

RYE WATER DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, December 21, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Commissioners Present:

Arthur Ditto, Chair
Ralph Hickson
Scott Marion

Others Present:

Resident Ben Tweedie

I. Call to Order

Chair Ditto called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

II. Aquarion Water

Adam Simonsen, and **John Walsh**, representatives from **Aquarion Water**, met with the Commissioners to discuss the possible merger of the Rye Water District with Aquarion Water. The Commissioners took the information presented by Aquarion under advisement.

III. 2023 Projects

Chris Berg, **Wright-Pierce**, and **Superintendent Arik Jones** reviewed estimates received for planned projects for 2023.

Note: *Scott Marion left the meeting at 11:05 a.m.*

IV. Budget Work Session

The Commissioners reviewed the proposed budget for 2023 and made some slight adjustments. Budget to be voted on by the Commissioners at the January monthly meeting. They also reviewed the proposed usage fee increases for water used over the annual allotment.

V. Encumbrances

- Installation of Pipe Work for Point of Entry

Motion by Ralph Hickson to encumber a not to exceed amount of \$71,000 for the point of entry piping. Seconded by Art Ditto. Vote: 2-0 (Scott Marion not present for vote.)

- **Office Painting**

Motion by Ralph Hickson to encumber \$4,800 for office painting. Seconded by Art Ditto. Vote: 2-0 (Scott Marion not present for vote.)

VI. Other Business

The Commissioners agreed to award the employees with an end of year bonus for outstanding performance.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to award the Water District staff with a \$750 end of year bonus. Seconded by Art Ditto. All in favor.

- **Survey**

Chris Berg will continue to work on the survey questions and will email a draft to the Commissioners for review.

Adjournment

Motion by Ralph Hickson to adjourn at 12:14 a.m. Seconded by Art Ditto. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

RYE WATER DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, December 7, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Commissioners Present:

**Arthur Ditto, Chair
Ralph Hickson
Scott Marion**

Others Present:

**Arik Jones, Superintendent
Dyana Ledger, Business Manager
Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce
Selectman Phil Winslow
Resident Rose Drakatos
Resident Steven Borne**

I. Call to Order

Chair Ditto called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

- November 10, 2022

**Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the minutes of November 10, 2022 as presented.
Seconded by Art Ditto. Vote: 2-0-1 Abstained: Scott Marion**

- September 15, 2022

**Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the minutes of September 15, 2022 as amended.
Seconded by Scott Marion. Vote: 2-0-1 Abstained: Art Ditto**

- November 6, 2022

**Motion by Scott Marion to approve the minutes of November 6, 2022 as amended.
Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.**

III. Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce – Project Updates

Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce Engineering, gave an update to the Commissioners regarding ongoing RWD projects. Wright-Pierce continues to work with New England Backflow to coordinate the backflow testing in a timely manner. There are about 60 to 70 cross connection surveys and about 110 devices that will be tested. Mr. Berg is working on the submittals for the Strategic Planning Grant, which is due December 9th. There are number of projects that are being submitted for the concept plan for the combined treatment plant. The grant is a \$50,000 no match for each project. This is a good opportunity for RWD to get some grant funds to advance some of the projects.

Wetland delineation information has been collected for the ongoing water source investigation. The draft letter to the Conservation Commission and NRCS is almost ready to be submitted to RCC for review. The Garland well improvements is about complete. The final disbursement for the loan will be submitted within the next few weeks. Work on the Wallis main replacement has stopped for the winter months. Wickson Construction has removed the equipment from the site and work will resume in the spring.

The tank painting project and soil characterization is in progress. As discussed, there will be a hold on bidding to at least 2024 in order to get through some of the more pressing projects. Condition assessments for the facilities will begin next week for the asset management project.

IV. Superintendent's Monthly Report, Pumping Chart, and Data Report, and Bacteria Tests for November

Superintendent Arik Jones explained the chlorination process for members of the public who were present. Steven Borne and Rose Drakatos expressed concerns about the chlorine levels, dosing, and residual levels. Superintendent Jones spoke about the chlorine and dosing levels, which are set by NH DES. He also noted that the chlorine smell is stronger when it is first introduced to the system.

Rose Drakatos expressed concerns about PFAS and the public health. Superintendent Jones spoke about history sampling periods and values. Rose Drakatos suggested that RWD hold a public meeting to educate the public and address their concerns. Chair Ditto explained that a public meeting is being planned to discuss RWD's level of service and what residents who are served by RWD would like to see in the future. Prior to that meeting, a survey will be sent to households in the Rye Water District asking for their input so those topics can be addressed and discussed at the public forum.

Superintendent Jones gave his monthly report:

- The pumping totals are up from this time last year. This is due to the draining and filling of the Breakfast Hill tank. It will probably take another week and a half to refill the tank.
- December water samples have been pulled but the results have not yet been received.

- The concern of arsenic that was driven by 6 Random Road is being addressed. About eight or nine samples have been pulled throughout the system in various areas; (new build, old build, always on the RWD system, and well then converted to RWD). The results have not yet been received. Those samples will be checked for lead, copper, bacteria, heavy metals, nitrate, and nitrite.
- Quarter four chemical samples will be pulled in the next couple of days.
- Lee Arthur from the Sewer Department contacted the Water District because she saw an increase in pumping to Portsmouth from Adam's Trailer Park. The water meter at the park has just recently been updated and daily usages were reviewed. From October 13th to November 9th the usage for the trailer park doubled. This was during the boil order time period. There should be a 5,000 to 6,000 gallon a day track. During that time period, the usage jumps up to 10,000 gallons per day and drops back down after November 9th. The owner of the park was contacted and updated on the matter. The cause of the increased usage is unknown.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the Superintendent's report for the month of November. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

V. Cash Flow Reports for November

The Commissioners reviewed the cash flow reports for the month of November. There were no issues or concerns. The next billing will be going out the end of December, which will be the final bills for 2022.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to accept the cash flow reports for November. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

VI. Correspondence

- **Mindi Messmer letter/email of Nov. 11, 2022**

Chair Ditto noted that an email was received from Mindi Messmer in November. The email asked for a meeting in November; however, the Commissioners were not meeting until now so that could not be scheduled. He also noted that the letter asked RWD to analyze samples collected on a monthly basis for total coliform and also E. coli.

Superintendent Jones confirmed that RWD does this twice a month. Referring to the letter, he pointed out that it says this will expedite the process and notification to the public should the boil order advisory be reinstated. He explained that when the samples were detected with E. coli, within four hours the public knew. Samples are collected, processed, and analyzed, which takes time.

Mr. Borne stated that what he heard before is that tests are done for coliform. If it's positive, a test is then done for E. coli. What he just heard is that a sample is taken and it's tested at the same time, so there is no lag. He thinks this is where the confusion comes in.

Superintendent Jones explained that routine samples are taken and then tested. It's either absent or present for both coliform and E. coli. If there is a hit for coliform, triggered samples are pulled. Samples are taken downstream and upstream from the site that got the hit of coliform. The source wells are also checked for plate counts. If the samples come back positive for coliform, the system is pushed into a Level 1 or Level 2 assessment. If there's E. coli, it puts the system immediately into a boil order. He confirmed that the samples are tested for both E. coli and coliform.

Superintendent Jones read from the letter: "Analyze samples for heterotrophic plate count monitoring in the distribution system as requested by NH DES in the 2020 sanitary survey." He explained that as of December 2020, the District has been doing that. Heterotrophic plate counts, on a monthly basis, have ranged from no detects to a limit of 30/50 on an average. DES doesn't get concerned about heterotrophic or plate counts until it gets to 2500. Right before the boil order, there was an elevated count in the Breakfast Hill tank and that is what drove it to be taken out of service. No E. coli was detected at that time. There was just an elevated count. He continued to read from the letter: "Resample if required upon receipt of total coliform within 24 hours as specified by EPA." Superintendent Jones explained that he got results on the 7th in an email that there was total coliform in the routine monthly samples. The resampling is required within 24 hours if acceptable to do so. The labs are not open on the weekends or holidays. In this particular situation, the samples were received on the 8th, which was a weekend. That Monday was a holiday, so the samples were taken on Tuesday the 11th.

In regards to notifying the residents within 24 hours of receipt of monthly samples through notification system, Chair Ditto noted that there's a link on RWD's website that goes into the DES data base to show samples that have been taken. The samples are sent to DES by the lab. DES posts the samples and then it comes back to Rye Water. He doesn't think they want to send a notification every month to everyone because they won't understand what is being received. RWD can try to make it easier to access the information on the website.

