

**KENNEBEC WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
THURSDAY – NOVEMBER 3, 2016 at 7:30 AM**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by President Hodsdon.

Trustees present: Al Hodsdon, President; Karl Dornish, Vice-President; J. Michael Talbot, Treasurer; Allan Fuller, Clerk; Jeff Earickson, Assistant Treasurer; Joan Sanzenbacher, Trustee; Gary Coull, Trustee; Bill Boucher, Trustee; Patricia Gorman, Trustee; Mark McCluskey, Trustee

Trustees absent: None

Trustee Gorman left the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Also present: Jeff LaCasse, General Manager; Jefferson Longfellow, KWD Engineer; Benny LaPlante, KWD Distribution Superintendent; Mike O'Brien, KWD Customer Service/Safety Manager; Sue Markatine, Recording Secretary

ITEM 1: INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

None

ITEM 2: REVIEW AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING OF OCTOBER 20, 2016.

Motion by Trustee Gorman , “to accept the minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees’ Meeting of October 20, 2016,” seconded by Trustee Dornish.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM 3: FINANCIALS

A. ACCOUNT WARRANT

November 3, 2016

CHECKS RELEASED		Check	Dollar
Vendor	Description	Date	Amount
Kim's Garage & Towing Service	Tow Charges-Tk 18	10/18/16	55.00
Maine Industrial Repair Services	Speed Switch Repair-M-4	10/18/16	2,350.00
Business Card-Bank of America	Suspicion Awareness Training-Affiliated Testing Services		
	New Tires Tk 10-Town Fair Tire/NEWWA Conf.-Omni Hotel		
	Water Ops Exams 5 Emps.-PSI/AMP Testing		
	Emergency Light-Amazon/Google Apps.-Google		
	Central Plus Yearly Subscription-LogMeln Inc.	10/19/16	2,810.50
The Bank of New York Mellon	Annual Administrative Fee as Trustee	10/19/16	3,548.00
E S Boulos Company	Remove Blower & Hook Up Wiring for Water Tank	10/19/16	158.00
Earthlink Business	Monthly Telephone Service	10/19/16	318.97
Fabian Oil Inc.	Propane	10/19/16	95.01
Fastenal Company	Safety Glasses/Hand Sanitizer	10/19/16	171.94
FedEx	Monthly Shipping Charge for Chlorate Sample	10/19/16	102.29
Gempler's Inc.	Scare Eye Ballons for Bird Control-WTP	10/19/16	45.35
Wex Bank	Monthly Vehicle Fuel Usage	10/19/16	1,097.00
Hussey Communications Inc.	Monthly Internet Service	10/19/16	212.00
K L Jack & Company Inc.	Center Pull Paper Towels	10/19/16	107.82
Joseph's Clothing	Employees Clothing	10/19/16	404.46
Kennebec Equipment-Fairfield	Fuel Can Funnels	10/19/16	29.85
M C Disposal Inc./DBA CMD	Monthly Portapotty Rental/Monthly Rubbish Removal	10/19/16	163.00
Gerald MacKenzie Inc.	Patches-Fairfield Locations	10/19/16	5,808.20
Maine Municipal Emp. Health Trst.	Monthly Health Insurance Premiums	10/19/16	22,953.98
Maine Water Works Supply	Couplings/Service Box Repair Lids/Tees/Bushings/Nipples		
	Ball Valves/Gauges/Manhole Cover for Lagoon	10/19/16	1,891.71
Treasurer, State of Maine HETL	Water Tests	10/19/16	398.00
McGee Construction LLC	2016 Main Replacement Projects	10/19/16	129,990.82
Motor Supply Company	Wiper Blades-Tks 8 & 22	10/19/16	15.98
Quill Corporation	Toner/Pens/Clips/Rubberbands/Desk Pads	10/19/16	2,189.86
Radio Communications Inc.	Inverter Install for Case Backhoe	10/19/16	252.65
Standard Waterproofing Inc.	Repair & Recoat Clearwell Tanks & Stairwell Wall	10/19/16	45,195.00
Staples Credit Plan	Toner/Post-It Notes/Batteries/Pens/Binder	10/19/16	144.45
Time Warner Cable	Monthly Internet/Telephone Service	10/19/16	232.74
USA Blue Book	Distilled Water	10/19/16	83.92
Vassalboro Car Care	Oil Change-Tk 3	10/19/16	29.81
Walmart Community/GEMB	Coffee/Paper Products/Batteries	10/19/16	48.52
Postmaster	Bulk Mail Postage-Billing	10/20/16	469.63
Postmaster	Bulk Mail Postage-Billing	10/27/16	452.45
Answering Services Unlimited	Monthly Answering Service	10/27/16	84.01
BNY Mellon Corporate Trust	2004 Bond Principal & Interest	10/27/16	38,150.55
Charles B. Davis Company Inc.	Magnetic Hex Driver/Screws	10/27/16	36.15
EMSL Analytical Inc. - Products	Cryptosporidium Testing	10/27/16	850.00
Grainger	Safety Glasses/Work Gloves	10/27/16	406.78
Hammond Lumber Company	Hardware Cloth	10/27/16	132.00
Hanover Computer Company	Professional Services/Equipment	10/27/16	2,706.90
HD Supply Waterworks LTD	Replacement Parts for Electric Jackhammer	10/27/16	75.13
Hilltop Cleaning Service	Monthly Cleaning Service	10/27/16	564.00

