

**MASSACHUSETTS WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY**

Meeting of the Board of Directors

December 11, 2024

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A meeting of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (“MWRA”) Board of Directors was held on December 11, 2024 at Headquarters at Deer Island, Boston, and via remote participation.

Chair Tepper presided at MWRA Headquarters. Board Members Flanagan, Pappastergion, Peña, Taverna, Jack Walsh, and Patrick Walsh participated at MWRA Headquarters. Board Members Swett, Vitale and Wolowicz participated remotely. Board Member Foti was absent.

MWRA Executive Director Frederick Laskey; General Counsel Carolyn Francisco Murphy; Chief Operating Officer David Coppes; Deputy Chief Operating Officer Rebecca Weidman; Director of Finance Thomas Durkin; Director of Administration Michele Gillen; Chief of Staff Katherine Ronan; Associate General Counsel Angela Atchue; IT Asset Management Analyst Michael Curtis; and, Assistant Secretary Kristin MacDougall attended at MWRA Headquarters.

Matt Romero, MWRA Advisory Board, also attended at MWRA Headquarters.

Special Assistant for Affirmative Action Tomeka Cribb attended remotely.

Vandana Rao, EEA, also attended remotely.

Chair Tepper called the meeting to order at 1:06pm.

**ROLL CALL**

MWRA General Counsel Francisco Murphy took roll call of Board Members in attendance and announced that Board Members Swett, Vitale, and Wolowicz were participating remotely. The Chair announced that the meeting was being held at MWRA Headquarters and virtually, via a link posted on MWRA’s website. She added that the meeting would be recorded, and that the agenda and meeting materials were available on MWRA’s website.

**APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 13, 2024 MINUTES**

**A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors’ meeting of November 13, 2024.**

Chair Tepper asked if there was any discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, she requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Tepper		
Flanagan		

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. I)

#### REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Tepper reported on two pieces of legislation recently signed by Governor Healey. First, she discussed the Mass Leads Act economic development bill, which includes \$1 billion in initiatives to attract and support the climatetech and life sciences sectors. She also noted the passing of the Climate Bill to accelerate clean energy development and create an equitable infrastructure siting process through significant permitting and siting reform, including for distribution and transmission lines. (ref. II)

#### REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

##### Presentation – Quinapoxet Dam Removal Project Update

Marty McGowan, MWRA Construction Director, described the project's specialized contractors, SLR International Corporation and Lucianos Excavation, Inc., and presented photos of the dam's location on the Quinapoxet River near the Oakdale Power Station.

Mr. McGowan then described the dam removal process and site conditions. He noted that the ongoing drought has caused Wachusett Reservoir's levels to drop, necessitating water transfers from the Quabbin to the Wachusett, through the dam project's work zone.

Next, Mr. McGowan explained how the project team developed a plan to make the transfers with minimal work delays by accelerating the construction of a riprapped peninsula that separates the Quabbin diversion channel from the riverbed. He reported that the transfer had successfully resumed on December 9, 2024, and presented photos of construction activities on the riverbed adjacent to the diversion channel. Finally, Mr. McGowan noted that the Quabbin transfer is expected to continue in the foreseeable future.

In response to a question from Board Member Taverna, Mr. McGowan explained that the project's diversion channel was designed by an engineering firm, SLR International Corporation. Board Member Pappastergion asked if the Quinapoxet River would be returned to its original flow pattern when the dam removal project is completed. Mr. McGowan responded in the

affirmative, and noted that the riverbed will be relined with native stone and regraded to its natural configuration. Chair Tepper asked when staff expect project completion. Mr. McGowan relayed that staff's goal is to complete in-river work by April 2025 and to conduct some riverbank restoration in fall 2025, with expected project completion in December 2025.

Chair Tepper noted that this project would provide helpful insights for similar dam removals planned at locations across Massachusetts.

#### Executive Director's Report

Citing recent Board discussion about community water interconnections (ref. VI A.3, November 13, 2024), MWRA Executive Director Fred Laskey noted that emergency interconnections between several communities are currently being used in support of a water pipeline repair in the City of Waltham. Mr. Laskey then updated the Board on the Section 4 Walnut Street Bridge Pipe Restraint Replacement Project, which is expected to be complete in late December 2024. Finally, he reported that staff met with Lt. Governor Driscoll to discuss potential water supply solutions for the Union Point Development in Weymouth. There was brief, general discussion about the MWRA Advisory Board's upcoming Open House. (ref. III)

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Tepper requested that the Board move into Executive Session to discuss Litigation and Real Estate, since discussing such in Open Session could have a detrimental effect on the litigating and negotiating positions of the Authority. She announced that the planned topics for Executive Session were discussion of strategy with respect to litigation, and a Metropolitan Tunnel Redundancy land acquisition update, and that the Board would return to Open Session after the conclusion of Executive Session.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to enter Executive Session for these purposes, and to resume Open Session after Executive Session adjournment.**

General Counsel Francisco Murphy reminded Board members that under the Open Meeting Law members who were participating remotely in Executive Session must state that no other person is present or able to hear the discussion at their remote location. A response of "yes" to the Roll Call to enter Executive Session when their name was called would also be deemed their statement that no other person was present or able to hear the Executive Session discussion.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, a roll call vote was taken in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Tepper		
Flanagan		

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

Voted: to enter Executive Session, and to resume Open Session after Executive Session adjournment.

\*\*\* EXECUTIVE SESSION \*\*\*

The meeting entered Executive Session at 1:20pm and adjourned at 1:45pm.

\*\*\* CONTINUATION OF OPEN SESSION \*\*\*

PRESENTATION

FY21-FY25 Strategic Business Plan: Annual Update for FY24

Denise Breiteneicher, MWRA Energy and Environmental Program Manager, presented an annual update on the FY21-FY25 Strategic Business Plan (“Business Plan”). She summarized the plan’s purpose, guiding principles and structure.

Next, Ms. Breiteneicher discussed FY24 Business Plan highlights, including over 4,000 lead and copper tests for childcare facilities in 35 communities; the completion of the Nut Island Headworks Odor Control Improvements Project, which was awarded Best Water/Environmental project in New England by Engineering News Record; the launch of a new MWRA website with additional functionalities; the first annual STEM fair at the Deer Island Treatment Plant (“DITP”); updated decarbonization standard procedures; approval of funding to install Electric Vehicle infrastructure at MWRA’s Chelsea Facility; the development of a DITP instrumentation training program; and, the start of the Quinapoxet Dam Removal Project.

Ms. Breiteneicher then presented Business Plan objectives completed in FY24, including the implementation of a subscriber-based Combined Sewer Overflow Public Notification Program and Sanitary Sewer Overflow reporting system; a wastewater metering system update; expanded integration between MAXIMO, Lawson, Process Information and Automated Vehicle Location systems; expanded use of predicative management tasks; dam stability evaluations and other earthquake preparedness studies; and, expanded recycling efforts.

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Chair Tepper moved to Personnel and Compensation. (ref. V.1)

#### PERSONNEL AND COMPENSATION

##### Personnel and Compensation Committee Meeting Summary for the Board Chair

Committee Chair Wolowicz noted that the December 11, 2024 Personnel and Compensation Committee meeting included discussion on a proposed compensation study of non-union management salaries. Ms. Wolowicz then explained that she had worked with MWRA Director of Human Resources Wendy Chu to develop the Staff Summary on the study that was presented at the Committee meeting, and that conducting such a study had been suggested by the Board of Directors in June 2024 (ref. P&C C.1, June 26, 2024). Finally, Ms. Wolowicz reported that the December 11 Personnel and Compensation Committee had unanimously voted to present to the full Board a motion that outlines parameters for the scope of a third-party compensation study.

##### Approvals

##### Compensation Study of Non-Union Management Salaries

**A motion was duly made and seconded that the scope for the Compensation Study of Non-Union Management Salaries include: all non-union manager positions; a review of the entire compensation packages plus benefits; a review of job descriptions; comparisons of public and private sector entities around the country, with a normalization of the data to reflect, for example, cost of living; a review of MWRA non-union manager compensation philosophy and structure; and a recommendation from the third party consultant performing the study on how often such studies should be conducted.**

Chair Tepper asked if the proposed study would include comparisons of compensation at other Massachusetts quasi-public agencies. MWRA General Counsel Carolyn Francisco-Murphy responded in the affirmative.

Chair Tepper asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, she requested a roll call in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Tepper		
Flanagan		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Taverna		
Vitale		

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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J. Walsh

P. Walsh

Wolowicz

(ref. P&C A.1)

Appointment of Director, Wastewater Operations and Maintenance

**A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the appointment of Mr. John Parkhurst to the position of Director, Wastewater Operations and Maintenance (Non-Union, Grade 15) in the Operations Division, at the recommended annual salary of \$168,205, commencing on a date to be determined by the Executive Director.**

Chair Tepper asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, she requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Tepper

Flanagan

Pappastergion

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Swett

Taverna

Vitale

J. Walsh

P. Walsh

Wolowicz

(ref. P&C B.1/VI A.1)

Appointment of Rita C. Mercado, Special Assistant for Affirmative Action

**A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the appointment of Rita C. Mercado to the position of Special Assistant for Affirmative Action and Compliance (Non-Union, Grade 16) at an annual salary of \$175,219, commencing on a date to be determined by the Executive Director.**

Chair Tepper asked if there was any discussion or questions from the Board, and expressed her support for filling this position and appointing the recommended job candidate. Hearing no further discussion, she requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes                      No                      Abstain

Tepper

Flanagan

Pappastergion

Peña

Swett

Taverna

Vitale

J. Walsh

P. Walsh

Wolowicz

(ref. P&C B.2/VI A.2)

#### ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE AND AUDIT

##### Administration, Finance and Audit Committee Meeting Summary for the Board Chair

Committee Chair Flanagan summarized the discussion that took place during the December 11, 2024 Administration, Finance and Audit Committee meeting. He reported that after deliberating on proposed Amendments to the Memorandums of Agreement (“MOAs”) with the City of Quincy and the Town of Winthrop, the Committee voted non-unanimously to defer recommendations to present these items for full Board approval pending further discussion at this Board of Directors’ meeting.

##### Approvals

##### First Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the City of Quincy

**A motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute the First Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Quincy, substantially in the form attached to the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary, to extend the term of the agreement for an additional ten years and to continue to provide mitigation to the City of Quincy as detailed in said Staff Summary presented and filed with the records of this meeting.**

Board Vice-Chair Pappastergion requested that Chair Tepper entertain a stipulation on this motion. He then recommended that the motion as written be amended to include a clause that would, at the five-year mark, permit all parties to reopen negotiations on the MOA’s term length. There was discussion about this recommendation; the impacts of MWRA’s major infrastructure on host communities, such as on first responders; and, the history of the Quincy and Winthrop MOAs. Mr. Pappastergion withdrew his suggested stipulation on the motion.

Chair Tepper asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, she requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Tepper		
Flanagan		
	Pappastergion	
Peña		
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	Taverna	
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. AF&A B.1/VII A.1)

First Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with the Town of Winthrop

**A motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority to execute the First Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with the Town of Winthrop, substantially in the form attached in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary, to extend the term of the agreement for an additional ten years and to continue to provide mitigation to the Town of Winthrop as detailed in said Staff Summary presented and filed with the records of this meeting.**

Chair Tepper asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, she requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Tepper		
Flanagan		
	Pappastergion	
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	Taverna	
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. AF&A B.2/VII A.2)



WASTEWATER POLICY AND OVERSIGHTWastewater Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Summary for the Board Chair

Committee Chair Patrick Walsh reviewed the agenda items discussed at the December 11, 2024 Wastewater Policy and Oversight Committee meeting, and advised that the Committee voted to advance all motions presented for full Board approval.

Contract AwardsHayes Pump Station Rehabilitation Resident Engineering/Resident Inspection Services: Hazen and Sawyer, P.C., Contract 7668

**A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the recommendation of the Consultant Selection Committee to award Contract 7668, Hayes Pump Station Rehabilitation Resident Engineering/Resident Inspection Services, to Hazen and Sawyer, P.C. and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute said contract in an amount not to exceed \$1,759,118, for a contract term of 39 months from the Notice to Proceed.**

Chair Tepper asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, she requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Tepper		
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Flanagan		
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Pappastergion		
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Vitale		
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J. Walsh		
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P. Walsh		
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Wolowicz		
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(ref. WW A.1/VIII.A.1)

Contract Amendments/Change OrdersWard Street and Columbus Park Headworks Upgrade: CDM Smith, Contract 7429,Amendment 1

**A motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Amendment 1 to Contract 7429, Ward Street and Columbus Park Headworks Upgrade, with CDM Smith Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$4,023,000, increasing the contract amount from \$28,896,530 to \$32,919,530 and extending the contract term by 32 months from January 22, 2030 to September 22, 2032.**

Chair Tepper asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, she requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Tepper

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Vitale

J. Walsh

P. Walsh

Wolowicz

(ref. WW B.1/VIII.B.1)

Management, Operation and Maintenance of the Union Park Pump Station/CSO Facility and Unstaffed Pump Stations: Woodard & Curran, Contract S606, Amendment 1

**A motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Amendment 1 to Contract S606, Management, Operation, and Maintenance of the Union Park Pump Station/CSO Facility and the Unstaffed Pump Stations, with Woodard & Curran, Inc., exercising the two-year extension, and to execute said Amendment jointly with the Boston Water and Sewer Commission to: (i) increase the contract service fee by \$4,339,180, of which MWRA will pay \$1,171,578.60 (27%) and Boston Water and Sewer Commission will pay \$3,167,601.40 (73%), and to increase the allowance for preventative and corrective maintenance and repairs by \$700,000, which includes \$200,000 for MWRA and \$500,000 for Boston Water and Sewer Commission, for a total Amendment amount of \$5,039,180, increasing the contract sum from \$7,231,262 to a total not to exceed amount of \$12,270,442; and, (ii) extend the contract term by two-years, from March 1, 2025 to February 28, 2027.**

Chair Tepper asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, she requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Tepper

Flanagan

Pappastergion

Peña

Yes                      No                      Abstain

Swett

Taverna

Vitale

J. Walsh

P. Walsh

Wolowicz

(ref. WW B.2/VIII B.2)

Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements: Walsh Construction Co. II, LLC, Contract 7366, Change Order 10

**A motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Change Order 10 to Contract 7366, Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements, with Walsh Construction Co. II, LLC for an amount not to exceed \$100,000, increasing the contract amount from \$14,289,550.90 to \$14,389,550.90, and extending the contract term by 120 calendar days from November 28, 2024 to March 28, 2025.**

**Further, a motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director to approve additional change orders as may be needed to Contract 7366 in an amount not to exceed the aggregate of \$1,000,000, and 180 days in accordance with the Management Policies and Procedures of the Board of Directors.**

Chair Tepper asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, she requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

Yes                      No                      Abstain

Tepper

Flanagan

Pappastergion

Peña

Swett

Taverna

Vitale

J. Walsh

P. Walsh

Wolowicz

(ref. WW B.3/VIII B.3)

Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements Design and ESDC Services: Wright-Pierce, Contract 7435, Amendment 4

**A motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Amendment 4 to Contract 7435, Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements, Design and Engineering Services During Construction, with Wright-Pierce, increasing the contract amount by \$207,700 from \$2,488,567 to \$2,696,267, and the contract term by 16 months from December 17, 2024 to April 17, 2026.**

Chair Tepper asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, she requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Tepper

Flanagan

Pappastergion

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Swett

Taverna

Vitale

J. Walsh

P. Walsh

Wolowicz

(ref. WW B.4/VIII B.4)

Harbor and Outfall Monitoring, Benthic, Fish and Shellfish Monitoring: Normandeau Associates, Inc., Contract OP-401B, Amendment 3

**A motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Amendment 3 to Contract OP-401B, Harbor and Outfall Monitoring, Benthic, Fish and Shellfish Monitoring, with Normandeau Associates, Inc., increasing the contract amount by \$488,799.27 from \$2,498,043.34 to \$2,986,842.61 and extending the contract term by one year from October 31, 2025 to October 31, 2026.**

Chair Tepper asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, she requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Tepper

Flanagan

Pappastergion

Peña

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Swett

Taverna

Vitale

J. Walsh

P. Walsh

Wolowicz

(ref. WW B.5/VIII B.5)

WATER POLICY AND OVERSIGHTWater Policy and Oversight Committee Meeting Summary for the Board Chair

Committee Chair Taverna summarized the items discussed during the December 11, 2024

Water Policy and Oversight Committee meeting, and reported that the Committee voted to advance all motions presented for full Board approval.

ApprovalsWater Supply Continuation Agreements for Cambridge, Canton, Framingham, Lynn Water and Sewer Commission, Needham, Northborough, Peabody, Weston and Winchester

**A motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute Water Supply Continuation Agreements with Cambridge, Canton, Framingham, Lynn Water and Sewer Commission, Needham, Northborough, Peabody, Weston, and Winchester, each for a term of ten years, substantially in the form filed as Attachments One through Nine of the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary presented and filed with the records of this meeting.**

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Chair Tepper requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Tepper

Flanagan

Pappastergion

Peña

Swett

Taverna

Vitale

J. Walsh

P. Walsh

Wolowicz

(ref. W A.1/IX A.1)

Contract Awards

Intermediate High Pipeline Improvements, CP1 Sections 75A and 47 – Belmont, Boston, Newton and Watertown, P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc., Contract 7484

**A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the award of Contract 7484, Intermediate High Pipeline Improvements, CP1 Sections 75A and 47, Belmont, Boston, Newton and Watertown, to the lowest responsible and eligible bidder, P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc., and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute said contract in the bid amount of \$22,580,000 with a contract term of 912 calendar days from the Notice to Proceed.**

Chair Tepper asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, she requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Tepper

Flanagan

Pappastergion

Peña

Swett

Taverna

Vitale

J. Walsh

P. Walsh

Wolowicz

(ref. W B.1/IX B.1)

Intermediate High Pipeline Improvements, CP1 Sections 75A and 47 Resident Engineering and Inspection Services: CDM Smith Inc., Contract 8067

**A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the recommendation of the Consultant Selection Committee to award Contract 8067, Intermediate High Pipeline Improvements CP1 Sections 75A and 47 Resident Engineering and Inspection Services, to CDM Smith Inc. and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute said contract in an amount not to exceed \$1,821,258.30 for a contract term of 33 months from the Notice to Proceed.**

Chair Tepper asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, she requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Tepper

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Flanagan

Pappastergion

Peña

Swett

Taverna

Vitale

J. Walsh

P. Walsh

Wolowicz

(ref. W B.2/IX B.2)

Contract Amendments/Change OrdersNorthern Intermediate High Section 89 Replacement Pipeline: P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc., Contract 7117, Change Order 10

**A motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Change Order 10 to Contract 7117, Northern Intermediate High Section 89 Replacement Pipeline, with P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$255,655.68, increasing the contract amount from \$36,242,127.69 to \$36,497,783.37 with no increase in contract term.**

**Further, a motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director to approve additional change orders as may be needed to Contract 7117 in an amount not to exceed the aggregate of \$1,000,000, and 180 days in accordance with the Management Policies and Procedures of the Board of Directors.**

Chair Tepper asked if there was any further discussion or questions from the Board. Hearing none, she requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Tepper

Flanagan

Pappastergion

Peña

Swett

Taverna

Vitale

J. Walsh

P. Walsh

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Wolowicz		

(ref. W C.1/IX C.1)

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Laskey congratulated Board Member Vitale for receiving the Greater Boston Labor Guild's 2024 Cushing-Gavin Management Award. (ref. X)

#### CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD

There was no correspondence to the Board. (ref. XI)

#### ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.**

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Chair Tepper requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Tepper		
Flanagan		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Swett		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. XII)

The meeting adjourned at 2:28pm.

Approved: January 15, 2024

Attest:

 for  
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Brian Peña, Secretary



LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED

- Draft Minutes of the November 13, 2024 MWRA Board of Directors' Meeting (ref. I)
- Presentation: Quinapoxet Dam Removal Project Update (ref. III)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary and Presentation – FY21-FY25 Strategic Business Plan: Annual Update for FY24 (ref. V.1)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – Compensation Study of Non-Union Management Salaries (ref. P&C A.1)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – Appointment of Director, Wastewater Operations and Maintenance (ref. P&C B.1)/VI A.1)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – Appointment of Special Assistant for Affirmative Action and Compliance (ref. P&C B.2/VI A.2)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – First Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Quincy (ref. AF&A B.1/VII B.1)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – First Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with the Town of Winthrop (ref. AF&A B.2/VII B.2)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary and Presentation – Hayes Pump Station Rehabilitation Resident Engineering/Resident Inspection Services: Hazen and Sawyer, P.C., Contract 7668 (ref. WW A.1/VIII A.1)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary and Presentation – Ward Street and Columbus Park Headworks Upgrade: CDM Smith Inc., Contract 7429, Amendment 1 (ref. WW B.1/VIII B.1)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary and Presentation – Management, Operation, and Maintenance of the Union Park Pump Station/CSO Facility and the Unstaffed Pump Stations: Woodard & Curran, Inc., Contract S606, Amendment 1 (ref. WW B.2/VIII B.2)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary and Presentation – Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements: Walsh Construction Co. II, LLC, Contract 7366, Change Order 10 (ref. WW B.3/VIII B.3)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements, Design and Engineering Services During Construction: Wright-Pierce, Contract 7435, Amendment 4 (ref. WW B.4/VIII B.4)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – Harbor and Outfall Monitoring, Benthic, Fish, and Shellfish Monitoring: Normandeau Associates, Inc., Contract OP-401B, Amendment 3 (ref. WW B.5/VIII B.5)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – Water Supply Continuation Agreements for Cambridge, Canton, Framingham, Lynn Water and Sewer Commission, Needham, Northborough, Peabody, Weston and Winchester (ref. W A.1/IX A.1)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary and Presentation – Intermediate High Pipeline

Improvements, CP1 Sections 75A and 47 – Belmont, Boston, Newton and Watertown, P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc., Contract 7484 (ref. W B.1/IX B.1)

- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – Intermediate High Pipeline Improvements, CP1 Sections 75A and 47 Resident Engineering and Inspection Services: CDM Smith Inc., Contract 8067 (ref. W B.2/IX B.2)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary and Presentation – Northern Intermediate High Section 89 Replacement Pipeline: P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc., Contract 7117, Change Order 10 (ref. W C.1/IX C.1)

**MASSACHUSETTS WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY**  
Meeting of the Administration, Finance and Audit Committee  
of the MWRA the Board of Directors  
December 11, 2024

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A meeting of the Administration, Finance and Audit Committee of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (“MWRA”) Board of Directors was held on December 11, 2024 at MWRA Headquarters at Deer Island, Boston, and via remote participation.

Committee Chair Flanagan presided at MWRA Headquarters. Board Members Pappastergion, Peña, Taverna, Jack Walsh, and Patrick Walsh participated at MWRA Headquarters. Board Members Vitale and Wolowicz also participated remotely. Board Members Swett and Foti were absent.

MWRA Executive Director Frederick Laskey; General Counsel Carolyn Francisco Murphy; Chief Operating Officer David Coppes; Deputy Chief Operating Officer Rebecca Weidman; Director of Finance Thomas Durkin; Director of Administration Michele Gillen; Chief of Staff Katherine Ronan; Associate General Counsel Angela Atchue; IT Asset Management Analyst Michael Curtis; and Assistant Secretary Kristin MacDougall attended at MWRA Headquarters.

Matt Romero, MWRA Advisory Board, also attended at MWRA Headquarters.

Acting Special Assistant for Affirmative Action Tomeka Cribb attended remotely.

Vandana Rao, EEA, also attended remotely.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Flanagan called the meeting to order at 10:40am.

**INFORMATION**

**Delegated Authority Report - November 2024**

Mr. Chair Flanagan invited Board Members’ questions on the Delegated Authority Report for November, 2024.

In reference to four Report Items (C6-C9: *Installation of Energy Efficient LED Lighting at respective Deer Island locations*), Mr. Jack Walsh asked if staff had performed cost benefit analyses. MWRA Chief Operating Officer David Coppes, responded in the affirmative, adding that these contracts were procured through an Eversource rebate incentive program. Mr. Jack Walsh asked if MWRA had previous experience with the vendor, Guardian Energy Management Solutions, LLC (“Guardian”). Mr. Coppes explained that MWRA engaged with Guardian, Eversource’s approved vendor, as required by the rebate program. There was brief, general discussion about the contracts’ procurements and their environmental and financial benefits.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Flanagan moved to the next Information item. (ref. AF&A A.1)

#### FY2025 Financial Update and Summary through November 2024

MWRA Finance Director Thomas Durkin explained that today's meeting falls before the November 2024 month-end close and advised that staff would prepare the November 2024 Financial Update and Summary for distribution to Board members and public posting on the MWRA website shortly after closeout. [The Staff Summary was distributed and posted on January 2, 2025.]

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Flanagan moved to Approvals. (ref. AF&A A.2)

#### APPROVALS

##### First Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the City of Quincy

Mr. Flanagan noted that there were two items for approval and that the first item was a proposed Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Quincy.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to recommend approval to the full Board of Directors of this Amendment as presented in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary. <sup>1</sup>**

MWRA Executive Director Fred Laskey reviewed the history of respective Memorandums of Agreement ("MOAs") between MWRA and the City of Quincy and the Town of Winthrop. He explained that the two proposed MOA Amendments mirror past agreements. He requested that the Board of Directors approve staff's recommendation to amend the Quincy and Winthrop MOAs, each with a term of 10 years. Finally, Mr. Laskey noted that staff sought approval at this meeting to allow Quincy and Winthrop time to prepare next year's budgets.