Commissioner Marion stated he worries that if they push something out every time a result is received, when there is a real emergency, people won't understand.

Chair Ditto commented that RWD has been doing what is being asked in the letter. What can be improved is how to access the information from the State.

Commissioner Hickson noted that an email was also received from Paul Goldman questioning root cause investigation. Superintendent Jones gave a very detailed response. This email should be included with this month's correspondence.

VII. Old Business

a. Grove Road lf, sampling MW 102

Chair Ditto noted that he spoke with Craig Musselman, CMA Engineers, who thinks it would be a good idea to increase the sampling of MW 102. To increase the sampling is going to cost money. Sampling a monitoring well is more involved than taking a sample from a tap. It's more

costly to take those samples. The question becomes how the cost going to be shared with the Town. RWD will need to speak with the Town about doing this. Chair Ditto stated that samples should parallel the sampling that RWD does, which is quarterly, so the results can be compared. He is going to speak with Mr. Musselman about the costs for sampling and then the Commission can discuss how to proceed.

b. Draft Irrigation Policy

Commissioner Hickson noted that Planning Administrator Reed submitted the draft irrigation policy to the Planning Board, as written by Chair Ditto. Town counsel reviewed the policy and changed it to include the entire town. Someone raised the issue of how building permits for irrigation systems can be enforced for residents who are on Aquarion or the City of Portsmouth. The town attorney is rewriting the policy and it's going to be in the building code. The policy is going to require a N.H. licensed plumber to install the system. The policy is being rewritten for the January 3rd meeting of the Planning Board, which is being held to review the proposed zoning amendments and building code changes. There will also be a public hearing on January 17th to meet the requirements for the March ballot.

Chair Ditto explained that by requiring a building permit for irrigation systems, the Building Department would issue the permit and send that person to RWD. The District would give them the requirements for irrigation systems in the Rye Water District. The District will require the latest technology with water sensors to optimize water conservation. The question is how can the town be telling Portsmouth how to run their water department or Aquarion?

Commissioner Marion commented there could be a townwide irrigation policy restricting watering to certain days.

Chair Ditto suggested a change to say a building permit is needed for installation of an irrigation system. The construction of that system has to be in accordance with the water purveyor for the property. This would take the town out of the loop and lessens the burden on the Building Department for inspection of the irrigation systems. The intention is not to have the Building Department doing the inspection for irrigation systems within the Rye Water District.

After discussion, Selectman Winslow agreed to speak with the Town Administrator about how RWD should proceed.

VIII. New Business

a. Workman Supervisor Position

Motion by Scott Marion to promote Greg Vaillancourt to the position of Workman Supervisor effective January 1, 2023. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

b. 2022 Encumbrances

Asset Management Project – Request to encumber \$98,026.00

Motion by Ralph Hickson to encumber \$98,026 for the asset management project. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

Water Source Investigation – Request to encumber \$60,643.43

Motion by Ralph Hickson to encumber \$60,643.43 for the water source investigation project. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

IX. Town Zoning and Planning Minutes

Commissioner Hickson noted that the development for the Ciborowski property has been submitted to the town's planning department. Planning Administrator Kim Reed was not aware that at a public meeting it was told to the Selectman that Rye Water District could not support the water for that project (RWD minutes of July 6, 2022). He commented that he is going to send Kim Reed a copy of the minutes. Arik Jones will also have to make comment on the department head sheets that have been submitted to RWD for the project. Planning Administrator Reed would like the minutes or something in writing to give to the Planning Board, as the project is going before the Board as a conceptual proposal.

X. Other Business

The Commissioners briefly reviewed the proposal from John Guilfoil Public Relations for public relations services for the District. It was agreed that this would be beneficial for RWD and should be discussed further at a future meeting for next year's budget.

Adjournment

Motion by Ralph Hickson to adjourn at 11:08 a.m. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

RYE WATER DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, November 10, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Commissioners Present:

Arthur Ditto, Chair
Ralph Hickson

Others Present:

Arik Jones, Superintendent
Dyana Ledger, Business Manager
Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce
Selectman Phil Winslow
Resident Rose Lopresto

I. Call to Order

Chair Ditto called the meeting to order at 9:13 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

- September 15, 2022 - *Tabled*
- October 5, 2022

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the October 5, 2022 meeting minutes. Seconded by Art Ditto. All in favor.

