

George Hall (Treasurer)

Norm Hanson (Board Member)

Polly Allen (Secretary)

June Cook

Barb Strong (Board Member)

Ian Baldwin (Board Member)

Gina Campoli (Board Member)

Steve Smith (System Operator)

Matt Moody (Board Member)

Mark Johnson (RCAP)

Meagan Cummings (ANR-DEC)

Joshua Lochhead (ANR-DEC)

Agenda

Welcome from the Chair and Introductions (Tim Patterson)

Subcommittee Reports (Subcommittee Leads)

Presentation of the Agency of Natural Resources-Department of Environmental Conservation

Public Comment and Questions

Meeting Summary

Special Projects Subcommittee

Three special projects are ongoing:

1. New source well—the well is contaminated with PFA.
2. Back-up power supply, generator for pumphouse
3. Asset Management Plan

Gina Campoli reported that the Board is actively engaged in Bond Vote preparation. The vote must be held in June and must be warned 30 days in advance. The Select Board has approved our map of the district that was presented at the last Select Board Meeting by Tim Patterson. The Board has to comb through list of voters to see who is in district. Working backward we need noticing in May. This is very tight timing and Board will be working with engineers and attorney to meet this deadline.

Tim Patterson reported that Sterling has given their approval for the projects and we are continuing to move forward in planning. The only issue here would be if the land use restrictions are more onerous than we anticipated in terms of a well protection zone.

Gina Campoli discussed the availability of COVID relief funds and that the Board should be looking into and coordinating with the town on identifying sources for funding that may arise.

Long Term Financial Planning Subcommittee Report

Consultant Jim Flint presented the introduction of the online book-keeping and billing system and said that implementation is going well. Treasurer George Hall is working to learn the system and convert our accounting. The Board sent a notice to customers regarding the conversion and has heard back from approximately half that they would like to switch to online.

Mark Johnson from Rural Community Assistance Program (RCAP) also presented the status of a rate structure study. A Board subcommittee is working on refining this with the free service from RCAP and will be working with the community on establishing rates. Mark presented his approach and stated that a Draft Report would likely be ready in May with recommendations on rate structure, etc.

Technical Assistance: Asset Management Plan Development

Joshua Lochhead from ANRDEC presented background on Asset Management Plan development, which the Board has secured a grant to develop. He identified that the ANR DEC Bulletin 26 is critical for the Board to read and understand in support of Asset Management. He also stated that the ANR DEC also offers other programs, leak detection, valve exercising, lead abatement.

Operator's Report

Steve Smith stated that the system was operating well and no major issues. A few items: we missed several tests last year and have notice of alleged violation because of this. We will be sending in paperwork to rectify. Also, the plow and winter conditions took out two curb stops that need to be repaired as there is currently no way to stop the water outside the two residence. Will address in the summer. Lastly, a tree came down on one of our servicing electrical lines. Need to coordinate with Hardwick Electric to remove this.

Emergency Planning Subcommittee

Matt Moody reported that they have not done any work on the Emergency Planning Document since the last meeting.

Public Engagement Discussion:

The public engagement committee continues to focus on the Bond Vote and public awareness on this front. Also, Polly Allen brought up retaining new Board Members as several Board Members terms are

up and we will need new members for the Board to continue to address the need for the water system beginning in the 2022 term.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM