

MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT WATER COMMITTEE MEETING
At District Office and Via Zoom Video Conferencing
November 2, 2023
UNAPPROVED

Commissioner Mark Johanson administered the oath of office to new Committee member Stuart Schreiber before the meeting.

Call to Order: Chair Ed Rajsteter called the meeting to order at 8:07 am.

Roll Call:

--**Committee:** Ed Rajsteter, Mark Johanson, Stuart Schreiber and Facility & Water Manager John Mitchell present. Christine Dunster attended via Zoom (alone) as she was out of town. A quorum was declared.

--**Public Present:** In person: Bob Long and Eric Cassidy Via Zoom: NONE

Eric Cassidy said he would like to join the Committee. The Committee agreed to recommend to the Commissioners that Eric Cassidy be appointed to the Committee.

Minutes Approval:

--**October 5, 2023:** Mark Johanson moved to approve the minutes; John Mitchell seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ed Rajsteter-Aye, Mark Johanson-Aye, John Mitchell-Aye, Stuart Schreiber-Aye, Christine Dunster-Aye. Motion passed.

WATER SYSTEM UPDATE:

- **Water Usage:** John Mitchell updated the system usage for October:
Total monthly usage: 844,803 gallons
53.98% came from the infiltration well (474,040 gallons)
8.24% came from the bedrock well (72,380 gallons)
37.78% came from Woodsville Water and Light (331,796 gallons)
Highest usage was 37,223 gallons per day (GPD), lowest was 21,130 GPD, average was 27,251 GPD.
Residual Chlorine was .14.

- **Chambers Tree Project:** John Mitchell reported he received three quotes for tree removal and cleanup around the chambers. The highest was \$36,000, the lowest was \$10,500. He shared concerns about the limited number of vendors in the local area and that they often share quote information among themselves. Bob Long and John Mitchell suggested using a preferred vendor for this job and similar ones in the future. After discussion, John Mitchell made a motion to recommend to the Commissioners that they adjust the bidding process in the purchasing policy to be able to go with preferred vendors. Ed Rajsteter seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ed Rajsteter-Aye, Mark Johanson-Aye, John Mitchell-Aye, Stuart Schreiber-Aye, Christine Dunster-Aye. Motion passed.

- **Lead/Copper Rule Revision Project:** John Mitchell reported the EPA and NH DES have tightened guidelines and are requiring a report on lead and copper use in the MLD homes and water system. Engineering firm Hazen & Sawyer has been assigned to MLD to assist with the project at no cost. John Mitchell said a mailing may be sent to all MLD customers to request photos of every water service to verify there is no lead in the system. The completed report is due in October of 2024 and he will work with Abby Fopiano, the MLD Asset Management Plan (AMP) consultant, to map the system.

- **Water Line Locator:** John Mitchell said water consultant Harold Clough recommended the next line locator purchased have GPS capabilities as the state will probably require it soon. John Mitchell researched locators and picked two possibilities. Abby Fopiano, AMP consultant, is reviewing both to make sure they will work with the new mapping system. The Committee discussed the locator purchase and the need for Wi-Fi in the District truck. John Mitchell moved to recommend the purchase of a RCK Pro line locator with GPS capabilities at the estimated cost of \$10,500; Ed Rajsteter seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ed Rajsteter-Aye, Mark Johanson-Aye, John Mitchell-Aye, Stuart Schreiber-Aye, Christine Dunster-Aye. Motion passed and the recommendation will go to the Budget Committee.
- **Water Line Materials Demo:** John Mitchell and Bob Long shared information from a vendor who recently gave them a 2” water line new product demo. They noted the product can be direct buried and native material can be used for fill, and that existing saddles, other parts and current connections can be used with this pipe. The vendor is working up a cost per foot and sending customer references.

OLD BUSINESS:

- **Asset Management Plan Update:** The Committee discussed whether mapping should be broken into service zones and agreed it is best to continue using road names to identify service areas. Christine Dunster said Abby Fopiano is sending info on lake health grants and she will look at those possibilities.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Mission Statement:** The Committee discussed the current water department mission statement adopted in 2011 and made changes so the mission statement reads:
 - ❖ *providing safe, reliable, high quality drinking water while meeting regulatory requirements in a cost-effective and environmentally responsive manner,*
 - ❖ *and pursuing alternative resources with the most sustainable, efficient and cost-effective approaches.”*

John Mitchell moved to approve the mission statement as revised; Mark Johanson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ed Rajsteter-Aye, Mark Johanson-Aye, John Mitchell-Aye, Stuart Schreiber-Aye, Christine Dunster-Aye. Motion passed. ***Kristi Garofalo will send the new mission statement to Abby Fopiano for the AMP.***

- **Meter Horns:** John Mitchell spoke about the meter horns required by the MLD Water Tariff for new home construction. He found out they are not available to the public for purchase and noted Littleton uses special threads on theirs so they can’t be removed easily. The Committee also discussed raising the MLD hook-up fee to cover the cost of providing meter horns and other hook-up components; ***Bob Long said he will have updated costs for the Committee to consider at the next meeting.***

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, December 7 at 8:00 am.

Adjournment: Ed Rajsteter moved to adjourn; John Mitchell seconded. Roll Call Vote: Ed Rajsteter-Aye, Mark Johanson-Aye, John Mitchell-Aye, Stuart Schreiber-Aye, Christine Dunster-Aye. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 9:13 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristi Garofalo