

As voted by the Board of Trustees and in accordance with the notice of the meeting, the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Portland Water District was held remotely via teleconference, on Monday, April 27, 2020. Attending from staff were Messrs. Kane, Crovo, Firmin, Wallace, and Mses. Lewis, Katsiaticas, Demers and Walker. Ms. Priscilla Arsenault of Portland was also in attendance.

The meeting was convened by President Cote at 6:05 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The roll was called by the Clerk. Trustees Douglas and Libby were absent.

CONVENE MEETING

Trustee Lunt made a motion to conduct the special meeting remotely, seconded by Trustee Rich. Voted all in favor.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

It was moved by Trustee Levinsky, seconded by Trustee Beck.

Voted all in favor to accept the minutes of the Special Meeting of April 6, 2020 and the minutes of the Workshop Meeting of April 13, 2020.

INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None

REPORTS

Planning Committee

Trustee Lunt provided a summary of the Planning Committee meeting on April 13, 2020. Staff recommended applying for \$8M in grants from the Federal Government RCPP Program. This will be taken up under new business tonight. Staff updated the Committee on the interest from solar developers to lease a portion of District owned property at Rocky Hill. Staff also updated the Committee on recent developments regarding the town of Windham's desire for the District to design, construct and operate a treatment and collection system for a portion of North Windham.

General Manager's Report

The General Manager reported the following:

- PWD is learning to conduct and adapt its business to the realities of the pandemic. The focus of business activity is resilience and simplicity. As an example she noted that a nutrient optimization endeavor was being postponed at the East End Facility.
- PWD has requested a waiver from the PUC related to activation of seasonal accounts.
- Water production and metered water usage is down and PWD is seeing a financial impact of the pandemic. More financial information will be provided at the end of the month, as staff continues to gather data.
- During the Workshop in May, the North Windham Wastewater treatment project will be discussed. It will be discussed by the Board and the Windham Town Council at a joint remote meeting on May 19. A final Board vote on the project is expected May 26.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution 20-006, awarding the Joseph A. DiPietro Scholarship.

The Board of Trustees annually awards a scholarship to an area individual in memory of respected businessman and longtime Portland Water District Trustee, Joseph A. DiPietro. Mr. DiPietro had a lifelong interest in public service; this scholarship award is in his memory. This year 2 scholarships were awarded.

It was moved by Trustee Burns and seconded by Trustee Willey.

It was Voted and unanimously,

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees has established the Joseph A. DiPietro Scholarship in memory of Mr. DiPietro's fifteen years of dedicated service representing the city of Portland as a Trustee of the District, and

WHEREAS Priscilla Arsenault, a resident of Portland, is pursuing a degree in Architecture & Engineering Design at Southern Maine Community College, and

WHEREAS Ms. Arsenault has demonstrated need for the scholarship, and

WHEREAS Ms. Arsenault is the first in her family to attend college, and

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees' Scholarship Committee unanimously recommends Ms. Arsenault to be a recipient of the 2020 Joseph A. DiPietro Scholarship,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees recognizes the accomplishments and needs of Ms. Arsenault and supports her academic endeavors by awarding her the \$1,500 scholarship for 2020 established in tribute to Joseph A. DiPietro.

It was moved by Trustee Sivisky and seconded by Trustee Rich.

It was Voted and unanimously,

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees has established the Joseph A. DiPietro Scholarship in memory of Mr. DiPietro's fifteen years of dedicated service representing the city of Portland as a Trustee of the District, and

WHEREAS Daniel Quinho, a resident of Portland, is pursuing a degree in Electrical Engineering Technology at Southern Maine Community College, and

WHEREAS Mr. Quinho has demonstrated need for the scholarship, and

WHEREAS Mr. Quinho is the first in his family to attend college, and

WHEREAS the Board of Trustees' Scholarship Committee unanimously recommends Mr. Quinho to be a recipient of the 2020 Joseph A. DiPietro Scholarship,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees recognizes the accomplishments and needs of Mr. Quinho and supports his academic endeavors by awarding him the \$1,500 scholarship for 2020 established in tribute to Joseph A. DiPietro.

Order 20-015, authorizing an application in conjunction with Sebago Clean Waters partners to the Regional Conservation Partnership Program.

The Federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (the Farm Bill) mandated that the National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) direct 10 percent of funds for conservation programs to protect sources of drinking water. It also increased funding for the Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) which provides financial and technical assistance for innovative conservation projects that protect source water and other natural resources. The partnership of conservation groups, Sebago Clean Waters, is innovative because it's a partnership of different types of non-profit organizations and accomplished water quality goals as well as many other important environmental and community goals. This effort is critical because conserved forest is a natural water treatment method, producing clean, high quality water in Sebago Lake while also supporting many other important environmental and community values. It is considered a very a strong candidate to receive funding through the RCPP.

Awarded in a five-year term (2021-2025), the RCPP grant would provide a stable funding source with which to pursue land conservation projects in the watershed. The local land trust partners are confident that with this additional funding, more forested land can be protected. Investing in forest conservation provides for cleaner source water and is less expensive than a constructed treatment plant.

Trustee Lunt asked that the first sentence under the analysis portion of the memo be changed to "Maintaining the long-term water quality of Sebago Lake is best achieved with our 15 year goal to have 25% forested lands protected through voluntary purchases." It originally read "Maintaining the long-term water quality of Sebago Lake will require that most of the land in the watershed remain forested. Sebago Clean Waters, formed as a means to support this goal, has been successful in conserving forest for several years."

It was moved by Trustee Lunt and seconded by Trustee Levinsky.

It was Voted and unanimously,

ORDERED, authorizing an application in conjunction with Sebago Clean Waters partners to the Regional Conservation Partnership Program requesting up to \$8,000,000 in funds over five years; with the grant funds used to support the forest conservation goals of the District's Watershed Land Conservation Policy.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

SECOND INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

None

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Trustee Siviski congratulated Ms. Arsenault and Mr. Quinho on receiving the DiPietro Scholarship. Trustee Lunt added that these recipients are pursuing higher education in-line with how the Trustees imagined when the scholarship was formed.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Submitted by,

Donna M. Katsiaticas
Clerk