III. Public Comment

Rose Lopresto, 64 Liberty Common, asked about the comment made in the October meeting minutes; “The town really doesn’t have a good sampling plan on the landfill to correlate with the Rye Water District”.

Chair Ditto explained that Rye Water District samples the wells quarterly. The Town has a groundwater management permit for the old landfill. The Town samples just on an annual basis in April. There is one monitoring well located upgradient of the Garland well. The only data that is available for that monitoring well is in April. Usually, when trying to track contamination flow, the upgradient monitoring wells would be sampled at the same time the Garland well is sampled, so the seasonal fluctuations can be compared.

Ms. Lopresto asked why the Town does not sample quarterly being that the levels are so high.

Chair Ditto noted that DES establishes the sampling protocols.

Ms. Lopresto commented that the concern, as a resident, is that the levels exceed the NH maximum contaminant level (mcl) at a very high amount. The CMA engineering report that was on the Town's website in March of 2022 states that; however, no one was notified in the Town.

Chair Ditto stated that the groundwater management permit establishes a boundary around where the water is contaminated. That boundary limit for the water has to be within compliance with the standards. It can be exceeding inside that boundary. However, when the water migrates away from the landfill and reaches the boundary limit, it has to be in compliance with the standards. He explained that the samples are in compliance and not going past that boundary limit.

Ms. Lopresto asked if the Town should be doing anything further.

Chair Ditto explained that seasonally the contamination levels can fluctuate because the water flow in that area fluctuates. In the August time period, the water table is going to go down. In the late spring, the water table will go up. So, the contamination can fluctuate depending upon where the contamination is emanating from. He further explained that it would be beneficial to the Water District to be able to analyze what's going on by having the same sampling frequency.

There was some further discussion regarding sampling requirements for the Water District as regulated by DES.

IV. Statement by Chair Ditto

Chair Ditto made the following statement for the record:

The June 14, 2022 USEPA release of health advisories for four PFAS substances clearly states: "Health advisories are non-regulatory and reflect EPAs assessment of the best available peer-reviewed science." By this USEPA explanation it can be concluded that the levels established by this health advisory are not to be construed or otherwise considered regulatory standards.

To the best of Rye Water District's knowledge, there have been no reports issued to date (11/10/2022) by either the Coakley Group, USPEA, or NH DES that indicates the Rye Water District water system has been contaminated by the Coakley Landfill Superfund site.

V. Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce – Project Updates

Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce Engineering, gave an update regarding ongoing projects his firm is working on for the Water District. Wright-Pierce has been coordinating cross-connection backflow testing with New England Backflow. It's anticipated that the field work will be conducted by New England Backflow in early December. The State of New Hampshire is

wrapping up some additional information regarding the specifics around the mandatory chlorination. Wright-Pierce has developed the disinfection contact time requirements, the maximum flows, and the minimum chlorine residuals based on the infrastructure that is in place. As the District moves towards developing the single point entry at Garland well, there may be some additional work needed to the infrastructure for the chlorination, if there is a need to sequester iron and manganese in the short-term before a final treatment plant is in place, to be sure the water quality is appropriate.

A loan request was submitted last month for the water tank coatings replacement. The committee reviewing the loan applications will report back to the Trust Fund later this month and final decisions will be made in early December. The soil characterization around the tanks is going to be done on December 9th.

Mr. Berg continued there's a strategic planning grant program. He recommended developing a concept for treatment based on what the District already has and developing the costs of what it would potentially look like. The grant is a \$50,000 no match grant program through the State of New Hampshire related to strategic planning. Preliminary engineering work would qualify. Where this is PFAS related and it dovetails into the manganese rule coming into place, and there have been contaminations issues, it would score high with DES. Wright-Pierce has a strategic funding manager who would be able to help the District with other possible funding and grant opportunities, as the project moves along.

Water source investigation continues for the Brown property. A draft letter to NRCS should be ready within a week to be reviewed by the Commissioners. The letter will then be sent to the Rye Conservation Commission for their review. It's intended that the vernal pool assessment will be done in the spring.