IDEXX Distribution Inc.	Test Kits/Sample Bottles-WTP	10/27/16	1,979.65
J & S Oil Company Inc.	Diesel Fuel	10/27/16	167.56
Joseph's Sporting Goods	Employees Clothing	10/27/16	42.47
Kennebec Auto Service	Vehicles Tire Changeovers & Repairs	10/27/16	1,098.76
Kennebec Equipment-Fairfield	Compactor Maintenance & Repair	10/27/16	228.06
Maine Water Utilities Association	Bi-Monthly Meeting-2 Employees	10/27/16	90.00
Treasurer, State of Maine HETL	Water Tests	10/27/16	264.00
Messalonskee Stream Hydro LLC	Materials & Labor-M-4 Eel Ramp	10/27/16	1,803.94
Northeast Laboratory	Water Tests	10/27/16	310.00
PowerPlan	John Deere Backhoe Parts & Service	10/27/16	1,194.85
O'Connor GMC/Buick	Fuel Tank Strap-Tk 6	10/27/16	33.88
Fanado Pelotte	Excavator/Wheelers/Gravel	10/27/16	2,238.26
Pike Industries Inc.	Stone	10/27/16	236.10
Results Engineering Inc.	Technical Support-Ignition Software Installation-WTP	10/27/16	825.85
Roki Repair Shop	Service & Repairs-Tk 13	10/27/16	1,169.25
Staples Credit Plan	Toner/Dell Desktop/Cable/Monitor	10/27/16	604.77
Super Shoe Stores Inc.	Employees Clothing	10/27/16	156.45
United States Cellular	Monthly Data Hot Spots	10/27/16	97.80
United States Cellular	Monthly Cell Phone Service	10/27/16	82.31
Vassalboro Car Care	Repairs-Tk 17	10/27/16	54.81
Verizon Wireless	Monthly Data Plan	10/27/16	131.00
WESCO Receivables Corp.	LED Bulbs	10/27/16	388.28
Workplace Health	Hepatitis B Shot-1 Employee	10/27/16	75.00
Eastern Fire Services Inc.	Hydrostatic Testing-WTP	10/28/16	480.00
TOTAL WARRANT			\$278,585.48

Motion by Trustee Talbot, "to ratify the total warrant of checks released for \$278,585.48," seconded by Trustee Earickson.

Trustee Coull asked for a further explanation for the payment made to Affiliated Testing Services via the Bank of America Business Card for Suspicion Awareness Training. Mr. LaCasse explained that KWD has employees with Maine Commercial Driver licenses (CDL). The Suspicion Awareness is a required Department of Transportation training which educates supervisors on signs, symptoms, and indicators to identify an employee who appears unfit for duty due to being under the influence of alcohol or a narcotic.

Trustee Hodsdon observed that KWD has various cell phone and data plans through both Verizon and U. S. Cellular. He inquired if there would be less cost if these plans were bundled under one vendor. Mr. LaCasse replied that there are some cell phones and tablets contracted under the U. S. Cellular plan which was the least expensive at the time of activation. However, when KWD set up the newest tablets, Verizon offered a better service plan. KWD will eventually consider bundling all of these services under one plan. Mr. LaCasse further explained that one of the major means of communication for KWD employees is by cell phone. If employees choose to use a personal cell phone, he/she receives a stipend each month. If employees choose to use a company cell phone, he/she pays KWD for the personal portion of its use.

