

MASSACHUSETTS WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY

Meeting of the Board of Directors

March 19, 2025

A meeting of the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (“MWRA”) Board of Directors was held on March 19, 2025 at the MWRA Administration Facility in Chelsea, and via remote participation.

Chair Tepper presided at the MWRA Administration Facility. Board Members Peña, Taverna, Vitale, Patrick Walsh, Jack Walsh, and Jennifer Wolowicz also participated at the Administration Facility. Board Member Foti participated remotely. Board members Flanagan, Pappastergion 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; Director of Tunnel Redundancy Kathleen Murtagh; Special Assistant for Affirmative Action Rita Mercado; MIS Director Paula Weadick; Deputy Finance Director/Treasurer Matthew Horan; HRIS and Benefits Manager Ivana McGrail, Deer Island Treatment Plant Deputy Director Chad Whiting; Metropolitan Maintenance Manager Bill Carter; Wastewater Director Stephen Cullen; Construction Director Marty McGowan; Construction Coordinator Jeffrey Bina; Director of Planning and Sustainability Stephen Estes-Smargiassi; Senior Program Manager Daniel Nvule; Assistant Director of Engineering Lisa Hamilton; Program Manager Kellie Stevens; Waterworks Director Valerie Moran; Human Resources Director Wendy Chu; Chief of Staff Katherine Ronan; Associate General Counsels Angela Atchue and Kimberley McMahon; and, Assistant Secretary Kristin MacDougall attended at the MWRA Administration Facility.

Vandana Rao, EEA and Matt Romero, MWRA Advisory Board, also attended at the Administration Facility.

Chair Tepper called the meeting to order at 1:00pm.

ROLL CALL

MWRA General Counsel Francisco Murphy took roll call of Board members in attendance and announced that Mr. Foti was participating remotely. The Chair announced that the meeting was being held at the MWRA Administration Facility 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 FEBURARY 12, 2025 MINUTES

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors’

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>

meeting of February 12, 2025.

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		
		Foti
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(Mr. Foti abstained due to Webex sound issues.) (ref. I)

REPORT OF THE CHAIR

Chair Tepper reported that the Healy-Driscoll Administration recently outlined its Energy Affordability Agenda for reducing energy bills, and noted upcoming state legislation related to energy affordability. (ref. II)

REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

MWRA Executive Director Fred Laskey updated Board Members on the ongoing Ware River Diversion. Mr. Taverna asked how many gallons were being diverted per day. David Coppes, MWRA Chief Operating Officer, explained that the diversion rate was approximately 100 million gallons per day, with a total volume of approximately 813 million gallons to date.

Mr. Laskey then discussed Governor Healey's recent Executive Order to promote the use of project labor agreements ("PLAs"), noting that it is consistent with MWRA's goals, including for the Metropolitan Water Tunnel Program. He briefly noted that the state Legislature is expected to extend allowances for remote and hybrid public meetings, including MWRA Board meetings.

Finally, Katie Ronan, MWRA Chief of Staff, invited Board members to attend two upcoming panel discussions for MWRA staff: *Women in MWRA Operations* and *Women in DPW Leadership in MWRA Communities*. (ref. III)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Tepper requested that the Board move into Executive Session to discuss litigation and collective bargaining, since discussing such in Open Session could have a detrimental effect on the litigating and bargaining positions of the Authority. She announced that the planned topics for Executive Session were a discussion of strategy with respect to litigation; and the approval

and ratification of Collective Bargaining Agreements for Units 1, 3, 6 and 9 with an update on Unit 2. She advised 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		
Foti		
Peña		
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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 1:06pm and adjourned at 1:54pm.

*** CONTINUATION OF OPEN SESSION ***

Chair Tepper announced that during Executive Session the Board voted to approve and ratify collective bargaining agreements for the period July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027 with United Steelworkers Local 9358 Unit 1, NAGE Local R1-168 Unit 3, United Steelworkers Local 9360 Unit 6 and MOSES Unit 9, which include: (i) for all four Units across-the-board increases of 3% retroactive to January 2025, 2% effective in June 2025, 2% effective in January 2026, 2% effective in June 2026 and 2% effective in January 2027, and increases in shift differential and standby pay; (ii) for Units 1, 6 and 9 increases in the meal stipends; and, (iii) for Unit 6

amendments to salary steps. The Chair congratulated staff on the contract ratifications.