Mr. Pappastergion requested more information about staff's rationale for extending the terms by 10 years, rather than five years. Mr. Laskey explained that the proposed terms are consistent with existing agreements. Mr. Pappastergion expressed concern about the 10-year terms and recommended they be reduced to three or five years.

Mr. Jack Walsh described some challenges of negotiating MOAs and advised that in his view, longer terms would benefit all parties. He explained that he would consider Amendments with five-year terms with options to renew for an additional five years, noting that the MOAs mitigate Quincy's and Winthrop's burdens of hosting MWRA's largest wastewater facilities. Mr. Pappastergion reiterated his preference for five-year terms due to a changing landscape.

There was brief, general discussion about the history of the current MOAs' 10-year terms; how MOAs have strengthened the relationship between MWRA and the Town of Winthrop; how a

10-year agreement would allow Winthrop to undertake long-range planning for key public safety infrastructure improvements; and save MWRA \$250,000 per year by providing Town ambulance services for the Deer Island Treatment Plant.

Mr. Durkin reported that inflation rates averaged approximately 3% over the past 10 years, and the maximum inflation factor at 2.5% has historically served these kinds of agreements well and described the budgetary benefits. Brief discussion followed regarding interest rate variability; reducing the terms to five years; MOA Amendment negotiation process; presenting the Amendments for Board approval every five years; municipalities' abilities to conduct long-term planning under MOAs with shorter terms; and benefits that Quincy and Winthrop have realized as MWRA project host communities.

Mr. Jack Walsh noted that a number of MWRA facilities are located in Quincy, including the High Level Sewer, and described a fire at a MWRA facility in Quincy that required a multi-day City firefighting response. He expressed willingness to reach a compromise on the proposed MOA Amendments' term lengths.

Mr. Flanagan discussed how MWRA's Boston Harbor Project ("BHP") has significantly benefited communities across the Greater Boston area and described some impacts of the BHP and Deer Island Treatment Plant on Winthrop residents, such as from trucking and transporting chemicals. He recommended that the Committee vote to advance the original motions as presented.

Recognizing Mr. Pappastergion's perspectives, Mr. Vitale advised that he would support MWRA's recommendation to advance the original motion and requested Mr. Laskey's thoughts on the matter. Mr. Laskey explained that he would be open to MOA Amendments that are reviewed and presented for Board approval on a five-year basis as suggested by Mr. Peña and thanked the Committee for their thoughtful input.

In response to a question from Mr. Pappastergion, Mr. Laskey advised that the current Agreements with Quincy and Winthrop would expire in July, 2025. Mr. Pappastergion recommended that the Committee table votes on the proposed MOA Amendments until the next Board of Directors meeting in January 2025. Mr. Laskey explained that the timing of today's proposed Amendments is coordinated with the host communities' budgeting processes. Mr. Pappastergion advised that he would prefer to table the motions until consensus could be reached.

Ms. Wolowicz noted the timing of the FY26 municipal budget cycle; the importance of providing Quincy and Winthrop advance notice of any prospective changes to the MOAs' terms; and how

MOAs benefit project host community residents. She recommended against tabling the motions.

General Counsel Francisco Murphy reminded Board members that deliberations could continue at today's upcoming Board of Directors' meeting if the Committee voted to advance the motions.

(Mr. Taverna left and returned to the meeting during the discussion.)

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Flanagan requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Flanagan		
	Pappastergion	
Peña		
Swett		
	Taverna	
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. AF&A B.1/VII A.1)

#### First Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with the Town of Winthrop

Mr. Flanagan noted the next item was a proposed Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with the Town of Winthrop.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to recommend approval to the full Board of Directors of this Amendment as presented in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary.<sup>2</sup>**

There was brief procedural discussion.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Flanagan requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Flanagan		
	Pappastergion	
Peña		
<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
	Taverna	

Vitale  
J. Walsh  
P. Walsh  
Wolowicz  
(ref. AF&A B.2/VII A.2)

#### ADJOURNMENT


**A motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.**

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Flanagan requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Flanagan		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

The meeting adjourned 11:17am.

Approved: September 17, 2025

Attest:  for  
Brian Peña, Secretary

#### LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED

- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – Delegated Authority Report - November 2024 (ref. AF&A A.1)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – FY2025 Financial Update and Summary through November 2024 (ref. AF&A A.2)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – First Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Quincy (ref. AF&A B.1/VII B.1)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – First Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with the Town of Winthrop (ref. AF&A B.2/VII B.2)\

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<sup>1</sup> Board Vote: To authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute the First Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with the City of Quincy, substantially in the form attached to the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary, to extend the term of the agreement for an additional ten years and to continue to provide mitigation to the City of Quincy as detailed in said Staff Summary presented and filed with the records of this meeting. (ref. AF&A B.1/VII A.1)

<sup>2</sup> Board Vote: To authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority to execute the First Amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement with the Town of Winthrop, substantially in the form attached in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary, to extend the term of the agreement for an additional ten years and to continue to provide mitigation to the Town of Winthrop as detailed in said Staff Summary presented and filed with the records of this meeting. (ref. AF&A B.2/VII A.2)



**MASSACHUSETTS WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY**  
Meeting of the Wastewater Policy and Oversight Committee  
of the MWRA the Board of Directors  
December 11, 2024

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A meeting of the Wastewater Policy and Oversight Committee of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority ("MWRA") Board of Directors was held on December 11, 2024 at MWRA Headquarters at Deer Island, Boston, and via remote participation.

Committee Chair Patrick Walsh presided at MWRA Headquarters. Board Members Flanagan, Pappastergion, Peña, Taverna, Jack Walsh, Patrick Walsh participated at MWRA Headquarters. Board Members Vitale and Wolowicz participated remotely. Board Members Foti and Swett were absent.

MWRA Executive Director Frederick Laskey; General Counsel Carolyn Francisco Murphy; Chief Operating Officer David Coppes; Deputy Chief Operating Officer Rebecca Weidman; Director of Finance Thomas Durkin; Director of Administration Michele Gillen; Senior Program Manager for Engineering and Construction Senior Program Manager, Engineering and Construction Patricia Mallett; Chief Engineer Brian Kubaska; Program Manager, Engineering and Construction Margery Johnson; Director of Wastewater Operations Charles Ryan; Director of Construction Marty McGowan; Construction Coordinator Jeffrey Bina; ENQUAL Director David Wu; Chief of Staff Katherine Ronan; Associate General Counsel Angela Atchue; IT Asset Management Analyst Michael Curtis; and, Assistant Secretary Kristin MacDougall attended at MWRA Headquarters.

Matt Romero, MWRA Advisory Board, also attended at MWRA Headquarters.

Acting Special Assistant for Affirmative Action Tomeka Cribb attended remotely.

Vandana Rao, EEA, also attended remotely.

Mr. Patrick Walsh called the meeting to order at 11:17am.

**Contract Awards**

**Hayes Pump Station Rehabilitation Resident Engineering/Resident Inspection Services: Hazen and Sawyer, P.C., Contract 7668**

Mr. Walsh noted that the first item was a proposed award to Hazen and Sawyer of Contract 7668, Resident Engineering and Inspection Services for the Hayes Pump Station Rehabilitation project.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to recommend approval to the full Board of Directors of this contract award as presented in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary.<sup>1</sup>**

(Ms. Wolowicz temporarily left the meeting after the motion.)

Patricia Mallett, Senior Program Manager, Engineering and Construction, presented an overview of the Hayes Pump Station Rehabilitation project in support of a proposed contract award for associated resident engineering/resident inspection (“RE/RI”) services to Hazen and Sawyer, P.C. She discussed the project’s location; contract scope and bid results. She noted that MWRA received one proposal from Hazen and Sawyer, and that it came in less than the Engineer’s Estimate, primarily due to lower than estimated hourly rates. She discussed Hazen and Sawyer’s experience working on MWRA projects, and satisfactory references.

Mr. Taverna requested more information about the proposed key personnel’s qualifications. Ms. Mallett described the proposed Resident Engineer’s qualifications and work experience, including on MWRA’s Wachusett Dam Gatehouse project. There was brief discussion about the timing of the Gatehouse project closeout; the startup of the Hayes Pump Station Rehabilitation project; Hazen and Sawyer’s proposed Resident Engineer’s availability for this project; and the benefits of engaging a project’s design engineer and resident engineer through the same firm, such as improved coordination and efficiency.