Trustee Coull asked if the Hepatitis B shot for an employee (paid to Workplace Health) was standard protocol. Mr. LaCasse explained that due to the potential exposure to blood borne pathogens, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) through the State of Maine

Bureau of Labor Standards, requires that potentially impacted KWD employees either receive a Hepatitis B shot or sign a declination form.

Trustee Earickson noted the payment made to Kim's Garage & Towing Service, and asked the reason Vehicle 18 had to be towed. Mr. O'Brien answered that it was due to a starter equipment failure.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

B. September Financials

As part of their packets, the Trustees were provided with a copy of the September financial reports, and a brief review was conducted. The 2016 year-to-date metered sales for industrial customer revenue, of which the Huhtamaki Manufacturing Plant (HMP) is the primary customer, is \$197,973 and has already almost met budgetary expectations of \$200,000. The HMP consumption is unpredictable and can fluctuate throughout any given year due to several variables, for instance poor quality or low river water which is its main water source for manufacturing purposes. Trustee Hodsdon noted that the year-to-date 2016 sales for resale revenue, which is KWD water sales to the Maine Water Company which in turn provides the services and sells the water in the Oakland area, is above 2015 by \$14,709. He speculated that this could be due to customers utilizing more water for gardens and lawns because of the lack of precipitation and dry summer. Overall, the 2016 year-to-date net operating revenues are slightly above 2015 by \$30,330.

The 2016 year-to-date operations and maintenance expenses are above 2015 by \$119,496. The majority of this increase is the 2016 employee pensions and benefits expense which is above 2015 by \$91,524 and which was anticipated due to the addition of the recording of the employer portion of the MainePERS expense. The September 2016 chemical expense is above September 2015 by \$19,716. Mr. LaCasse explained that a bulk supply of cationic polymer was purchased, typically purchased only every one to two years. The year-to-date contractual services-others category, which encompasses paving and other expense-related projects by outside contractors, is presently at \$272,863 and close to the budgeted figure of \$300,000.

The 2016 year-to-date M-4 income is above 2015 by \$9,602. Mr. LaCasse stated that KWD recently received renewable energy credit (REC) value monies of approximately \$8,000 for the 2nd quarter 2016 and which will be recorded on a future financial report. Unfortunately, due to the lack of precipitation and low stream flow, M-4 has not been generating since that time; therefore, revenues and REC fees will be minimal at least through October. Trustee Hodsdon commented that the area has had quite a bit of rain recently and asked if M-4 is generating to some extent. Mr. LaCasse responded that this precipitation is being utilized to boost the low lake level rather than being released downstream.

Overall and as anticipated, the 2016 year-to-date net income is below 2015 by \$75,030.

C. Other

None

ITEM 4: MOTION ISSUES**A. Other**

None

ITEM 5: TRUSTEES**A. Comments, Concerns, Ideas**

On today's warrant, there was a payment made to EMSL Analytical Inc. – Products for cryptosporidium testing. Trustee McCluskey inquired if this is a mandatory or voluntary testing program. Mr. LaCasse answered that in compliance with the Environmental Protection Agency and Safe Drinking Water Act and independent of its regular testing analysis, KWD is required to conduct routine testing for crypto, giardia and e-coli to assess if the KWD treatment processes utilized are effective. This is the second round of the LT2ESWTR (Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule). This sampling is conducted monthly for two years and is mailed to EMSL Analytical Inc. for analysis. In addition to the sampling testing costs, there are FedEx delivery charges. The estimated cost for this two-year program is expected to be in the vicinity of \$20,000. Trustee McCluskey asked if KWD has received the results from these tests. Mr. LaCasse replied that the results are sent to the WTP and are typically non-detects. Mr. Zetterman has not reported any abnormal results to date.

At a previous meeting, during a discussion regarding a question posed by a customer it was mentioned that because Martin Avenue in Waterville is at a relatively high elevation in the system, customers have lower water pressure than many other locations. System pressure in that area is around 50 pounds per square inch (psi), which is certainly in the acceptable range. Trustee Earickson mentioned that he has a friend who lives on Martin Avenue, and during a conversation with this person, this customer stated he is happy with the water pressure and has no complaints.