ADMINISTRATION, FINANCE AND AUDIT

Information

Delegated Authority Report – February 2025

Committee Vice Chair Vitale invited Board Members' questions on the Delegated Authority Report.

Mr. Jack Walsh requested more information about Report Item C-5: *Air Compressor Maintenance and Repair Services at Various Authority Facilities*. Mr. Coppes explained that Item C-5's scope includes annual inspection; testing; preventative maintenance; and, line items for emergency repairs and replacements. He noted that the contract's total value represents an upper limit. There was general discussion about the facilities served by Item C-5, the contract's cost, and the pros and cons of service contracts.

(Chair Tepper left and returned to the meeting during this discussion.)

Mr. Taverna requested a status update for Report Item C-1: *MWRA Office Consolidation Boston/Chelsea*. Mr. Coppes reported that the project is complete.

With regard to Report Item P-9: *Purchase Order Contract for a Maximo Systems Administrator Consultant—State Contract ITS77 Category 1A*, Mr. Jack Walsh asked if MWRA had a Maximo Administrator on staff. Paula Weadick, MWRA MIS Director, responded in the affirmative and explained that the Maximo consultant would augment in-house staff in support of time-sensitive projects and upgrades. There was brief discussion about the contract's length.

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

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

FY25 Financial Update and Summary through February 2025

Thomas Durkin, MWRA Finance Director, reported a total year-to-date FY25 Current Expense Budget ("CEB") variance of \$18 million, with a projected year-end favorable variance of \$49.1 million underspent, consistent with past trends. He noted that consistency is essential to staff's long-term budgeting strategy, including rates management. He added that staff expect to recommend the disposition of any positive budget variance as defeasances in May 2025, and described the uses and benefits of defeasances.

Next, Mr. Durkin reported that the chemicals budget was currently on target; utilities were 0.05% under budget; and, wages and salaries were approximately 6% under budget.

He then reported that the Capital Improvement Program (“CIP”) budget was 22.4% underspent through February 2025 and noted that the Deer Island Clarifier Phase II project was going well.

There was discussion about the number of budgeted Full Time Equivalents (“FTEs”). Mr. Durkin explained that the budgeted FTE goals were determined through a 2012 Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies (“AMWA”) workforce evaluation, with some FTEs subsequently added for the Metropolitan Water Tunnel Program. He noted that while FTE goals remain constant, MWRA’s budget reflects adjustments for understaffing such as reductions for the wages and salaries line items.

There was general discussion about potential reasons and solutions for ongoing understaffing. Michele Gillen, MWRA Director of Administration, advised that staff are confident that MWRA’s budgeted FTE goals are appropriate for maximally effective operations. She described ongoing measures to address the current staffing shortfall, such as project prioritization and service contracts. There was also discussion about the projected variance for senior debt; the budget for warehouse inventory, which was overspent due to early purchases driven by supply chain issues; and, MWRA’s warehousing and surplussing procedures.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Vitale moved to the next Information item. (ref. V A.2)

Proposed Amendment to General Revenue Bond Resolution

Matthew Horan, MWRA Deputy Finance Director/Treasurer, provided background on MWRA’s 1990 General Bond Resolution, including its purpose and subsequent amendments. He noted that the Resolution includes a Credit Facility definition that prevents MWRA from doing business with highly rated, major financial institutions such as Bank of America, Wells Fargo, J.P Morgan and TD Bank due to the Great Recession’s (c. 2007-2009) impacts on their long-term credit ratings.

Mr. Horan explained that staff proposed a new Resolution Amendment that removes the long-term rating requirement from the definition of “Credit Facility” in order to increase the pool of competitors for MWRA bonds. He advised that per the Resolution, the proposed new amendment would effectuate when MWRA issues a new series of bonds. Finally, Mr. Horan noted that staff had discussed and reviewed the proposed amendment with credit agencies; financial institutions; and, the Bond Trustee and their counsel, and that none of these entities had indicated any concerns.

Matt Romero, MWRA Advisory Board Executive Director, expressed support for the new Resolution amendment.