The Garland well improvement project is complete. There will be a final disbursement request submitted to the State within the month. Final details for the project will be wrapped up before the end of the year. The Wallis Road project is moving along. The directional drilling is complete. The work is now focusing near the intersection of Route 1A and Wallis. The intent is to get as much work done this fall as possible, depending upon the weather and coordination with public works. It's anticipated there will be wrap up work needed in the spring to finalize this project.

The asset management project started this past month. Wright-Pierce will be starting the facilities' condition assessment work in December. Mr. Berg recommended a public forum for the level of service work meeting. It was agreed to schedule that meeting for the beginning of the year in January. That will give time to get information out to the public about what will be discussed at the meeting.

VI. Superintendent's Monthly Report, Pumping Chart, and Data Report, and Bacteria Tests for October

Superintendent Arik Jones reviewed the monthly pumping charts, data reports and the superintendent report for October.

- The water usage is decreasing, as it should be going into the winter months. However, the usage is still up for the month of October, as compared to last year. The overall usage for the year is trending upwards, as compared to previous years.
- Over the past month, the District has been focusing on the Boil Order and getting the permanent chlorination system into place.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the Superintendent's report for the month of October. Seconded by Art Ditto. All in favor.

VII. Cash Flow Reports for October

The Commissioners reviewed the cash flow and expenditure reports for the month of October. No issues or concerns were noted. The Commissioners will be working on the proposed budget for 2023 at their work session later in the month.

There was some discussion about adding an additional position to the staff and the expenses that would be associated. The Commissioners reviewed the salary and benefits spreadsheet for the new position submitted by Business Manager Dyana Ledger.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the cash flow reports for October. Seconded by Art Ditto. All in favor.

VIII. Old Business

a. Cross-Connection Control Program

Superintendent Jones agreed to send the current draft to Chris Berg for review. The last time it was updated was 2015 and it should be brought up to date.

b. Rules & Regs Meeting of November 7th

Chair Ditto reported that the Rules and Regulations Committee met on November 7th and he attended the meeting. He spoke with them from quite some time about having a zoning ordinance put in place regarding irrigation systems. The committee felt that it might be better to put something in the building code, as an ordinance covers the whole town. Chair Ditto noted that when it was going to be put into the building code the last time, he had all the details of how it was going to work. However, every time there is a change in technology for irrigation systems, there has to be a change in the building code and that makes it cumbersome. He commented that he thought about proposing a requirement to get a building permit in the building code, so it would then come back to the Water District.

Chair Ditto continued that since the meeting with Rules and Regs, the Town Administrator sent the proposed ordinance to the Town's attorney. His opinion is that the Rye Water District already has the authority to regulate and enforce water regulations, and the Town does not need to pursue a zoning change. Chair Ditto pointed out that at the recent planning board meeting, the board voted not to pursue a zoning ordinance based upon the town attorney input.

Chair Ditto noted that he put together an addition to the building code that would say “building permits are also required for new and replacement irrigation systems for all properties that fall within the boundaries of the Rye Water District.” He feels the town’s attorney is still going to say that the Water District already has the authority to do this. Chair Ditto pointed out that the real purpose of doing this is to track when people are putting them in.

The Commissioners reviewed a draft for irrigation systems prepared by Chair Ditto. It was agreed to submit the proposal to the Planning Administrator. There may need to be a meeting on how it will be better managed by the building department.

IX. New Business

a. Garland Road Ledge Borings in Gap Area

Superintendent Jones noted that there may be funds available to do the borings. He agreed to follow up with Jenn Mates, DES.

b. Bottle Water Distribution Program Cost Sharing

The Commissioners agreed that the District would cover the costs of the bottled water. The Town has agreed to cover the costs of personnel for distribution of the water.

c. Tax Rate Setting

Commissioner Hickson reported that the tax rate setting was held on November 9th at the Town Hall. The Town was recently reassessed and the valuation went up about a billion dollars, which is a 48% increase. The new valuation for the Rye Water District is \$2,204,844,000. The tax rate for the District is \$0.41.

X. Other Business

At 11:25 a.m., Ralph Hickson to go into non-public session per RSA 91:3, II (e) Legal. Seconded by Art Ditto. Roll Call: Ralph Hickson – Aye; Art Ditto – Aye

The Commission came out of non-public session at 11:40 a.m.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to seal the minutes of the non-public session. Seconded by Art Ditto. All in favor.