B. Other

None

ITEM 6: DEPARTMENT OPERATIONAL REPORTS**A. Operations and Maintenance Update November 3, 2016**

The month of October started with our biannual hydrant flushing. With help from the Water Treatment Plant employees and very few unplanned distractions, we were able to finish the hydrant flushing right on schedule. We then shifted our focus to flushing blow-offs to clear the dead end lines throughout the system.

We are now in the process of hydrant checks/pumping. During this process, we will verify that the hydrants not used during the flushing process are still working properly. We will de-water all hydrants so they will not freeze, rendering the hydrant inoperable and possibly damaging the hydrant as well. We will also be checking that all port caps can be removed if necessary, replacing hydrant markers as necessary, checking hydrant valves for accessibility, and if the hydrant is due to be repainted. Any issues that cannot be addressed at that time can be noted on a shared electronic spreadsheet that Josh has created. This spreadsheet also generates a list of these issues so we can prioritize and fix them in a timely manner. Have a great day!

Benjamin LaPlante, Distribution Superintendent

In addition to the above, Mr. LaPlante reported that the final planned excavation of the construction season was conducted yesterday.

In reference to the hydrants, as is typical for the winter months, all fire departments have been contacted and asked to report to KWD if a hydrant has been utilized so that KWD staff can de-water the hydrant to ensure it will not freeze and is operable in the event of another emergency.

B. Water Treatment Plant Update November 3, 2016

We will be starting the drawdown of China Lake starting October 31st as part of our annual flush of the lake. Most years we would make big changes in flow in the stream but because the impoundment is much lower and there is a greater chance of erosion downstream we will be making small changes in flow throughout the week. We have also been coordinating with the Alewife Restoration Initiative in order to minimize the impact to their project at Masse Dam. This is a great opportunity for us to measure the flow in the stream and to recalibrate our flow calculation at different gate positions at the dam.

Plant staff continues to work with area schools to take lead samples. While Benton Elementary School continues to be a bit complicated, the lead levels in the samples have continued to improve. Tests at Lawrence High School and Junior High School also came back well below the EPA's action level. We are planning on sampling at Waterville and Winslow high schools and junior high schools in the near future.

Other ongoing projects include: separating data communications with Maine Water Company's equipment at our Second Rangeway tank site (at their request), installing a new communications conduit between our South Street office and Western Avenue Pump Station project in preparation of the pump station upgrade, and making further improvements in the lab. We also will be providing tours of the treatment plant over the next couple of weeks to students at the University of Maine and Thomas College.

Matt Zetterman, P.E., Director of Water Quality

In addition to the above, Mr. LaCasse reported that when WTP staff opened up the gates to allow for more stream flow as part of the annual lake drawdown process, there was another group of

alewives which had been waiting to exit the lake. They went downstream shortly after the gate opening.

C. Customer Service and Safety Updates October 6, 2016

Meter

Service news of note:

KWD has been contacted by the owners of a new building on the site of the old Seton Hospital for service. A 2" service has been installed off their private main and KWD will install a 1" meter when the time comes.

The former Poultry Products building near Fortin's on Augusta Road is slated to be razed.

The new fire service installed at 177 Main Street Waterville was found not to meet the plumbing code upon inspection by District personnel. Fire service companies in Maine claim to follow NFPA standards when designing and installing fire services and rightfully so. Where they make a mistake is in not understanding that they do plumbing. All of them have stated at various times that they don't need to follow the plumbing code. For several years, KWD has tried to educate them including involving the Senior State Plumbing Inspector who agrees that they are required to follow the code. In this case, the RPZ was installed too close to the floor. The code requires that the lowest point of the device be a minimum of one foot off the surface for maintenance and other reasons. KWD is working with the owner of the property to have this corrected.

A new 2" Sensus Omni meter was installed at Benton Elementary School.