Brief discussion followed concerning the plan holders list for the project’s bidding process; and the firms that requested bid documents through MWRA’s procurement portal.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Patrick Walsh requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Flanagan		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. WW A.1/VIII.A.1)

#### Contract Amendments/Change Orders

##### Ward Street and Columbus Park Headworks Upgrade: CDM Smith, Contract 7429, Amendment 1

Mr. Walsh noted that there were five items under Contract Amendments and Change Orders, and that the first was proposed Amendment 1 to Contract 7429, Ward Street and Columbus Park Headworks Upgrade, with CDM Smith.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to recommend approval to the full Board of Directors of this Amendment 1 as presented in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary.<sup>2</sup>**

Staff discussed proposed Amendment 1 to the Ward Street and Columbus Park Upgrade Project Contract 7429. Brian Kubaska, MWRA Chief Engineer, presented an overview of the project's purpose and scope and a summary of previous upgrades at the Ward Street and Columbus Park facilities. He noted staff's intention to build a new structure to house the facilities' required equipment and office space during construction (citing lessons learned from the Chelsea Creek Headworks Upgrade project); and explained the new structure would help ensure that the facilities remain operational during construction.

Next, Margery Johnson, MWRA Program Manager, Engineering and Construction, discussed staff's efforts to incorporate carbon footprint reductions into the upgrade design in support of Massachusetts Executive Order No. 594: *Decarbonizing and Minimizing Environmental Impacts of State Government* ("EO 594"), which was issued after the execution of this contract. She presented a graph of MWRA's significant reduction in total carbon emissions since 2006, and summarized extensive evaluations performed on potential carbon-reducing heating technologies for the Ward Street and Columbus Park facilities, including wastewater heat recovery systems and heat pumps.

Ms. Johnson reported that while conceptually promising, heat recovery systems were not viable for this project due to large, variable wet weather flows at the installation sites, as well as a lack of demonstrated experience with installed systems of similar magnitude and complexity. She noted that staff can apply the heat recovery systems research to other projects, and that the planned Ward Street and Columbus Park upgrades would allow for the addition of flow extraction if more workable heat recovery technologies were developed in the future.

Next, Ms. Johnson discussed staff's evaluation of air source heat pumps. She reported that heat pumps are feasible for project locations that are unexposed to the wastewater stream or grit and screenings, such as administrative spaces and electrical rooms; therefore, heat pumps would be incorporated into final design for only these areas.

Ms. Johnson further noted that while this project could not meet EO 594's fossil fuel reduction targets, its final design would include improvements to the HVAC basis of design, such as natural gas condensing boilers for heating classified spaces; variable refrigerant flow heat pumps for non-classified spaces; and consideration for future heat recovery options. She then presented a summary of the project's planned wet weather operations improvements for choking events, and examples of models used to evaluate the various technologies considered, including the recommended blocks and baffles system. Finally, Ms. Johnson presented the terms, scope and costs of proposed Amendment 1 to Contract 7429, including a time extension

for Final Design delays due to the extensive evaluations performed in support of EO 594; the escalation for Final Design and Engineering During Construction; administrative costs; additional design items; a pneumatic ejection system; and an allowance to address design issues without further delay.

(Ms. Wolowicz left and returned to the meeting during the presentation.)

Mr. Taverna asked if staff had considered alternatives to natural gas. Ms. Johnson explained that the facilities currently use oil systems. Mr. Kubaska added that natural gas would be used in the facilities' classified areas. There was brief discussion about staff's efforts to support EO 594's requirements.

Mr. Flanagan asked if the design would include back-up heat systems in case of a gas line interruption. Mr. Kubaska advised that such back-up systems would be a design consideration.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Patrick Walsh requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Flanagan		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. WW B.1/VIII.B.1)

(Mr. Taverna temporarily left the meeting after Roll Call.)

MWRA Executive Director Fred Laskey congratulated Ms. Johnson on her upcoming retirement.

Management, Operation and Maintenance of the Union Park Pump Station/CSO Facility and Unstaffed Pump Stations: Woodard & Curran, Contract S606, Amendment 1

Mr. Walsh noted that Proposed Amendment 1 to Contract S606, Union Park Pump Station/CSO Facility and Unstaffed Pump Stations, with Woodward & Curran was next.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to recommend approval to the full Board of Directors of this Amendment 1 as presented in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary.<sup>3</sup>**

Charles Ryan, MWRA Director of Wastewater Operations, presented an overview of an

MWRA/Boston Water and Sewer Commission (“BWSC”) contract for the management, operation and maintenance of the Union Park Pump Station/CSO Facility and nine unstaffed pump stations, in support of proposed Amendment 1 to Contract S606. He presented the Union Park facility’s location; noted the existing contract with Woodard & Curran expires at the end of February 2025; and, explained staff sought the Board’s approval of two, one-year amendments for the contract; presented photos of the Union Park Pump Station’s gas turbine engines; pumps; and detention basins, and described their functions; summarized the duration and scope of the current contract S606; explained that Woodard & Curran has operated S606’s facilities under four consecutive contracts, and that the firm has met or exceeded qualifications; summarized proposed Amendment 1’s duration and cost, including a maintenance allowance; and noted the BWSC Board of Commissioners approved this Amendment in November 2024.

(Mr. Taverna returned to the meeting, and Ms. Wolowicz left the meeting during the presentation.)

There was brief discussion about the Union Park facility’s 24-7 operations and staffing, and its use as an operations control center for monitoring BWSC pump stations.

Mr. Vitale thanked MWRA for collaborating with BWSC on this contract; agreed with staff’s positive assessment of Woodard & Curran’s qualifications and noted that neighbors are satisfied with the Union Park facility’s operations.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Patrick Walsh requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Flanagan		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. WW B.2/VIII B.2)

(Mr. Flanagan temporarily left the meeting after Roll Call.)

Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements: Walsh Construction Co. II, LLC, Contract 7366, Change Order 10

Mr. Walsh noted that proposed Change Order 10 and further delegation of authority to the

Executive Director to approve additional change orders on Contract 7366, Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements, with Walsh Construction was next.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to recommend approval to the full Board of Directors of Change Order 10 and further delegation of authority as presented in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary.<sup>4</sup>**

Marty McGowan, MWRA Director of Construction, advised that contract 7366 with Walsh Construction Co. II, LLC (“Walsh”) expired in November 2024. He explained that the project team evaluated and finalized the contractor’s request for a time extension prior to seeking Board approval for proposed Amendment 1 at this meeting; noted that some elements of Amendment 1 are compensable, while others are at no additional cost; advised that the proposed amendment includes a request for redelegation for known change order requests currently under evaluation; and, that potential future change orders that may arise during commissioning activities. He noted associated time extensions for consultants are included in the Delegated Authority Report for November 2024 (ref. AF&A A.1).

Next, Jeffrey Bina, MWRA Construction Coordinator, updated Board members on the Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements Project; presented an aerial progress photo of the existing pump station and addition; highlighted ongoing exterior and interior work; described coordination and scheduling challenges encountered during construction due to the site’s small footprint and location; discussed excess soil removal operations; and presented updates on the facility’s temporary odor control system and the installation of a new odor control system, mechanical bar screens. He described staff training and ongoing commissioning activities for the first process channel, with work on the second channel expected to begin in January 2026.

(Mr. Flanagan returned to the meeting during the presentation.)

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Patrick Walsh requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Flanagan		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. WW B.3/VIII B.3)

Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements Design and ESDC Services: Wright-Pierce, Contract 7435, Amendment 4

Mr. Walsh noted that proposed Amendment 4 to Contract 7435, Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements Design and ESDC Services, with Wright-Pierce, was next.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to recommend approval to the full Board of Directors of this Amendment 4 as presented in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary.<sup>5</sup>**

Mr. McGowan explained that staff sought Board approval of proposed Amendment 4 to a Design and Engineering Services During Construction (“ESDC”) contract for the Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements project; and noted the proposed amendment’s scope included continued administrative and ESDC support for the project and added tasks.

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Patrick Walsh requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Flanagan		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. WW B.4/VIII B.4)

Harbor and Outfall Monitoring, Benthic, Fish and Shellfish Monitoring: Normandeau Associates, Inc., Contract OP-401B, Amendment 3

Mr. Walsh noted that proposed Amendment 3 to Contract OP-401B, Harbor and Outfall Monitoring, with Normandeau Associates was next.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to recommend approval to the full Board of Directors of this Amendment 3 as presented in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary.<sup>6</sup>**

David Wu, MWRA ENQUAL Director, described the existing contract with Normandeau Associates, Inc. for Harbor and Outfall Monitoring, Bethnic, Fish and Shellfish Monitoring. He noted that this monitoring is required under the current draft NPDES discharge permit for the Deer Island Treatment Plant; however, it is not expected to be required under the new final permit, which is under EPA review.

