



Southern Maine Regional Water Council

SOUTHERN MAINE REGIONAL WATER COUNCIL
Annual Meeting of The Full Members
April 3, 2014

MINUTES

Convene Meeting: President Parent opened the business meeting at 7:30 P.M. at the Saco Ramada Inn and Conference Center, Saco, ME.

Roll Call: **Present:** *President Parent – Sanford Water District*
Keith Levasseur – District Engineer – SWD
Roger Durant – Trustee
Norman Butler - Trustee

Vice-President Knowlton – Maine Water – Biddeford and Saco
Judy Wallingford – Maine Water – Biddeford and Saco
Tom Carr - Maine Water – Biddeford and Saco
Steve Cox – Maine Water – Biddeford and Saco
Louise Reid – Old Orchard Beech
Ken Blow – Old Orchard Beech
Howard Carter – Saco
John Duross – Saco
Mike Thurlow – Scarborough
Mark Robinson

Michael Rogers – Superintendent – KWD
Bob Wyman – Trustee – KWD
Jim Golter – Trustee - KWD

Director Leach – South Berwick Water District
Doug Letellier – Trustee – SBWD
Warren Spencer – Trustee - SBWD
Henry Miller – Trustee - SBWD

Director Crovo – Portland Water District
Ron Miller – General Manager – PWD
Seth Garrison - Trustee - PWD
William Lunt – Trustee – PWD

*Director Norm Labbe- Superintendent Kennebunk, Kennebunkport & Wells
Water District*
Scott Minor – Asst. Superintendent KKWWD
Wayne Brockway - Treasurer – KKWWD
Richard Littlefield – Trustee – KKWWD
Jim Burrows – Trustee President - KKWWD

Director Lynch – York Water District
Donald Neumann – Superintendent – YWD
Fred Ricker – Trustee – YWD

Excused: *Secretary/ Treasurer Hodgdon – Kittery Water District*

Others Present: NONE

Correspondence: There was no correspondence.

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes of the Meeting of 1-15-14:

Director Leach motioned to approve the minutes of the 1-15-14 meeting. Seconded by Director Crovo. Unanimously Approved.

Introduction of Directors and Officers: President Parent introduced the nominated Directors and Officers of the SMRWC for 2014.

Election of Directors: *Michael Rogers of the Kittery Water District motioned to approve the slate of directors for the Southern Maine Regional Water Council for 2014 to include Norm Labbe-KKWWD, Ryan Lynch -YWD, Rick Knowlton–Maine Water – Biddeford and Saco, Guy Hodgdon-KWD, John Leach-SBWD, Chris Crovo-PWD, and Dave Parent-SWD. Seconded by Fred Ricker from the York Water District. Unanimously Approved.*

2013 Annual Report

(The activity of the Council from the 2013 - 2014 Annual Meetings of the Membership)

April 18, 2013 – Annual Meeting of Full Members

- Election of Directors
- Presentation by Maine Water

May 30, 2013 - LD 1455 An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue To Ensure Clean Water and Safe Communities

- President Parent sent a letter of support to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs in support of the bill

July 19, 2013– Provided written comments to the Public Utilities Commission regarding Stage Neck Colony et al., Request for Commission Investigation into York Water District’s Failure to Maintain and Replace Water Valves and Water Lines

October 8, 2013– Board of Directors Meeting

- PUC Notice of Inquiry – Regulatory Reform Plan for Consumer-Owned Water Utilities- Jeff McNelly Executive Director of the Maine Water Utilities Association spoke on the position of the MWUA

October 18, 2013 – Represented at a Sustain Southern Maine Partnership Meeting

November 7, 2013 – Sustain Southern Maine – “Making Sustainability Work in Maine Open House”

- President Parent, Directors Labbe, Lynch, and Crovo manned a SMRWC booth at their open house

November/December 2013 – Annual Cooperative Chemical Purchasing Program

- Director Lynch reports that 23 entities participated in this year’s bid showing a bid value of \$1,660,000. All the awards have been made.

December 20, 2013 – Represented at Sustain Southern Maine Partnership Meeting

January 15, 2014– Board of Directors Meeting

- Support of the University of New England’s application for the EPA’s Education Regional Grant

February, 2014– Obtained meter pricing for Sensus Meters

- York, Kittery, South Berwick and Sanford participated in meter purchase collaborative

February 11, 2014– LD 441 Resolve, Directing the PUC to develop a Plan to Reform Water Regulation

- Provided written comments on the Plan

March 4, 2014 – Public Hearing on LD 1784 – An Act to Reform Regulation of Consumer Owned Water Utilities

- Provided written comments on the bill which included an amendment that SMRWC developed with input from MWUA and water utilities across Maine.
- Attended work sessions and met with PUC, MRWA and OPA to develop a compromise
- Final language voted unanimously Ought to Pass by the Committee

Presentation –

Rick Knowlton – Vice President, Operations – Maine Water Company:

Mr. Knowlton reviewed the master plan of the Biddeford/Saco Water Company by Maine Water Company. He went over the process Maine Water Co went through with the master plan and explained the differences between upgrading the existing plant and building a new plant. Building new would allow the addition of capacity for other communities at a relatively low cost per gallon. Maine Water Co is very interested in what, if any, interest other members of SMRWC have in adding capacity. This is an opportunity for regional supply that likely will not happen again in Southern Maine for generations.

Mr. Knowlton left us with two questions he would like us to think about:

1. Should the SMRWC 2008 Master Plan be updated?
 - a. Plan was completed just before the recession, things have changed
2. Can members of SMRWC join in design discussion for a new treatment plant on the Saco River?

He said they are willing to, and would like to, visit each local board of trustees to talk about the concept. He said they would like members to at least sit down in the initial stages to talk about plant design. The concept is to form a vision on what the plant might be, then, if it makes sense, talk about dollars on how to get there.

He explained their plans to update the treatment facility and other aging infrastructure. Mr. Knowlton stated that customer service and satisfaction is Maine Water's corporate credo and they continually strive to be good neighbors.

Treasurer's Report: Secretary / Treasurer Hodgdon provided a written Treasurer's Report to each attendee. Our current bank balance is \$ 12,068.83.

Director's Subcommittee Reports: President Parent gave a brief overview of the Regulatory Reform effort at the Legislature. He said that the bill has passed both houses and is awaiting a final reading in the House, after which it will be sent to the Governor for his signature.

Old Business: There was no old business to come before the Council.

New Business: None.

Other Business: None.

Next Meeting: The next meeting date was not set at this time. The date and time will be set via email to all the Directors.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Guy Hodgdon, SMRWC Secretary/Treasurer