

September 12, 2022

As voted by the Board of Trustees and in accordance with the notice of the meeting, a Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Portland Water District was held in the Nixon Training Center at the general offices of the District, 225 Douglass Street, Portland, Maine on Monday, September 12, 2022. In attendance from staff were Messrs. Crovo, Kane, Firmin, Wallace, Johnson and Ms. Katsiaficas and Demers.

All Trustees were present except Trustees Shattuck-Heidorn and Sexton.

President Douglas convened the Special Meeting at 6:36 p.m.

**Special Meeting**

A Special Meeting was held to ratify the labor contract with Teamsters Local Union #340.

On August 23, 2022 Teamsters Local 340 membership voted in favor of ratifying the Memorandum of Tentative Agreement.

It was moved by President Douglas and seconded by Trustee Levinsky.

It was Voted and unanimously,

BE IT ORDERED, that the Board of Trustees hereby ratifies the Memorandum of Tentative Agreement between the Portland Water District and Teamsters Local 340 as approved by the membership of the bargaining unit on August 23, 2022, and authorizes the General Manager to execute an Agreement consistent with the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement on behalf of the District.

Trustee Lunt moved to adjourn the Special Meeting, seconded by Trustee Cote. Voted all in favor. The Special Meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Submitted by,

Donna M. Katsiaficas  
Clerk

As voted by the Board of Trustees and in accordance with the notice of the meeting, the monthly Workshop Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Portland Water District was held in the Nixon Training Center at the general offices of the District, 225 Douglass Street, Portland, Maine on Monday, September 12, 2022. In attendance from staff were Messrs. Crovo, Kane, Firmin, Wallace, Johnson and Ms. Katsiaficas.

All Trustees were present except Trustees Shattuck-Heidorn and Sexton.

President Douglas convened the Workshop Meeting at 6:43 p.m.

### **1. The Sebago Clean Waters Partnership**

Karen Young, Partnership Director of Sebago Clean Waters, made a presentation about the history of Sebago Clean Waters, reviewed some recent developments and described some of the things the group hopes to accomplish in the next several years.

Paul Hunt, Director of Environmental Services began the presentation. He gave an overview of Sebago Lake and its purity, and PWD's exemption to filtration. The exemption requires PWD control the land use around the lake and in the watershed through its watershed policy and agreement with landowners. Sebago Clean Waters helps to perform this function.

Ms. Young then took over the presentation. Sebago Clean Waters is a coalition of 10 partner organizations. Resources are pooled from the organizations to focus on the Sebago Lake watershed. The organization began in 2017. It works voluntarily with land owners. The goal is to conserve 25% of the watershed in 15 years.

New funding sources are being explored to increase the pace of conservation. The coalition has 3 full time equivalent staff, with a budget of \$300,000. Key roles include fundraising, outreach and grant coordination.

Accomplishments in the last five years include: an increase from 10% of land conserved to approximately 16% of the land in the watershed conserved. In the last 5 years, 9,581 acres have been conserved.

Nearly 10 Million Dollars has been raised to fund the conservation work. Approximately 8 Million Dollars in State and Federal funding has been leveraged.

Ms. Young then gave an overview of a few of the projects that the Partnership has in the works for conservation.

Other initiatives include developing a long and short term strategic funding strategy, complimentary watershed restoration/protection work, business outreach and community engagement.

Trustee Levinsky asked if the State or Federal Government could do more to assist in supporting the work of the Partnership. Ms. Young said funding, and complimentary land use policies supporting the Partnership goals would be most helpful.

A discussion regarding the Crooked River, its location and impact on Sebago Lake occurred.

Ms. Young recognized the assistance of the staff of PWD for helping the Partnership, and thanks the Board for funding it has provided to various land trusts and organizations working on acquiring conservation lands. She also noted PWD was critical in securing federal money in the form of the 8 Million Dollar federal grant and in administering it.

Trustee Lunt asked about the support of businesses for these conservation efforts. Ms. Young gave several reasons why businesses have been interested in partnering Sebago Clean Waters. Businesses included Allagash, Sappi and Idexx.

Trustee Rich asked if other states have similar programs and organizations. Ms. Young said the Nature Conservancy has a water fund that first started in Ecuador, and has others around the world. Many of these funds come about because they need to address problems. Sebago Clean Waters has evolved not to address problems, but to continue the heritage of clean water.

Another 25,000 acres will need to be conserved in the next 10 years.

Paul Hunt thanked Ms. Young for her efforts and the Partnership's efforts as well.

Trustee Cote asked if any solar developments were planned for the area. Ms. Young said she is not aware of projects, and would not be as that is not her role. Paul Hunt also said PWD stays out of those types of projects. Electric transmission capability is likely not available easily in the area.

## **2. Other Business**

Chris Crovo, Director of Asset Management and Planning advised the Board that the generator at Douglass Street will be replaced the week of September 26. As a result, the building will have no power, be closed and employees will be working remotely.

## **3. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by,

Donna M. Katsiaficas  
Clerk