KWD is required to test meters based on a schedule. Meters 5/8" through 2" in size must be tested every 20 years; 3" meters must be tested every 4 years; 4" meters every 2 years; and 6" meters and up every year pursuant to Maine Public Utility Commission rules and KWD Terms & Conditions. New meters come with valid tests performed by the manufacturer. Maine Water Works is working to complete in-place meter testing at several customers' facilities:

Maine General Thayer Unit – 6" Metron Single Jet, 3" Sensus Omni
 Huhtamaki – 8" x 2" Sensus Fireline Turbo, 6" x 2" Sensus Fireline Turbo
 Oakland (Maine Water Company) – 6" Rockwell Turbo
 Colby College – 6" Rockwell Wafer Turbo
 KRDP – 10" x 2" Rockwell Fireline Turbo
 Lakewood Manor – 3" Actaris Single Jet
 Thayer Garden Apartments – 4" Sensus Omni
 Hathaway Creative Center – 3" Actaris Single Jet
 Governor's/Fireside Inn – 3" Sensus Omni

Other customers with large meters that require in-place testing include:

Mount St Joseph's Nursing Home – 4" Sensus Omni
 Lawrence High School – 3" Sensus Omni
 Inland Hospital – 3" Sensus Omni

North Street Pool – 3” Sensus Omni
J & S Car Wash – 3” Sensus Omni
KWD Hydrant Meters

Meter System Technician, Holly Sadler, will be attending Management Candidate School 2016-2017 commencing November 9th at Bangor Water District.

Safety

One of two MMA Safety Enhancement Grant requests (road signs \$2,002) has been denied due to “overwhelming response to our Safety Grant Program”. As of this writing, we have not received word about the second request (fall protection rescue items \$2,900).

Somatex, Inc. of Pittsfield will perform the annual crane/hoist and fixed ladder inspections on November 3rd and 4th.

Summit Gas conducted gas safety training for KWD on October 28.

Mike O’Brien, Customer Service Manager

During discussion of the function of the new building at the site of the old Seton Hospital, Trustee Sanzenbacher stated that this will be a school for autistic children. Trustee McCluskey asked if the plans are known for the Seton Hospital building itself. Mr. O’Brien replied that the last he had heard, approximately a year ago, it was going to be rehabbed for residential, commercial, and storage utilization.

Mr. O’Brien continues to work with the owner at 177 Main Street, Waterville, to encourage the correction of the aforementioned reduced pressure zone (RPZ) device location so it meets the State of Maine Plumbing Code.

The building rehabilitation at 173 Main Street, Waterville, recently began in full force.

Referring to the aforementioned Maine Municipal Association Safety Enhancement Grant program, Mr. O’Brien was happy to report that, since his written report, KWD has been approved for fall protection rescue items. He explained that some project situations necessitate that KWD employees wear fall protection harnesses. In addition to these harnesses, a fall protection rescue plan is required. The items covered by this grant is equipment which attaches to the harness and in the event of a fall it allows for a quick release and drop to the next safest shelf in order to prevent the severing of blood circulation.

Due to the poor weather conditions, Somatex, Inc. has postponed the annual crane/hoist and fixed ladder inspections until the week of November 7th.

Mr. O’Brien and Mr. LaPlante both reported that the Summit Gas natural gas line infrastructure safety training attended by the majority of the KWD employees was extremely informative and beneficial.

Trustee Hodsdon mentioned that the Maine Department of Labor from time to time conducts unannounced inspections at businesses, and asked if KWD has had one of these unplanned

assessments recently. Mr. O'Brien explained that KWD is participating in the Maine Department of Labor Safety and Health Award for Public Employers (SHAPE). The last time there was a visit from the Labor Department was in 2014 when KWD invited a representative from the Bureau of Labor to conduct a safety inspection at the KWD sites. KWD received the report findings from this visit and made corrections based upon the recommendations by the Bureau. KWD will not be eligible for the SHAPE designation until 2017 due primarily to a major employee injury in 2012 that raised KWD's injury cost ratio above the state average. With negligible incidents in the past four years, KWD expects to gain certification. Mr. O'Brien stated that KWD will invite the Labor rep to again inspect the KWD sites in 2017. If the results from this review meet the Bureau's expectations, KWD should become SHAPE certified. Workplace environments which are SHAPE certified are granted an exemption from future Bureau of Labor Standards scheduled inspections. Mr. LaCasse did state that a KWD vehicle was recently rear-ended, which was the other driver's fault, and the KWD employee who was driving has had chiropractor appointments for minor injuries. It is hopeful this will not hinder the SHAPE eligibility.