There was brief, general discussion about rating agencies’ determinations that the proposed

amendment was unlikely to have a negative credit rating impact; and, the procurement process for credit facilities, including evaluation criteria and eligibility requirements. Mr. Vitale expressed support for the amendment.

Hearing no further discussion or questions from the Board, Mr. Vitale moved to Approvals. (ref. V A.3)

APPROVALS

Employee Assistance Program Services: ALLONE Health EAP, LLC, Contract A643

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the recommendation of the Selection Committee to award Contract A643, Employee Assistance Program Services, to ALLONE Health EAP, LLC, and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to execute said contract in an amount not-to-exceed \$25,860.08 for a period of one-year from the notice to proceed, and to further authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to exercise a single three-year option to renew said contract, if recommended by staff and approved by the Executive Director, in an amount not-to-exceed \$80,000.

Ivana McGrail, Manager of HRIS and Benefits, described some of the services provided to MWRA and its staff by the Employee Assistance Program (“EAP”). She discussed the procurement process for the proposed EAP contract, and reported that one bid from the incumbent provider, ALLONE Health EAP, LCC (“ALLONE”), was received. Finally, Ms. McGrail noted that staff have been satisfied with the ALLONE’s services.

Mr. Vitale asked how many employees participate in the EAP. Ms. McGrail explained that there were 279 individual staff EAP activities last year, and noted that ALLONE also provided services such as grief counseling and presentations on mental health resources. Mr. Vitale added that ALLONE is the Boston Water and Sewer Commission’s EAP provider, and has received positive feedback from BWSC staff.

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		
Foti		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		

Yes No Abstain

Wolowicz

(ref. V B.1)

Workers' Compensation Legal Services: Tentindo, Kendall, Canniff & Keefe LLP, Contract A644

Ms. McGrail noted that Tentindo, Kendall, Canniff & Keefe LLP ("TKCK") has been MWRA's workers' compensation legal services provider for a number of years, and described the scope of the proposed new contract. She explained that the contract was publicly advertised; that two proposals were received; and that TKCK was ranked first due to their experience; cost; qualifications, including a strong team of experienced attorneys; and, past performance with MWRA.

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the recommendation of the Consultant Selection Committee to award Contract A644, Workers' Compensation Legal Services, to Tentindo, Kendall, Canniff & Keefe, LLP, and execute said contract in the not-to-exceed amount of \$350,000 for a term of three (3) years from the Notice to Proceed.

Chair Pepper 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

Pepper

Foti

Peña

Taverna

Vitale

J. Walsh

P. Walsh

Wolowicz

(ref. V B.2)

WASTEWATER POLICY AND OVERSIGHT

Contract Awards

Preferred Service Agreement for the Combustion Turbine Generators: Mitsubishi Power Aero, LLC

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the award of a Preferred Service Agreement to provide technical support, emergency repair services and spare parts for the combustion turbine generators at the Deer Island Treatment Plant to the original equipment manufacturer, Mitsubishi Power Aero, LLC (formerly PW Power Systems, Inc. and Pratt & Whitney Power Systems, Inc.), and to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the

Authority, to execute said contract for an amount not to exceed \$612,600 for a period of three years.

Chad Whiting, Deer Island Treatment Plant Deputy Director, presented photos of MWRA's Deer Island Combustion Turbine Generators ("CTGs"), and requested approval for a preferred services agreement with the original manufacturer, Mitsubishi Power Aero, LLC ("Mitsubishi"). He described the contract's scope, which includes proprietary maintenance; parts and service; and, on-site services during events that increase the risk of power interruptions, such as high profile storms and Cross-Harbor Cable work.

Mr. Whiting explained that CTGs provide 100% backup power for Deer Island as required under MWRA's NPDES permit and are critical to MWRA's Continuity of Service and Emergency Operations Contingency plans.

Next, he discussed how the Deer Island CTGs generate revenue and contain costs through MWRA's participation in the ISO New England Forward Capacity Market and Demand Response programs. He reported that the CTGs have generated over \$1.5 million in revenue per year, noting that \$2.1 million was generated in 2024, exceeding the annual maintenance costs by approximately 47%.