Mr. Wu explained that the proposed amendment would allow required monitoring to continue

while staff await the issuance of the new permit; summarized the amendment's scope and duration, as well as the contract's award and amendment history; discussed proposed Amendment 3's cost, which is 12.3% less than that of Amendment 2 due to the particular tasks required for the 2025 monitoring cycle. He reported a cost escalation of 2.9% for the tasks that are included in both Amendments 2 and 3 and noted that staff found the escalation rate to be reasonable.

Mr. Pappastergion expressed concern about costs associated with the NPDES permit's finalization delays.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Patrick Walsh requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Flanagan		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. WW B.5/VIII B.5)

#### ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.**

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Patrick Walsh requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Flanagan		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

The meeting adjourned 11:55am.



Approved: September 17, 2025

Attest:

 for

Brian Peña, Secretary

#### LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED

- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary and Presentation – Hayes Pump Station Rehabilitation Resident Engineering/Resident Inspection Services: Hazen and Sawyer, P.C., Contract 7668 (ref. WW A.1/VIII A.1)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary and Presentation – Ward Street and Columbus Park Headworks Upgrade: CDM Smith, Inc., Contract 7429, Amendment 1 (ref. WW B.1/VIII B.1)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary and Presentation – Management, Operation, and Maintenance of the Union Park Pump Station/CSO Facility and the Unstaffed Pump Stations: Woodard & Curran, Inc., Contract S606, Amendment 1 (ref. WW B.2/VIII B.2)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary and Presentation – Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements: Walsh Construction Co. II, LLC, Contract 7366, Change Order 10 (ref. WW B.3/VIII B.3)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements, Design and Engineering Services During Construction: Wright-Pierce, Contract 7435, Amendment 4 (ref. WW B.4/VIII B.4)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – Harbor and Outfall Monitoring, Benthic, Fish, and Shellfish Monitoring: Normandeau Associates, Inc., Contract OP-401B, Amendment 3 (ref. WW B.5/VIII B.5)

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<sup>1</sup> Board Vote: To approve the recommendation of the Consultant Selection Committee to award Contract 7668, Hayes Pump Station Rehabilitation Resident Engineering/Resident Inspection Services, to Hazen and Sawyer, P.C. and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute said contract in an amount not to exceed \$1,759,118, for a contract term of 39 months from the Notice to Proceed.

<sup>2</sup> Board Vote: To authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Amendment 1 to Contract 7429, Ward Street and Columbus Park Headworks Upgrade, with CDM Smith Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$4,023,000, increasing the contract amount from \$28,896,530 to \$32,919,530 and extending the contract term by 32 months from January 22, 2030 to September 22, 2032. (ref. WW B.1/VIII B.1)

<sup>3</sup> Board Vote: To authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Amendment 1 to Contract S606, Management, Operation, and Maintenance of the Union Park Pump Station/CSO

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Facility and the Unstaffed Pump Stations, with Woodard & Curran, Inc., exercising the two-year extension, and to execute said Amendment jointly with the Boston Water and Sewer Commission to: (i) increase the contract service fee by \$4,339,180, of which MWRA will pay \$1,171,578.60 (27%) and Boston Water and Sewer Commission will pay \$3,167,601.40 (73%), and to increase the allowance for preventative and corrective maintenance and repairs by \$700,000, which includes \$200,000 for MWRA and \$500,000 for Boston Water and Sewer Commission, for a total Amendment amount of \$5,039,180, increasing the contract sum from \$7,231,262 to a total not to exceed amount of \$12,270,442; and, (ii) extend the contract term by two-years, from March 1, 2025 to February 28, 2027. (ref. WW B.2/VIII B.2)

<sup>4</sup> Board Vote: To authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Change Order 10 to Contract 7366, Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements, with Walsh Construction Co. II, LLC for an amount not to exceed \$100,000, increasing the contract amount from \$14,289,550.90 to \$14,389,550.90, and extending the contract term by 120 calendar days from November 28, 2024 to March 28, 2025. Further, to authorize the Executive Director to approve additional change orders as may be needed to Contract 7366 in an amount not to exceed the aggregate of \$1,000,000, and 180 days in accordance with the Management Policies and Procedures of the Board of Directors. (ref. WW B.3/VIII B.3)

<sup>5</sup> Board Vote: To authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Amendment 4 to Contract 7435, Braintree-Weymouth Pump Station Improvements, Design and Engineering Services During Construction, with Wright-Pierce, increasing the contract amount by \$207,700 from \$2,488,567 to \$2,696,267, and the contract term by 16 months from December 17, 2024 to April 17, 2026. (ref. WW B.4/VIII B.4)

<sup>6</sup> Board Vote: To authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Amendment 3 to Contract OP-401B, Harbor and Outfall Monitoring, Benthic, Fish and Shellfish Monitoring, with Normandeau Associates, Inc., increasing the contract amount by \$488,799.27 from \$2,498,043.34 to \$2,986,842.61 and extending the contract term by one year from October 31, 2025 to October 31, 2026. (ref. WW B.5/VIII B.5)

**MASSACHUSETTS WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY**  
Meeting of the Personnel and Compensation Committee  
of the MWRA the Board of Directors  
December 11, 2024

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A meeting of the Personnel and Compensation Committee of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority ("MWRA") Board of Directors was held on December 11, 2024 at MWRA Headquarters at Deer Island, Boston, and via remote participation.

Committee Chair Wolowicz presided via remote participation. Board Member Vitale also participated remotely. Board Members Flanagan, Pappastergion, Peña, Taverna, Jack Walsh, and Patrick Walsh participated at MWRA Headquarters. Board Members Foti and Swett were absent.

MWRA Executive Director Frederick Laskey; General Counsel Carolyn Francisco Murphy; Chief Operating Officer David Coppes; Director of Finance Thomas Durkin; Director of Administration Michele Gillen; Human Resources Director Wendy Chu; Chief of Staff Katherine Ronan; Associate General Counsel Angela Atchue; IT Asset Management Analyst Michael Curtis; and, Assistant Secretary Kristin MacDougall attended at MWRA Headquarters.

Matt Romero, MWRA Advisory Board, also attended at MWRA Headquarters.

Acting Special Assistant for Affirmative Action Tomeka Cribb participated remotely.

Vandana Rao, EEA, also attended remotely.

**ROLL CALL**

Before the meeting was called to order, Board Vice-Chair Pappastergion delivered brief opening remarks, and announced that the Board of Directors' Meeting would be held at 1:00pm. He requested a roll call of Board Members in attendance for the Committee meetings.

MWRA General Counsel Francisco Murphy took roll call and announced that Board Members Vitale and Wolowicz were participating remotely.

Mr. Pappastergion announced that the meeting was being held at MWRA Headquarters and virtually. He added that the meeting would be recorded, and that the agenda and meeting materials were available on MWRA's website.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Ms. Wolowicz called the meeting to order at 10:01am.

## INFORMATION

### Compensation Study of Non-Union Management Salaries

Ms. Wolowicz noted that there was one information item for discussion, a compensation study for non-union management salaries, referred Board members to the Staff Summary for this agenda item, and invited MWRA staff to provide more information in advance of discussion.

Wendy Chu, MWRA Human Resources Director, noted that the Board of Directors had previously contemplated a compensation study for MWRA's non-union management salaries. She explained that staff were requesting the Committee's guidance on key decision points in order to develop a scope of services for a compensation study, pending Board approval, including: which non-union positions to review in a potential study; which entities to consider as potential comparators; and, whether to review the Authority's non-union structure or strategy.

Mr. Vitale advised that in his view, the main goals of such a study would be to ensure that MWRA staff are paid fairly and equitably, and to evaluate and benchmark MWRA salaries against those of comparable organizations. He described how the Boston Water and Sewer Commission has engaged consultants for similar studies, with particular focus on ensuring pay equity for its diverse workforce.

Referring to the Staff Summary, Mr. Pappastergion requested more information on an internal non-union managers' pay equity assessment that is currently underway under the Massachusetts Pay Equity Act ("MEPA"). Ms. Chu described the scope and status of the study and advised that staff would consider having its findings reviewed by an outside vendor. There was general discussion about MWRA's 2018 MEPA assessment and its outcomes, during which Ms. Chu advised that MEPA recommends that employers conduct such assessments every three years.