ITEM 7: ENGINEER'S REPORT

A. Engineer's Report

China Lake Elevation: 170.1

Stream Flow: 11 cfs

Although KWD's own projects have come to a close, a new main project is set to begin to install main on the Trafton Road from West River Road, Waterville. This main will be installed by Sargent Corp. and Trafton Properties will be paying for the installation. The work is expected to start on November 1st, and take less than a week to get the main outside of the new roadway.

The end of the construction season is causing people to want to have new services installed. I had to scramble when I was told that the Waterville Airport's well had run dry and come up with a plan to get water to them. Fortunately, the loss of water was due to a wiring issue, but as the area is developed, they will want water. The main only extends to the end of the public road way, so much of this is not straightforward. However, now there is time to get the current and proposed buildings water. A developer is trying to get a couple houses connected to the KWD system after discovering that wells that were installed have high salt content. One service was able to be installed with directional drilling, but another will need to be dug by cut and cover because ledge prevented it from being drilled below the frost line. A third customer is looking to upgrade the service on the Ridge Road to a larger size, because they want increased pressure, and the existing ¾ inch service may be too small for the increased flow during pumping.

No physical work has started on the Western Avenue Pumping Station upgrade, but shop drawings are beginning to be shared. Hopefully, the outside work can start soon so that it can be completed before the cold weather takes hold.

Jefferson Longfellow, P.E.

Referring to the salt in the wells mentioned in the above report, Trustee Boucher commented that there was another customer in Winslow whom connected to the KWD service several months ago due to a high content of salt in his well, and it was eventually concluded that the source was the town's salt/sand storage pile.

Trustee Hodsdon mentioned that he received a call from the chairman of the Waterville Airport Authority Board who commented that there is an expansion planned in this area in the foreseeable future. Trustee Hodsdon asked him to provide KWD with plans in order to aid in properly sizing the service if they are seeking to extend the KWD water main and hook to the KWD service. To date, Mr. Longfellow has not received any specs for this project, adding that there is a tremendous amount of ledge in this area.

Trustee McCluskey suggested taking detailed photographs of the Western Avenue Pump Station before the work commences and after it has been completed.

Motion by Trustee Talbot, “to accept all Departmental Reports as presented,” seconded by Trustee Sanzenbacher.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM 8: GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

A. Update on Lead in School Drinking Water Issues

In order to further educate the Board on overall lead in drinking water in the event they receive calls from concerned customers, the Trustees were provided with the following documents: 1) “Lead in Your Drinking Water – Actions You Can Take to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water” published by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); 2) “Lead Concerns – Questions and Answers” published by the EPA; 3) EPA Connect – Examining Options to Reduce Lead in Drinking Water. Mr. LaCasse cautioned that although the second article has a great deal of excellent advice and information, some material is outdated and he highlighted the points which the Trustees should disregard.

One important detail in the first document he focused on was that a good rule to follow is, before drawing water for drinking or cooking, the cold water tap should be run for a few seconds until the water gets cold, especially if a faucet has not been used for six hours or longer. The longer that water sits in a home’s plumbing, the more lead it may contain.

Mr. LaCasse commented that the third article points out that in addition to lead solder and brass plumbing fixtures, years ago there was lead in toys, lead solder in cans, lead in gasoline, and lead in paint. Through rulemaking, the EPA has made great strides in eliminating these lead threats. The article goes on to state that data shows that from 1976 to 1980 the median blood lead level of a child (1-5 years old) was 15 micrograms per deciliter, and the most recent data shows the level at 1 microgram per deciliter.

Trustee Coull inquired the water lead level number in which a person should start to become concerned. Mr. LaCasse stated that there is no maximum contaminant level standard for lead, just an action level, but the goal is to have no lead in the drinking water. He went on to explain if in the first draw sample – for schools it is the first 8 ounces of water – the lead content is 25 parts per billion (ppb) or more, the recommendation is an action should be taken to decrease this number.