Finally, Mr. Whiting explained that the proposed contract's allowances for on-call services and spare parts would be paid on an as-needed basis, and briefly described a separate, three-year CTG maintenance contract with O'Connor Constructors, Inc. ("O'Connor") that was awarded through a competitive bidding process.

Mr. Jack Walsh requested more information about the scope of the proposed contract with Mitsubishi versus the existing O'Connor contract. Mr. Whiting explained that the O'Connor contract is primarily for general maintenance tasks such as filter changes, while the proprietary Mitsubishi contract would cover specialized tasks such as calibrations and inspections. There was discussion with questions and answers about staff response times under the CTG maintenance contracts, during which Mr. Whiting explained that contractors are stationed on site during events such as high-profile storms.

Mr. Peña requested more information concerning how often the CTGs are tested, including for demand response. Mr. Whiting relayed that the CTGs are tested monthly, and that demand response audits are performed in the summer and winter. There was brief discussion about the testing methods and parameters. Mr. Peña asked if contract staff are present for the CTG testing. Mr. Whiting responded in the negative.

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		
Foti		
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Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. VI A.1)

Contract Amendments/Change Orders

Hydraulic Equipment Service: R. Zoppo Corp., Contract OP-445, Change Order 2

A motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Change Order 2 to Contract OP-445, Hydraulic Equipment Service, with R. Zoppo Corp. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$66,000, increasing the contract amount from \$429,750 to \$495,750, with no increase in contract term.

Bill Carter, MWRA Metropolitan Maintenance Manager, requested Board approval for Change Order 2 for a Hydraulic Equipment Service contract with R. Zoppo Corp (“Zoppo”), in an amount not to exceed \$66,000. He summarized the duration and scope of this contract for annual preventive maintenance and inspection services, and non-emergency and emergency repairs for hydraulic systems. He outlined the reasons for the proposed change order, including the unforeseen rehabilitation of hydraulic equipment. Mr. Carter explained that there were some mechanical malfunctions requiring large rebuilds during the prior contract, and that it has been necessary to perform five cylinder rebuilds; replace two hydraulic pumps; and, perform several smaller control and seal replacements. He noted that staff would include this recent trend in their analysis to determine bid quantities for the next maintenance contract. Finally, Mr. Carter advised that staff expect this proposed change order to cover additional needed maintenance for the remainder of the contract term.

There was general discussion with questions and answers about Zoppo’s hydraulics portfolio. Mr. Jack Walsh asked if the contractor rehabilitates hydraulic equipment on site. Stephen Cullen, MWRA Wastewater Director, explained that the equipment is serviced on- and off- site, and noted that rehabilitation is more cost effective than purchasing new hydraulic equipment. There was brief discussion about the specifications of various hydraulic equipment and MWRA projects successfully performed by Zoppo.

Hearing no further 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		
Foti		
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Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. VI B.1)

Nut Island Headworks Odor Control and HVAC Improvements: Walsh Construction Company II, LLC, Contract 7548, Change Order 20

A motion was duly made and seconded to authorize the Executive Director, on behalf of the Authority, to approve Change Order 20 to Contract 7548, Nut Island Headworks Odor Control and HVAC Improvements, with Walsh Construction Company II, LLC for a lump sum amount of \$90,942.69, increasing the contract amount from \$61,868,184.15 to \$61,959,126.84 with no increase in contract term.

Marty McGowan, MWRA Construction Director, requested approval for a Change Order for a Nut Island Headworks Odor Control and HVAC Improvements contract with Walsh Construction Company II, LLC (“Walsh”). He advised that a \$200,000 re-delegation approved on June 26, 2024 was insufficient to complete the project due to unanticipated change order items that were subsequently identified, including modifications to the existing carbon loading and dust collection equipment, and the significant expansion of the scope to repair existing fireproofing.

Next, Jeffrey Bina, MWRA Construction Coordinator, discussed unanticipated, existing fireproofing deficiencies that were not identifiable during design due to obstructions by large HVAC ducts, and presented examples of completed fireproofing repairs in compliance with fire code.

Finally, Mr. McGowan noted that Walsh had received the Engineering News Record’s 2024 award for Best Project, Water/Environment for this contract, and presented some aerial and internal photos of the finished project.