Mr. Pappastergion requested more information about the difference between the MEPA study and the potential non-union compensation study. Ms. Chu explained that the MEPA assessment compares salaries internally, while a non-union compensation study would compare MWRA's salaries with those of external peers. Mr. Pappastergion recommended that both studies move forward.

Next, Michele Gillen, MWRA Director of Administration, discussed the respective goals of the two studies and provided additional background on the 2018 MEPA assessment. She requested Board members' input on the scope of a potential non-union compensation study, noting that staff sought to avoid any potential conflicts of interest.

Mr. Pappastergion recommended that all MWRA employees be included in a potential

compensation study. There was discussion about non-union manager salary compression and collision, and differences between union and non-union compensation packages. Mr. Pappastergion expressed support for the non-union compensation study and noted that it could serve as a guide for future discussions about compensation adjustments.

Ms. Wolowicz advised that in her view, it is important for this study to have a broad scope that covers as many non-union staff as possible, and recommended that it include comparisons of benefits. Ms. Wolowicz discussed recent trends in benefits packages, and ways for staff to avoid the perception of conflicts of interest when conducting the study.

Mr. Pappastergion suggested that the study's scope include consultant recommendations on how frequently MWRA's non-union compensation assessments should be performed. Ms. Wolowicz agreed.

General Counsel Francisco Murphy requested additional recommendations from Board members on scope parameters, such as the potential study's comparator entities.

Mr. Patrick Walsh recommended that the study include comparisons of compensation with organizations that operate similarly to MWRA. Mr. Jack Walsh suggested taking regional differences in cost of living into account. Mr. Peña agreed, and recommended that the study's data be normalized. Mr. Pappastergion also agreed, and suggested the inclusion of organizations located in areas with different living costs.

Mr. Flanagan requested more information about how the study results would be used. Ms. Francisco Murphy explained that the results would be provided to the Board for informational purposes. There was brief, general discussion about the importance of clear communications about the study's purpose with staff.

Ms. Wolowicz recommended that the compensation assessment include comparisons with private sector entities and public agencies across the country. She also suggested that the study's consultant develop a list of recommended comparator entities for Board discussion.

Ms. Francisco Murphy asked if Board members would like the study to include a review of MWRA's compensation structure. Mr. Pappastergion responded in the affirmative, noting that the review would be helpful for salary collision analysis.

There was brief, general discussion about the types of consulting firms that typically conduct such studies. Mr. Taverna requested more information about the study's budget. Ms. Francisco Murphy explained that staff will develop a proposed budget for Board discussion at a later date, pending approval of the scope's parameters.

Matt Romero, MWRA Advisory Board Executive Director expressed support for this study and

for conducting such studies periodically in the future.

Ms. Francisco-Murphy reviewed Board members’ recommendations on the compensation study’s scope, as recorded during this agenda item’s discussion. Ms. Wolowicz recommended that the scope also include a review of job descriptions.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to recommend approval to the full Board of Directors that the scope for the Compensation Study of Non-Union Management Salaries include: all non-union manager positions; a review of the entire compensation packages plus benefits; a review of job descriptions; comparisons of public and private sector entities around the country, with a normalization of the data to reflect, for example, cost of living; a review of MWRA non-union manager compensation philosophy and structure; and a recommendation from the third party consultant performing the study on how often such studies should be conducted.<sup>1</sup>**

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Ms. Wolowicz requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Flanagan		
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Pappastergion		
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Peña		
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Taverna		
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Vitale		
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J. Walsh		
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P. Walsh		
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Wolowicz		
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(ref. P&C A.1)

#### APPROVALS

##### Appointment of John Parkurst, Director, Wastewater Operations and Maintenance

Ms. Wolowicz noted that there were two approval items, and that the first was the appointment of the Wastewater Operations and Maintenance Director.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to recommend approval to the full Board of Directors of this appointment as presented in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary.<sup>2</sup>**

Ms. Chu advised that Charles Ryan, Director of Wastewater Operations and Maintenance would retire in January 2025, and described the position’s job duties. She summarized the interview and selection process to fill the upcoming vacancy and described the qualifications and work experience of the recommended candidate, John Parkhurst.

Mr. Laskey thanked Mr. Ryan for his excellent work.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Ms. Wolowicz requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Flanagan		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. P&C B.1/VI A.1)

Appointment of Rita C. Mercado, Special Assistant for Affirmative Action and Compliance

Ms. Wolowicz noted that the next proposed appointment was for the Special Assistant for Affirmative Action.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to recommend approval to the full Board of Directors of this appointment as presented in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary.<sup>3</sup>**

Ms. Wolowicz discussed the job responsibilities and reporting structure for the Special Assistant for Affirmative Action and Compliance (“AACU”) per MWRA’s Enabling Act. She thanked Tomeka Cribb for serving as the Acting Special Assistant.

Next, Ms. Wolowicz reviewed the process for recruiting, interviewing and selecting the recommended candidate, Rita Mercado, and described her qualifications and work experience.

Mr. Laskey thanked Ms. Cribb for her work as Acting Special Assistant for AACU, and Ms. Wolowicz for her contributions to the recruitment and selection process.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Ms. Wolowicz requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Flanagan		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. P&C B.2/VI A.2)

#### ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.**

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Ms. Wolowicz requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Flanagan		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

The meeting adjourned 10:40am.

Approved: September 17, 2025

Attest:

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Brian Peña, Secretary

#### LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED

- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary: Compensation Study of Non-Union Management Salaries (ref. P&C A.1)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – Appointment of Director, Wastewater Operations and Maintenance (ref. P&C B.1)/VI A.1)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – Appointment of Special Assistant for Affirmative Action and Compliance (ref. P&C B.2/VI A.2)



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<sup>1</sup> Board Vote: That the scope for the Compensation Study of Non-Union Management Salaries include: all non-union manager positions; a review of the entire compensation packages plus benefits; a review of job descriptions; comparisons of public and private sector entities around the country, with a normalization of the data to reflect, for example, cost of living; a review of MWRA non-union manager compensation philosophy and structure; and a recommendation from the third party consultant performing the study on how often such studies should be conducted. (ref. P&C A.1/VI.A.1)

<sup>2</sup> Board Vote: To approve the appointment of Mr. John Parkhurst to the position of Director, Wastewater Operations and Maintenance (Non-Union, Grade 15) in the Operations Division, at the recommended annual salary of \$168,205, commencing on a date to be determined by the Executive Director. (ref. P&C B.1/VI A.2)

<sup>3</sup> Board Vote: To approve the appointment of Rita C. Mercado to the position of Special Assistant for Affirmative Action and Compliance (Non-Union, Grade 16) at an annual salary of \$175,219, commencing on a date to be determined by the Executive Director. (ref. P&C B.2/VI A.3)

**MASSACHUSETTS WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY**  
Meeting of the Water Policy and Oversight Committee  
of the MWRA the Board of Directors  
December 11, 2024

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A meeting of the Water Policy and Oversight Committee of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority ("MWRA") Board of Directors was held on December 11, 2024 at MWRA Headquarters at Deer Island, Boston, and via remote participation.

Committee Chair Taverna presided at MWRA Headquarters. Board Members Flanagan, Pappastergion, Peña, Taverna, Jack Walsh, Patrick Walsh participated at MWRA Headquarters. Board Member Vitale participated remotely. Board Members Foti, Swett and Wolowicz were absent.

MWRA Executive Director Frederick Laskey; General Counsel Carolyn Francisco Murphy; Chief Operating Officer David Coppes; Director of Finance Thomas Durkin; Director of Administration Michele Gillen; Regulatory and Environmental Affairs Director Collen Rizzi; Assistant Director of Engineering Ester Lwebuga; Construction Coordinator Jeremiah Sheehan; Chief of Staff Katherine Ronan; Associate General Counsel Angela Atchue; IT Asset Management Analyst Michael Curtis; and, Assistant Secretary Kristin MacDougall attended at MWRA Headquarters.

Matt Romero, MWRA Advisory Board, also attended at MWRA Headquarters.

Special Assistant for Affirmative Action Tomeka Cribb participated remotely.

Vandana Rao, EEA, also participated remotely.

Mr. Taverna called the meeting to order at 11:55am.

