

MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT WATER COMMITTEE MEETING
at the District Office and via Zoom Video Conferencing
February 6, 2023
UNAPPROVED

Call to Order: Chair Ed Rajsteter called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

Roll Call:

- **Committee:** Ed Rajsteter, Mark Johanson, Robert Roudebush, Patricia Brady, and Facility & Water Manager John Mitchell.
- **Public Present: In-Person:** Bob Long **Via Zoom:** None.

Minutes Approval:

- **Jan. 5, 2023:** Patricia Brady moved to approve; Mark Johanson seconded and motion passed.

WATER SYSTEM UPDATE:

John Mitchell reported the total water usage for January was 699,810 gallons with an average daily usage of 22,574 gallons per day, with a high of 45,140 (during the Jan. 3 water break) and a low of 17,018 gpd. He said they've changed back to the old meter to track Woodsville Water & Light usage temporarily because the new meter seemed inaccurate. They plan to do some plumbing work before reconnecting the new meter. They will also work on installing a shutoff for the WW&L connection in the spring for emergencies.

John Mitchell said he received an estimate of \$17,000 for flood repair work from Winter Storm Elliott damage and the claim with MLD property insurance carrier Primex is in process after the adjuster's recent site visit. He said he is planning to re-do the water chambers door so that it opens out instead of in, and has a push bar in case of emergency. He reported the state requirements for manganese testing has been indefinitely suspended and MLD's waiver for SOCs and VOCs testing has been approved; he said that means no VOC testing for three years and no SOC testing for 6 years which will save time and money. He is working on sending a required well head protection letter to homeowners to encourage caution in the use of the land around the wellhead. He said they hope to work on lead components locations as part of the asset management plan. He noted there has been no response from Steve Roy of NH DES since his visit, but they are hoping he will put a new monitor in the second well near the bedrock well currently in use. John Mitchell said he contacted the homeowners on Newport Drive about their water issues and plans to meet with them the next time they are in the area to investigate their issues.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **GRANT UPDATE:** Kristi Garofalo shared that MLD received an award letter for an \$83,000 Sustainability Grant from the NH Department of Environmental Services for the purposes of creating an asset management plan for the MLD water system. The grant will cover projects including system mapping, GIS database and asset inventory creation, capital improvement plan development, level of service and funding studies, hydraulic model creation and software purchase. There is paperwork to be

completed and special commissioners' votes are needed to accept the grant and its funds, plus a consultant must be chosen by RFP, and everything needs to be done and turned back in to NHDES by March 17. It will then go to the governor and executive council for approval. MLD will have two years to complete all the tasks and create the MLD asset management plan. After discussion, the Committee agreed that Cinde Warmington, MLD's area representative on the governor's executive council, was very helpful in the recent tax rate situation and it would be a good idea to let her know MLD's grant will be going to the governor and council for approval.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **EMERGENCY REPAIRS REPORT:** The Committee reviewed the report showing the latest water break information from Jan. 3 and agreed the report helps track valuable information and will be useful in upcoming budget discussions.
- **ONLINE PAYMENTS and EARLY WATER BILL PAYMENTS:** Kristi Garofalo shared information showing \$60,000 of water bill payments were made through the online service in 2022. She also reported about 60 customers have made pre-payments on their 2023 water bill to help out with the cash flow situation.

OTHER BUSINESS: Patricia Brady said she was resigning from the Water Committee effective at the end of the current meeting since she is moving out of MLD. Ed Rajsteter thanked her for her help and participation on the Water Committee and other members added their thanks and good wishes.

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, Feb. 2 at 8:00AM.

Adjournment: Patricia Brady moved to adjourn; Robert Roudebush seconded and the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35AM

Respectfully submitted by,
Kristi Garofalo