Mr. Patrick Walsh requested the number of hours to complete the work under this proposed change order. Mr. McGowan advised that staff would provide this information at a later date.

Hearing no further discussion or questions, 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		
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Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. VI B.2)

WATER POLICY AND OVERSIGHT

Information

Report on 2024 Water Use Trends and Reservoir Status

Stephen Estes-Smargiassi, MWRA Director of Planning and Sustainability, presented a review of MWRA's water sources; safe yield; and a graph showing a five-year running average in million gallons per day ("mgd") for total reservoir withdrawals from 1980 (330 mgd) to 2024 (200.2 mgd). He noted that withdrawals remained substantially below safe yield in 2024, which was the region's third hottest year on record, with dry conditions through December.

Next, Daniel Nvule, MWRA Senior Program Manager, discussed trends in total water consumption by MWRA communities from 1980 to 2024. He reported that community total water consumption rose by 3.7% in 2024 mainly due to dry weather and extra water use by partially-supplied communities for drought and PFAS concerns. He noted that the highest and lowest daily withdrawal dates for 2024 were July 15 (287 mgd) and January 1 (157 mgd) respectively; that the City of Boston used an average of 61.8 mgd of water last year; and that Boston's water demand continues at levels below that of 1900.

Mr. Nvule then presented a graph comparing base (indoor) demand versus seasonal demand for 2000-2026, and noted that base use trends suggest improvements in water use efficiency despite increased population and employment within the MWRA service area. He highlighted the relatively small proportion of outdoor water use versus base use and reported that seasonal use represented 13.3% of total water use in 2024.

Next, Mr. Nvule presented trends for daily and annual MWRA supplied demand in partially supplied communities, noting increased water use in 2024 due to dry conditions and PFAS concerns.

Mr. Estes-Smargiassi then reported that the Quabbin Reservoir stayed within normal operating range in 2024, with peaks in the spring and at the end of the year. He advised that the Quabbin fell below normal levels in February 2025, noting that the trigger level rises on the first of that month. He explained that recent rainfall has brought levels back into normal range, and that staff expect levels to remain close to the normal range through spring, then fall back to below normal for the remainder of the year. He explained that long-term trend data provides insight into how MWRA's water system is operating. Finally, Mr. Estes-Smargiassi highlighted the resiliency of the system through wet and dry periods, and the importance of water conservation to ensure reliable water supplies for existing and potential new customer communities, and to manage environmental impacts.

There was brief, general discussion about the methods for calculating values for the Staff Summary's Figure 6 (*Fully Supplied Communities Annual Base and Seasonal Demand*).

Hearing no further discussion or questions, Committee Chair Taverna moved to Contract Awards. (ref. VII A.1)

Steel Water Storage Tank Painting and Improvements - Walnut Hill: Atlas Painting and Sheeting Corp., Contract 7493

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the award of Contract 7493, Steel Water Storage Tank Painting and Improvements - Walnut Hill, to the lowest responsible and eligible bidder, Atlas Painting and Sheeting Corp. and to authorize the Executive Director to execute said contract in the bid amount of \$8,749,000 for a contract term of 426 calendar days from the Notice to Proceed.

Lisa Hamilton, MWRA Assistant Director of Engineering, noted that this proposed steel water storage tank painting and improvements contract for the Walnut Hill tank represents the first of two construction packages for water tank improvements. She explained that the second package for Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition ("SCADA") security and water quality monitoring improvements at six sites is in design and would be presented for approval at a future meeting.

Next, Kellie Stevens, MWRA Program Manager, presented an overview of the project, including the Walnut Hill tank's location; structure; history; capacity and, pressure zone. She noted that the tank provides storage for MWRA's Brattle Court and Spring Street Pump Stations.

Ms. Stevens summarized the project's major components, including interior and exterior tank painting and ancillary improvements, noting that the tank's existing coatings, last applied in 1999, are reaching the end of their useful lives. She explained that inspections would be performed after surface preparation and prior to painting in order to evaluate the tanks'

integrity before performing any necessary repairs. She discussed some anticipated structural improvements such as steel plate, pit, and seam repairs; steel beam and internal tie rod replacements; and, repairs to the external stairs, platform and guardrails. She added that the cathodic protection system would also be upgraded to fully comply with NSF 61 standards.