**WATER POLICY AND OVERSIGHT**

**Approvals**

**Water Supply Continuation Agreements for Cambridge, Canton, Framingham, Lynn Water and Sewer Commission, Needham, Northborough, Peabody, Weston and Winchester**

**Mr. Taverna noted that there was one item for approval:** Water Supply Continuation Agreements with Cambridge, Canton, Framingham, Lynn Water and Sewer Commission, Needham, Northborough, Peabody, Weston and Winchester.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to recommend approval to the full Board of Directors of these Water Supply Continuation Agreements as presented in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary.<sup>1</sup>**

Colleen Rizzi, MWRA Environmental and Regulatory Affairs Director, noted that MWRA provides

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*Documents used for this meeting and cited in these minutes, including meeting materials/staff summaries, presentations, and approved minutes, are posted on MWRA's website: <https://www.mwra.com/about-mwra/governance-management/board-directors/archive-agendas-and-minutes>*

water service to 53 cities and towns, including 27 communities that receive water pursuant to water supply contracts. She advised that staff sought approval to renew nine Water Supply Continuation agreements that are set to expire on December 31, 2024, and invited Board members' questions.

Mr. Pappastergion asked if the proposed continuation agreements included any changes. Ms. Rizzi explained that the proposed agreements included some language updates for consistency, but no substantive changes.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Taverna requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Flanagan		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. W A.1/IX A.1)

#### Contract Awards

Intermediate High Pipeline Improvements, CP1 Sections 75A and 47 – Belmont, Boston, Newton and Watertown, P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc., Contract 7484

Mr. Taverna noted that there were two proposed contract awards, and that the first was to P. Gioioso & Sons of Contract 7484, Intermediate High Pipeline Improvements, CP1 Sections 75A and 47.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to recommend approval to the full Board of Directors of award of this contract as presented in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary.<sup>2</sup>**

Ester Lwebuga, MWRA Assistant Director of Engineering, presented an overview of the Intermediate High Pipeline Improvements, CP1 Sections 75A and 47 project, which is one of three contracts to interconnect the two geographically distinct and hydraulically unconnected Intermediate High pressure zones supplied by the Commonwealth Avenue and Belmont Pump Stations.

She presented a map of the project's location; highlighted pipeline section 59, which is 88 years old and cannot be taken out of service for rehabilitation; advised that its failure would interrupt water service for portions of Belmont and Watertown; described the goals of the project, including improvements to system reliability, redundancy, operational flexibility, and, water quality; and, summarized the three construction packages ("CP-1, CP-2, and CP-3") that

comprise the larger Intermediate High Pipeline Improvements project. She noted CP-2 is currently in construction, and that CP-3 was postponed pending the collection of additional existing pipe data, which would take place after CP-1's activation.

Ms. Lwebuga then discussed the scope of proposed CP-1, including the installation of a pipeline extension to create a connection between the two distinct regions of the Intermediate High pressure zone; presented a summary of the bids received for CP-1 Contract 7484; noted that proposed CP-1 includes the replacement and rehabilitation of water mains owned by the City of Newton, per a Memorandum of Agreement that was approved by the Board of Directors in October 2023. She discussed the bid amount for the recommended contractor, P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc., and noted it included costs for work to be performed for MWRA and the City of Newton, and allowances, such as for police details.

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Taverna requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Flanagan		
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Pappastergion		
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Peña		
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Taverna		
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Vitale		
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J. Walsh		
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P. Walsh		
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(ref. W B.1/IX B.1)

Intermediate High Pipeline Improvements, CP1 Sections 75A and 47 Resident Engineering and Inspection Services: CDM Smith Inc., Contract 8067

Mr. Taverna advised that the next proposed award was to CDM Smith of Contract 8067, Intermediate High Pipeline, CP1 Sections 75A and 47 Resident Engineering and Inspection Services.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to recommend approval to the full Board of Directors of award of this contract as presented in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary.<sup>3</sup>**

Ms. Lwebuga reported that staff received one proposal for RE/RI services for the Intermediate High Pipeline Improvements CP-1 project from CDM Smith, in an amount not-to-exceed \$1,821,258.30.

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Taverna requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Flanagan		
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Pappastergion		
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Peña		
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<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Taverna

Vitale

J. Walsh

P. Walsh

(ref. W B.2/IX B.2)

Contract Amendments/Change OrdersNorthern Intermediate High Section 89 Replacement Pipeline: P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc., Contract 7117, Change Order 10

Mr. Taverna noted that proposed Change Order 10 and a further delegation of authority to the Executive Director to approve additional change orders on Contract 7117, Northern Intermediate High Section 89 Replacement Pipeline, with P. Gioioso & Sons, was next.

**A motion was duly made and seconded to recommend approval to the full Board of Directors of this Change Order 10 and the further delegation of authority as presented in the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary.<sup>4</sup>**

Jeremiah Sheehan, MWRA Construction Coordinator, presented the reasons for proposed Change Order 10 to the Northern Intermediate High Section 89 Replacement Pipeline Contract 7110, including unforeseen road conditions on Eugene Drive in Winchester that impacted trench work; unanticipated utility conflicts on Montvale Avenue in Woburn; and a design error related to vent piping for air release manhole structures.

Mr. Sheehan presented project progress photos, including a slip lining operation under a Route 93 exit ramp; and the installation of steel sheeting along an easement between Stoneham and Winchester to make the final pipeline connection for Phase 3. Finally, he discussed upcoming project Phase 4, including the complete deactivation of all of existing Section 89's pre-stressed concrete cylinder pipe ("PCCP"), which will greatly reduce any liability with respect to potential catastrophic failure related to PCCP manufactured during the existing pipeline's 1970s timeframe.

There was brief discussion about the unforeseen road conditions in Winchester, which require additional reconstruction of the roadway subbase prior to installing full width overlay pavement to ensure the road's structural integrity. Mr. Sheehan explained that this technical approach was chosen at the Town's request.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Taverna requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
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Flanagan

Pappastergion

Peña

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

(ref. W C.1/IX C.1)

#### ADJOURNMENT

**A motion was duly made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.**

Hearing no discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Taverna requested a roll call vote in which the members were recorded as follows:

<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstain</u>
Flanagan		
Pappastergion		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

The meeting adjourned 12:10pm.

Approved: September 17, 2025

Attest:

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Brian Peña, Secretary

#### LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED

- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – Water Supply Continuation Agreements for Cambridge, Canton, Framingham, Lynn Water and Sewer Commission, Needham, Northborough, Peabody, Weston and Winchester (ref. W A.1/IX A.1)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary and Presentation – Intermediate High Pipeline Improvements, CP1 Sections 75A and 47 – Belmont, Boston, Newton and Watertown, P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc., Contract 7484 (ref. W B.1/IX B.1)

- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary – Intermediate High Pipeline Improvements, CP1 Sections 75A and 47 Resident Engineering and Inspection Services: CDM Smith Inc., Contract 8067 (ref. W B.2/IX B.2)
- December 11, 2024 Staff Summary and Presentation – Northern Intermediate High Section 89 Replacement Pipeline: P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc., Contract 7117, Change Order 10 (ref. W C.1/IX C.1)

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<sup>1</sup> Board Vote: To authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute Water Supply Continuation Agreements with Cambridge, Canton, Framingham, Lynn Water and Sewer Commission, Needham, Northborough, Peabody, Weston, and Winchester, each for a term of ten years, substantially in the form filed as Attachments One through Nine of the December 11, 2024 Staff Summary presented and filed with the records of this meeting. (ref. W A.1/IX A.1)

<sup>2</sup> Board Vote: To approve the award of Contract 7484, Intermediate High Pipeline Improvements, CP1 Sections 75A and 47, Belmont, Boston, Newton and Watertown, to the lowest responsible and eligible bidder, P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc., and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute said contract in the bid amount of \$22,580,000 with a contract term of 912 calendar days from the Notice to Proceed. (ref. W B.1/IX B.1)

<sup>3</sup> Board Vote: To approve the recommendation of the Consultant Selection Committee to award Contract 8067, Intermediate High Pipeline Improvements CP1 Sections 75A and 47 Resident Engineering and Inspection Services, to CDM Smith Inc. and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute said contract in an amount not to exceed \$1,821,258.30 for a contract term of 33 months from the Notice to Proceed. (ref. W B.2/IX B.2)

<sup>4</sup> Board Vote: To authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Change Order 10 to Contract 7117, Northern Intermediate High Section 89 Replacement Pipeline, with P. Gioioso & Sons, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$255,655.68, increasing the contract amount from \$36,242,127.69 to \$36,497,783.37 with no increase in contract term.

Further, to authorize the Executive Director to approve additional change orders as may be needed to Contract 7117 in an amount not to exceed the aggregate of \$1,000,000, and 180 days in accordance with the Management Policies and Procedures of the Board of Directors. (ref. W C.1/IX C.1)