

A meeting of the Town of Barnstable's Hyannis Water Board was held on May 19, 2020 at 3:00 PM remotely via Zoom (as posted per instructions on the agenda: "Virtual meeting via Zoom: <https://zoom.us/j/97905546167>, meeting ID: 979 0554 6167, or by phone: (888) 25-4499, meeting ID: 979 0554 6167") due to being physically closed to the public to avoid group congregation as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

In attendance (on Zoom) were: Steve O'Neil, Mark Sexton, and Tom Holmes.

Staff present (on Zoom): Hans Keijser, Supervisor, Water Supply Division; Gordon Starr, Town Council.

Also present (on Zoom): Mike Leahy, Suez Water and residents Deb Krau, Sue Phelan, and Jesus (no last name listed).

A quorum being present (on Zoom), Chair O'Neil called the meeting to order at 3:01 PM.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor. The agenda is approved.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the 4/21/20 meeting minutes.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor. The 4/21/20 meeting minutes are approved.

Operations Report:

Mike Leahy, Project Manager, Suez, informs the Board that operations continue to be impacted by COVID-19. Leahy explains that the field staff is split into two teams; one team is working during the day, focusing on "putting out fires as they come in." and the other is working at night, dealing with the flushing program. He adds that the office staff works in rotating shifts; one office staff member works in the office while the others work from home.

Leahy reports that the following equipment maintenance and system issues were addressed:

- Media was exchanged in Mary Dunn Well #2 and #3 carbon vessels on 4/17/20 and 4/24/20, respectively. Both were backwashed, flushed, sampled and placed back in service.
- Power was lost at Straightway Treatment Plant on 4/18/20 due to ospreys nesting on a pole at the entrance to the facility. Contractor put a PVC device atop pole to safely prevent future nesting.
- Suez technician found heat off at Straightway Treatment Plant on 4/20/20, the second time in two months. Ignition module was installed and heat was restored. Solution will be discussed next month.
- Leak was repaired at 733 West Main Street on 4/28/20.

Leahy informs the Board that the following sampling issues were addressed:

- Citizens Bank at 417 Barnstable Rd did not allow entry for State required coliform sampling. Samples were taken at a State approved alternate site on 4/28/20 using MassDEP guidance.
- Bringing Straightway 1 online last year increased amount of LCR samples per MassDEP from 30 samples every three years to 60 samples twice per year. All accessible samples were taken.
- If schools do not open by 6/30/20, MassDEP will require additional samples in the following monitoring period.

Leahy reports that deliverables look good except for those impacted by COVID. All required sampling and reports were completed and filed with DEP.

O'Neil asks if there are any questions for Leahy and there are none.

COVID-19 Action Plan: Updates:

Leahy reiterates that the field crews remain split for now; half working during the day, the other half working at night. He explains that the office staff alternate working from home and in the office, with the manager continually is working from home. Leahy shares that upgrades have been made to the office in response to COVID-19: a new wall has been placed in the back room to separate the space into two offices and plexiglass has been placed between all desks in the front room. With these new measures in place, Leahy plans to bring staff back to the office next week.

Keijser shares with the Board that Michael Gorenstein is back in the office. Gorenstein is able to maintain social distance by staying in his own office. Keijser informs the Board that all meetings are held with social distancing and face masks. Keijser adds that COVID-19 posters will be going up around the office and handwashing/sanitation stations will be installed as well. Keijser explains that the office space shared by Emily Boley and Marcia Sellitto is being rearranged to ensure 6-foot separation. Keijser says that Boley and Sellitto will return to the office slowly, after all changes are in place.

Pumping, Billing, Revenue:

Keijser states that he would like to discuss pumping and revenue figures before water quality. Keijser informs the Board that April pumping was down 8% from what was expected using a seven year average. However, he believes it is not down as much as was anticipated due to COVID-19. Keijser shares that billing was also down 7% from what was projected. He adds that percentages have been consistently low all year, approximately 5-8% below expected values. Although March billing was climbing out, April was down again. Keijser shares that received revenue was down 7%, continuing the downward trend. He explains that expenses will be minimized as much as possible throughout the remainder of the year.

O'Neil says that he thinks there are a few more months of adjustment ahead due to COVID-19 and he believes reassessment should occur in July.