Ms. Stevens then presented photos of the Walnut Hill Tank's existing conditions, which indicate corrosion of the exterior platform and internal tie rod supports as well as pitted interior tank coating. She also presented progress photos of a similar project at MWRA's Bellevue Tank completed in 2019.

Finally, Ms. Stevens summarized the bid results for this proposed contract. She noted that the bid evaluation determined that the lowest bidder was not eligible. She explained that staff recommended award to the second-lowest bidder, Atlas Painting and Sheeting Corporation, whose bid came in under the Engineer's Estimate, and described their qualifications.

Mr. Taverna requested more information about the terms of the proposed contract. Ms. Stevens explained that the majority of the contract was lump sum, with some unit price bid items. Mr. Taverna asked if this project entails any lead paint removal. Ms. Stevens responded in the negative, and advised that the Walnut Hill Tank's lead paint was removed in 1999.

Hearing no further discussion or questions, 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		
Foti		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. VII B.1)

Contract Amendments/Change Orders

Dam Safety Compliance and Consulting Services: GEI, Inc., Contract W328, Amendment 2

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve Amendment 2 to Contract W328, Dam Safety Compliance and Consulting Services with GEI, Inc., extending the contract term by 35 days from October 1, 2024 to November 5, 2024, with no increase in contract cost.

Valerie Moran, MWRA Waterworks Director, requested Board approval of an amendment to

extend a Dam Safety Compliance and Consultant Services contract with GEI, Inc. by 35 days, with no increase in contract cost.

Hearing no further discussion or questions, 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		
Foti		
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Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. VII C.1)

PERSONNEL AND COMPENSATION

Approvals

March 2025 PCR Amendments

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve amendments to the Position Control Register (PCR) as presented in the March 19, 2025 Staff Summary and filed with the records of this meeting.

Wendy Chu, MWRA Human Resources Director, invited Board Members' questions on the proposed PCR Amendments for March 2025.

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		
Foti		
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Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. VIII A.1)

Appointment of Manager, Metering and Monitoring

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the appointment of Mr. Timothy Beaulieu to the position of Manager, Metering and Monitoring (Non-Union, Grade 14) in the Operations Division, at the recommended salary of \$167,107 commencing on a date to be determined by the Executive Director.

Ms. Chu invited Board Members' questions about the proposed appointment of the recommended candidate for the Manager, Metering and Monitoring position.

(Mr. Taverna temporarily left the meeting during the summary.)

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		
Foti		
Peña		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. VIII A.2)

Appointment of Manager, Training and Development

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the appointment of Mr. Ronald Paula to the position of Manager, Training and Development (Non-Union, Grade 14) in the Administration Division, at an annual salary of \$145,500, commencing on a date to be determined by the Executive Director.

Ms. Chu invited Board Members' questions about the proposed appointment of the recommended candidate for the Manager, Training and Development position.

Mr. Jack Walsh asked if MWRA conducts exit interviews with employees who resign from MWRA. Ms. Chu responded in the affirmative. There was brief discussion about the benefits of exit interviews, and exit interview questions.

(Mr. Taverna returned to the meeting after the discussion.)

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		
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Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. VIII A.3)

Appointment of Appointment of Manager, Real Property and Outreach

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the appointment of Ms. Colleen E. Guida to the position of Manager, Real Property and Outreach (Non-Union, Grade 13) in the Administration Division, at the recommended annual salary of \$129,000, commencing on a date to be determined by the Executive Director.

Ms. Chu invited Board Members' questions about the proposed appointment of the recommended candidate for the Manager, Real Property and Outreach position.

There was brief discussion about the posting of job positions internally only, or internally and externally; determining factors; consultation with hiring managers; and confirmation that the hiring manager for this position recommended the proposed candidate.

Hearing no further 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		
Foti		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. VIII A.4)

Appointment of Director, Occupational Health and Safety

A motion was duly made and seconded to approve the appointment of Mr. Christopher Rock

to the position of Director, Occupational Health and Safety (Non-Union, Grade 15) in the Administration Division, at the recommended annual salary of \$169,546, commencing on a date to be determined by the Executive Director.

