

MOUNTAIN LAKES WATER SYSTEM & WATER COMMITTEE QUICK FACTS

As Presented at the MLD 2022 Annual Meeting

Water System Overview

- MLD water system supplies water to 338 homes (about 50/50 full-time and seasonal residences) and the MLD Lodge, District Office and pool.
- Regulated by State of New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services
- Water transmitted through approximately 17 miles of pipe, most of it laid in the 1970s.
- MLD daily use averages 20-25,000 gallons per day (GPD) regularly and 30-35,000 GPD during holiday periods and summer months.
- MLD contracts with Woodsville Water and Light (WWL) to meet emergency and supplemental water needs.
- Normally, about 75% of MLD water comes from our bedrock well and our infiltration well with the balance purchased from WWL. In times of high demand, purchased water from WWL can reach a level of 50% or more.

Department Structure

- Governed by MLD Commissioners and supported by the Water Committee
- Facility and Water Manager John Mitchell (half-time for Water Dept) works closely with District Administrator and is responsible for operation and maintenance of the water system and also oversees and coordinates with contractors.
- District Administrator Kristi Garofalo (half-time for Water Dept) responsible for financial and customer service side of Water Dept. functions
- A qualified contractor responds to water system emergencies
- Other contractors and consultants as needed

2021 Highlights

- Responded to 7 major breaks in the water system. Cost for all repairs totaled \$13,436. Replaced deteriorated iron pipes with quality PVC stock.
- Made repairs to Water Chambers to ensure water quality and prevent leaks
- Dam at the causeway between the two lakes passed state inspection
- Investigated two potential new water sources in MLD; neither proved viable.
- Developed detailed list of "shovel ready" projects eligible for ARPA funding through the town (town denied)
- Arranged for part-time licensed water system operator to oversee system after resignation of Don Drew
- Provided necessary coordination among operator, contractor, state, and vendors after resignation of Don Drew
- Managed recruitment and hiring process for new Facility & Water Manager (completed February 2022)
- Managed water system operation efficiently with no increase in water rates for 2022.

Water Committee Structure

- Advisory to MLD Commissioners; consists of a Commissioner and 4-6 volunteers appointed by Commissioners to 3-year terms
- Meets 8 a.m. first Thursday of the month – meetings run 60-90 minutes – minutes posted on MLD web site – public can attend in person or via Zoom
- Currently on Committee: Voting members: Patricia Brady, Chair, Ed Rajsteter Vice Chair, Robert Roudebush, Ken King and Ex-Officio Commissioner Mark Johanson. Staff (non-voting): Facility & Water Manager John Mitchell and District Administrator Kristi Garofalo

Responsibilities

- The Water Committee supports the Water Department and Commissioners by:
 - Reviewing and commenting on major projects
 - Reviewing maintenance of dams, spillways, chambers and distribution system
 - Monitoring water usage and quality
 - Making recommendations for improving and upgrading the water system
 - Suggesting and participating in new programs and initiatives

2021 Highlights

- Initiated water conservation education program (ongoing)
- Encouraged creation and maintenance of system-wide asset management (underway)
- Supported establishment of "low salt" zone near Waterman Brook (done) to avoid potentially harmful runoff.
- Oversaw contracts to investigate new water sources in MLD (no sources found, exploration on hold)
- Supported efforts to obtain funds for system-wide improvements (continuing)
- Initiated outreach for new members (ongoing)

Interested in being part of the Water Committee?

- Attend in person or Zoom into meetings on first Thursday of each month at 8:00am.
 - Review past meeting minutes on MLD web site: www.mountainlakesnh.com
 - Talk to a Commissioner or member of the Water Committee to find out more!