Keijser states that FY '21 budget is down to compensate for the previously mentioned downward trends.

Sexton asks how much water is pumped by hotels and inns. Keijser responds that he doesn't have exact numbers and continues that restaurants will add to the impact felt by COVID-19, but how much remains to be seen. Keijser doesn't believe it will be as bad as some fear. Keijser notes that although less water will be used commercially, there is increased water use due to COVID-19 with extra handwashing, cleaning etc.

O'Neil and Sexton mention potential increased use of home sprinkler systems and garden watering while more people are at home due to COVID-19. Keijser informs the Board that ads will soon be published on the restriction of water use for sprinklers/outdoor watering.

2019 Water Quality Report for the Hyannis Water System, Update:

Keijser informs the Board that the report is being printed and will go out next month.

State of Water Supply Conservation, Update:

O'Neil notes that water limitations were already discussed.

Capital Project Update:

- The installation of interim carbon filtration units, update – Keijser reports that sampling lines are near completion. He adds that SCADA panels and carbon will arrive at the end of week, and chlorination and sampling will occur after their install. Startup is anticipated in June.
- New well exploration program, test well drill plan, update – Keijser informs the Board that Site C (Church St, West Barnstable) is being finished today then water quality tests will be brought to a lab. He expects a report towards the end of the summer followed by a decision on how to proceed.
- Mass DOT Rte. 28 / Yarmouth Road Project update – Keijser reports that Mass DOT received one bid and it was twice as high as expected. If Mass DOT decides to rebid there is potential for delay.
- Mary Dunn 4, replacement well construction, Weston & Sampson, update – Keijser informs the Board that well construction is complete. The construction company has moved off site and test pump results await approval. Keijser hopes construction will begin in the fall after going out to bid.
- Maher Filtration Plant, treatment for PFAS, 1, 4 Dioxane and Manganese & Iron, update – Keijser reports that construction is on schedule; interiors look good with filters, UV units, and generators installed. Electrical is not yet complete, and overall completion is scheduled for September.
- Cleaning & Lining job on Main Street East, Phase 2, construction update – Keijser shares that a walkthrough was performed last Friday. Onsite cleanup is wrapping up and any remaining fixes will be completed in the coming weeks, aiming for full completion ASAP.
- COMM Permanent Interconnect on Longview Drive, update – Keijser informs the Board that documents are being reworked for rebid ASAP. He hopes for more favorable bids and a fall start. Keijser reports that Suez is working with COMM to startup the temporary interconnect.
- Independence Drive Project, water main looping from Attucks Lane to Home Depot Plaza. – Keijser states that the project will start fairly soon, but the water aspect won't begin until fall.

Questions: None

Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair: None

Meeting was adjourned at 3:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Boley

DPW, Water Supply Division – Project Engineer

Materials distributed prior to meeting:

- Meeting Agenda 5/19/20 (presented by T.O.B.-DPW, Water Supply Div.)
- Meeting Minutes for approval 4/21/20 (presented by T.O.B.-DPW, Water Supply Div.)
- H.W.B. Monthly Report, April 2020 (presented by: Suez Water)
- FY '20 Pumping, Billed Revenue, and Received Revenue Projection spreadsheets, dated 5/13/2020 (presented by: Hans Keijser)
- Copy of Cape Cod Times article, *Millions without plumbing*, dated 5/9/20 (presented by: Hans Keijser)
- Copy of Cape Cod Times article, *WASHINGTON: US pulls permission for faulty Chinese masks*, dated 5/9/20 (presented by: Hans Keijser)
- Copy of Cape Cod Times article, *DETROIT: Prosecutors in Flint water probe: We're still on the case*, dated 4/20/20 (presented by: Hans Keijser)
- Copy of Cape Cod Times article, *White House moves to weaken EPA rule on toxic compounds*, dated 4/20/20 (presented by: Hans Keijser)
- Copy of Cape Cod Times article, *EPA continues to contradict its own mission*, dated 4/24/20 (presented by: Hans Keijser)
- Copy of Cape Cod Times article, *Federal wastewater ruling could have Cape implications*, dated 4/28/20 (presented by: Hans Keijser)