Ms. Chu invited Board Members' questions about the proposed appointment of the recommended candidate for the Director, Occupational Health and Safety position.

Mr. Jack Walsh asked where this position would be stationed at MWRA. Ms. Chu explained that the Safety Department is headquartered in Chelsea, with staff stationed at Chelsea, Deer Island and Southborough.

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		
Foti		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

(ref. VIII A.5)

CORRESPONDENCE TO THE BOARD

Chair Tepper announced that the Board of Directors had received correspondence from Paul Silva regarding MWRA entrance fees; and from Thomas Smith, Chair of the Town of Orange Board of Selectmen, related to the Quabbin System Expansion Evaluation. She noted that the correspondence was included and publicly posted in the materials for this meeting, and invited Board Members' discussion and questions.

The Chair advised that she had reviewed this correspondence, and that the MWRA Advisory Board was asked to review particularly the letter from Mr. Silva of Reading and to provide a recommendation. She noted that the Quabbin System Expansion Evaluation is ongoing, and that the comments received from Mr. Smith of the Town of Orange Board of Selectmen would be taken into account.

Mr. Taverna requested a briefing on the status of the Quabbin System Expansion Evaluation. Mr. Laskey explained that a briefing is tentatively scheduled for the April 2025 Board meeting.

Chair Tepper noted some points raised in the letter from the Town of Orange Selectmen, including the scope of the Quabbin Expansion project, and the Town's potential use of water from the Quabbin Reservoir through their own systems. (ref. IX)

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business. (ref. X)

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		
Foti		
Peña		
Taverna		
Vitale		
J. Walsh		
P. Walsh		
Wolowicz		

The meeting adjourned at 3:03pm.

Approved: April 16, 2025

Attest:

 for

Brian Peña, Secretary

LIST OF DOCUMENTS AND EXHIBITS USED

- Draft Minutes of the February 12, 2025 MWRA Board of Directors' Meeting (ref. I)
- March 19, 2025 Presentation – Ware River Diversion Update (ref. III)
- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary – Delegated Authority Report – February 2025 (ref. V A.1)
- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary – FY25 Financial Update and Summary through February 2025 (ref. V A.2)
- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary – Proposed Amendment to General Revenue Bond

Resolution (ref. V A.3)

- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary – Employee Assistance Program Services: ALLONE Health EAP, LLC, Contract A643 (ref. V B.1)
- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary – Workers’ Compensation Legal Services: Tentindo, Kendall, Canniff & Keefe LLP, Contract A644 (ref. V B.2)
- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary and Presentation – Preferred Service Agreement for the Combustion Turbine Generators: Mitsubishi Power Aero, LLC (ref. VI A.1)
- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary – Hydraulic Equipment Service: R. Zoppo Corp., Contract OP-445, Change Order 2 (ref. VI B.1)
- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary and Presentation – Nut Island Headworks Odor Control and HVAC Improvements: Walsh Construction Company II, LLC, Contract 7548, Change Order 20 (ref. VI B.2)
- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary and Presentation – Report on 2024 Water Use Trends and Reservoir Status (ref. VII A.1)
- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary and Presentation – Steel Water Storage Tank Painting and Improvements - Walnut Hill: Atlas Painting and Sheeting Corp., Contract 7493 (ref. VII B.1)
- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary – Dam Safety Compliance and Consulting Services: GEI, Inc., Contract W328, Amendment 2 (ref. VII C.1)
- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary – March 2025 PCR Amendments (ref. VIII A.1)
- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary – Appointment of Manager, Metering and Monitoring (ref. VIII A.2)
- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary – Appointment of Manager, Training and Development (ref. VIII A.3)
- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary – Appointment of Manager, Real Property and Outreach (ref. VIII A.4)
- March 19, 2025 Staff Summary – Appointment of Director, Occupational Health and Safety (ref. VIII A.5)
- February 4, 2025 correspondence from Paul Silva, regarding MWRA entrance fees (ref. IX)
- February 19, 2025 correspondence from Thomas Smith, Chair, Orange Board of Selectmen, Comments on the November 19, 2024, MWRA presentation of the Quabbin Reservoir Watershed Communities: Alternative Evaluation Summary (ref. IX)