

BOURNE WATER DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S MEETING, MAY 9, 2023

The meeting was duly posted.

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Commissioner Brian Handy. Present: Commissioners Brian Handy, and Peter Way. Also present: Superintendent Robert (Bob) Prophett, and Treasurer/Clerk Paul Moriarty. The meeting was held at the district office at 211 Barlow's Landing Road, Pocasset.

ABATEMENT REQUEST 41 ROUNDHOUSE RD

Bob Prophett presented Robert Conway's abatement application to The Board of Water Commissioners. Bob showed the high usage at 41 Roundhouse Rd, which increased over 60,000 gallons from the previous billing period. He explained that there was a leaking toilet that has since been fixed. As is customary, the Board voted unanimously to allow a one-time abatement of half of the consumption used due to the issue.

Brian Handy made a MOTION to approve the abatement at 41 Roundhouse Rd; Peter Way seconded that motion; and all were in favor.

STATION #5 UPDATE

Bob Prophett stated that PFOS tests had been conducted at the Station #5. Both treated and raw water at Station #5 well both have a detection of PFOS around 9.2-9.3 parts per trillion. Bob explained how EPA has maximum contaminant levels of 4.0 for contaminants PFOA and PFOS. Bob stated how Bourne Water is still under this level at both of the wells, but are getting close to this maximum level of contaminant. This could place Bourne Water District out of compliance. Peter Way stated that he believes the well should have been shut off already. Bob said that if the Board of Commissioners' consensus is to turn off the well, the paperwork to do so should be started. Both Brian Handy and Peter Way agreed, but decided to table the discussion until next meeting when all commissioners would be present. The Superintendent and Board of Commissioners agreed to stop pumping at the well, and they will determine if the well should be made inactive at the next meeting.

SUPERINTENDENT REVIEW

Bob Prophett presented his case, asking the Board of Commissioners for a raise in pay. Bob explained how he has been an employee of Bourne Water District since 2010, and has worked as Superintendent since 2014. Bob stated that the average salary for his position in the surrounding areas is \$130,000. Bob explained how he has provided a lot to the District over the years. He believes that he brings a great work ethic, has brought safety up to standards, and frequently works overtime without being compensated aside from his normal salary of \$100,600. Bob asked the Board of Commissioners to consider a raise to \$125,000. Peter Way stated he believes Bob is deserving of the raise, but would like to table the discussion for when Mike Lyons is present. Brian Handy seconded this, and the discussion was tabled until the next meeting.

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UPDATE PUMPAGE COSTS

Bob Prophett presented to the Board of Water commissioners how the current water rate is causing a problem in the budget, as it is too low. In April 2023, Bourne Water District paid \$3.79 per 1000 gallons of water. The current water rate is \$2.75 per 1000 gallons. This is a loss of over \$1 per 1000 gallons pumped. Bob stated that going forward, the District must look at the water rate. He said that in a perfect model, Bourne Water District's sale of water should cover both the maintenance and operation budget. Currently, it does not. This is causing the District's free cash to be used in replenishing the budget, when ideally it would be saved for article items and capital improvements. Bob asked if the Board would like to conduct a vote on raising the water rates. Once again, they elected to readdress the issue at the next meeting when Mike Lyons is present.

SOLAR UPDATE

Although it was a scheduled agenda item, Bob Prophett was unable to obtain new information on the solar lease for the meeting. He stated that he is in contact with attorney Randy Collette about the situation and expects more information to be available soon.

VERIZON UPDATE

Verizon emailed the Superintendent with a copy of the fully executed lease; and a hard copy is being sent to Bourne Water District to be filed away. Bob Prophett stated that Verizon is currently working on getting their zoning laws correct, and the lease has been successful thus far.

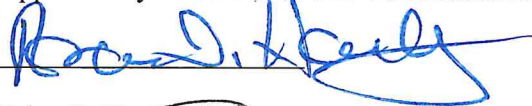
Commissioners Comments None

Brian Handy made a MOTION to adjourn at 10:00 am. Peter Way seconded that motion, and all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Moriarty, District Clerk

Approved by: Board of Water Commissioners



Brian S. Handy, Chairman



Peter R. Way, Commissioner

Michael Lyons, Commissioner

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