The Trustees were also provided with two draft items from the Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention: 1) Recommended Protocol for Testing Your School for Lead in Drinking

Water; and 2) Testing Your School for Lead in Drinking Water: Post-Sampling Guidance. These guidelines are a result of the meetings participated by Mr. LaCasse and other water utility managers, educators and state officials in an effort to form a state-wide coalition between water utilities and educators to encourage testing for lead at schools. These correspondences should be mailed to school districts within the next couple of weeks. Trustee Hodsdon asked if there will be some type of funding available to the schools for the testing. Mr. LaCasse stated that is being considered in the early planning stages, but the amount of funding is still to be determined. He added that there is some concern that the Maine State Lab will be inundated with samples creating a backlog of testing. If the water samples are not tested within a set amount of time and the water remains stagnant, they are rendered ineligible for testing purposes and new samples must be drawn. He said that there other labs available around the State that can conduct lead testing and most likely will be used to meet demands.

The final report provided to the Board today was entitled “Benton Elementary School Results and Recommendations from Lead Sampling Program” composed by Mr. LaCasse which was also provided to the Benton Elementary School authorities. At this time, Mr. LaCasse conducted a power point presentation focused on the Benton School explaining the testing procedure, results, and recommendations along with pictures of the different focal points of the investigation.

In summary, the first round of testing on October 14th, which consisted of just the first water draw, yielded 670 ppb at the cafeteria sink, 57 ppb at the fountain in room 120, and 78 ppb at the fountain in room 210. All these levels exceeded the action level of 20 ppb for schools. The school ceased drinking and cooking with the water immediately, and Poland Springs responded to the situation by donating and delivering water bubblers and gallons of jugs of water.

The second and third round of testing consisted of three water draws: one first draw, one after the water has run slightly to capture the water in the school pipes, and one after the water has run cold to capture the water in the KWD main. There were also various other sites tested for evaluation purposes. The sample analysis from outside the school proved the KWD water incoming to the school was normal for the distribution system, including the pH and phosphate and lead levels. Presently, and which will be continued as always, KWD’s water will be maintained so as to be below the action levels for lead and copper content and to meet regulatory guidelines through optimal pH and corrosion control and system monitoring.

The second round of testing on October 21st yielded lead levels well below the 20 ppb action level for the three locations. However, a first draw sample taken at the water meter showed a level of 180 ppb which created the focus to be on the piping system in the vicinity of the meter. At this time, KWD did replace the older brass meter with a new lead-free model to eliminate the meter being a contributor of the lead level. Mr. LaCasse did state that testing at other schools which still have the older brass meters did not demonstrate levels of high lead content, so he didn’t feel the meter was a major contributor. Because of this and the fact that the level of lead measured at the three other sites in the second round of testing dipped dramatically could lead to the conclusion that the piping surrounding the meter could be the prime contributor. KWD is testing the meter that was removed to assist in confirming this deduction.

The third round of testing on October 26th yielded similar results as the second round, all well below the 20 ppb action level for the three locations. All KWD tests were analyzed at the State of Maine Health and Environmental Testing Laboratory. Trustee Hodsdon also conducted testing on October 26th and October 27th. These samples were brought to the Northeast Laboratory, and the

numbers received from Northeast Laboratory were comparative to the KWD third round testing results.

KWD did make several recommendations to the school administrators including implementing a periodic sampling program until there is confidence that lead levels are reliably under control.

Trustee Hodsdon stated the he knows of several Benton Elementary Students and Teachers who have had their blood sampled for lead contents. He was happy to report that all the test results were in the low number. Trustee McCluskey pointed out that even if the numbers were high, this could be the result from lead fixtures and plumbing within the customers' homes or other exposures.

Trustee Fuller took the initiative to visit the Benton Town Office to meet with town staff, as they have been inundated with inquiries from concerned citizens, in order to review the school's lead findings and facts, including the results of the samples taken. He reported that the town officials were quite pleased with the initiative of KWD to conduct this sampling and the aid in attempting to find the source and the recommendations made for potential correction of the issue. The town officials are convinced that the water provided by KWD is of the utmost quality, and the probable lead source is a result of water lines within the school. On behalf of the Board, Trustee Hodsdon thanked Trustee Fuller for making the effort and taking the time to review this concern with the Town of Benton staff.

B. Project Updates

There were no project updates at today's meeting.

C. Other

None

Motion by Trustee Earickson, "to accept the General Manager's Report as presented," seconded by Trustee Talbot.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM 9: EXECUTIVE SESSION, IF NECESSARY

None

ITEM 10: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

Motion by Trustee Talbot, “to adjourn the meeting,” seconded by Trustee Earickson.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03a.m.

Sue Markatine, Recording Secretary