



*Department of Health
and Human Services*

*Maine People Living
Safe, Healthy and Productive Lives*

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Maine Public Drinking Water Commission

MEETING #114

Wednesday September 7, 2011

9:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Pine Tree Camps - Rome

Agenda

1. Approval of Minutes, Meeting #113, May 4, 2011
2. AFM Fee and Collection Status
3. DWP Financial Status
4. DWSRF Update
 - a. 2011 State Match
 - b. 2012 and beyond
5. Public Water System Compliance/ Enforcement
6. DWP Project – Reducing financial and regulatory burden
7. DWP Staffing Update
8. Drinking Water Commission Membership
9. Suggested Items for next meeting
 - a. Geothermal Well presentation will occur on December 7th.
10. Next Meeting – locations/dates
December 7, 2011 – Augusta – Key Bank Building



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Maine Drinking Water Commission

Minutes of Meeting #114

September 7, 2011

The Maine Public Drinking Water Commission (DWC) held its 114th meeting on May 4, 2011 at Pine Tree Camps- Rome, Maine.

Present Were:

Members: Harvey Chesley, Rebecca Laliberte, Tom Brennan, George Dugovic, Jeff LaCasse, and Roger Crouse
Guests: Jim Willis (Maine DWP).

Time: Tom called the meeting to order at 9:20 a.m.

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Approval of minutes from the last meeting occurred, with one correction: Roger called the meeting May 4th meeting to order.

B. RECURRING BUSINESS:

1. AFM FEE AND COLLECTION STATUS

SFY 2011 Summary: The year ended with a collection rate of 96.2 percent. 1.9 percent of the delinquent funds were from systems that closed during the SFY. The remaining 1.9 percent was from active 74 active public water systems. The 74 active delinquent water systems represent 3.6 percent of the total number of active systems.

SFY 2012 Summary: The AFM collections for 2012 are on target from previous years. We are currently at 86 percent of collected. 363 water systems are currently delinquent. This includes state owned facilities such as state parks. The DWP is still waiting for the accounting department to report payment information to us.

2. DWP FINANCIAL STATUS

Roger discussed the DWP Financial Status. The DWP has received the 2011 DWSRF grant award for \$9.4 million. This is a decrease from the 2010 number of \$13.5 million. Roger stated we will probably be receiving around \$8.2 million annually going forward.

Roger indicated the Governor is planning on using a zero-based budgeting process for the next biennium.

Because of the likely decrease in DWSRF funding in the future the DWP anticipates a budget shortfall in three to four years. The DWP is looking at other funding options including fees on DWSRF loans. The DWP will likely need to reduce some of its services. Roger has already had a discussion with MRWA about reducing their funding to equal the 2 percent DWSRF set-aside. MRWA's current budget exceeds the 2 percent set-aside.

3. DWSRF UPDATE

Roger discussed that for the 2012 and 2013 fiscal years, we currently do not have a plan on how we will secure the necessary State Match. For 2014 and beyond the State Match will come from proceeds of the State liquor sales contract.

4. PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM COMPLIANCE/ENFORCEMENT

Roger discussed the DWP working with EPA's new enforcement targeting tool which would assign points for violations. Roger also discussed we are in the process of cleaning up data while we have a grace period to waive public notice violations prior to 2009.

Roger also stated that the DWP is looking at working with transient systems in the third quarter to help reduce the number of failure to monitors in the fourth quarter.

5. DWP PROJECT-REDUCING FINANCIAL/REGULATORY BURDEN.

Roger discussed ways to help public water systems reduce costs from regulatory financial burden. Including cutting down on certain water testing for transient systems, looking at the Boil water order policy and recheck policies.

6. DWP STAFFING UPDATE

Currently there is a vacant field inspector position in the Portland area which we are waiting to get permission to fill.

Jeff Folger has retired and Scott Whitney will take over as field inspector. Jason Pushard is starting with the DWP as a compliance officer. Jeff Folger is going to work through the summer to help with sanitary surveys.

7. DRINKING WATER COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP

Roger stated that we are making progress in filling the vacant seats. Jeff LaCasse has been appointed to the DWC filling the seat representing water systems over 10,000 population. The Commission unanimously voted Tom as Chair and George as vice-chair.

8. SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

The discussion on geothermal wells was postponed until December when the Commission would be meeting at the DWP offices.
2012 schedule of meetings.

9. NEXT MEETING –LOCATION AND DATES

December 6, 2011 – Augusta – Key Bank Building

10. MOTION TO ADJOURN

Rebecca made a motion to adjourn. Harvey seconded the motion. The meeting ended at 10:40 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jim Willis