Adjournment

Motion by Ralph Hickson to adjourn at 11:41 a.m. Seconded by Art Ditto. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

**TOWN OF RYE - SELECT BOARD
&
RYE WATER DISTRICT
PUBLIC FORUM**

**Sunday, November 6, 2022– 1:30 p.m.
Rye Jr. High School Cafeteria**

Select Board Present: *Chair Phil Winslow; Vice-Chair Tom King; and Selectman Bill Epperson*

Water District Commissioners Present: *Chair Art Ditto; Ralph Hickson; and Scott Marion*

Others Present on behalf of the Town: *Town Administrator Matt Scruton; Asst. Town Administrator/Finance Director Becky Bergeron; Police Chief Kevin Walsh; Fire Chief Mark Cotreau; Public Works Director Jason Rucker; Health Officer Dr. Gail Snow*

Others Present on behalf of RWD: *Superintendent Arik Jones; Chris Berg from Wright-Pierce Engineering; Operator Greg Vaillancourt; and Business Manager Dyana Ledger*

NH DES Representatives Present: *Brandon Kernen; Jennifer Mates; and Cindy Klevens*

I. Call to Order

Select Board Chair Phil Winslow called the public forum to order at 1:30 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. RWD Commissioner Chair Art Ditto formally called the Rye Water District meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Chair Winslow explained that the purpose of the meeting is so the Rye Water District (RWD) and NH Department of Environmental Services (NH DES) can provide an update on the Boil Water Order, which has now been lifted, and to provide an opportunity for the public to ask questions. He asked that everyone hold their questions until the end of the presentation. He also encouraged everyone to sign up for the NH Red Alert System. People who were signed up for this system were notified within an hour of the Boil Order being imposed on the Water District by DES. Notifications through this system include the Town and also anything that may happen along the Seacoast. Police Chief Walsh has the information for signing up, which is a very simple process.

Members sitting at the table introduced themselves to the public. The meeting was then turned over to the Rye Water District. RWD Chair Ditto introduced Brandon Kernen from NH DES.

Brandon Kernen, NH DES Drinking Water Administrator, introduced Jennifer Mates, NH DES Water Engineer, and Cindy Klevins, NH DES Managing Water Engineer, who have

been working with the Rye Water District throughout the Boil Water Order. He thanked the residents for attending the meeting regarding the District's drinking water. He noted that on October 12th, test results were received that showed that E. coli was present in multiple samples from the water system and a boil order had to be put into place. These results triggered a set of emergency responses required by state and federal regulations that included notifying the public and investigating and mitigating the E. coli in the water system. Rye Water District complied with these requirements and even pulled in additional resources; including, surrounding area water systems, and outside experts to address a complicated problem.

Mr. Kernan continued that he knows that last three and a half weeks have been very stressful for the customers of the Rye Water District. He thanked the staff, town officials, emergency responders, and DES. He's thankful the community has been patient and cooperative. He also thanked the media for playing a key role in getting the information out to the public that there was a boil order in place. The media plays a vital role when there is a public emergency situation.

Mr. Kernan noted that at this meeting, the focus will be on the boil order that was in place over the last few weeks and how it has been addressed. He thinks it's important that this level of interest remain in the water system. This is the community's drinking water. It requires the residents' support and knowledge of what the issues are, so when there are decisions to be made as a community, such as investments in the water system to possibly address manganese, build a more permanent disinfection system, or PFAS, it will be known why residents are being asked to support these investments. He's glad there are so many people present and hope that this level of engagement will continue. It really takes a community effort to make improvements in water system.

RWD Chair Ditto thanked everyone in the Town for their cooperation with the Boil Water Order.

II. Current Water Situation in Rye

A presentation was given by RWD covering information about the Water District system, the Boil Order timeline, corrective action, investigation efforts, and chlorination. It was noted that the meeting will be focused on the bacteria response. PFAS will be addressed at a future meeting. NH DES is holding a meeting on Monday, November 14th, 6:30 p.m. at the Bethany Church to address the Coakley Landfill.

The Rye Water District is comprised of three water commissioners and four staff members; which include a superintendent, lead operator, water operator, and business administrator. The RWD staff have been working diligently over the last few weeks to come up with a corrective action to get the Boil Order lifted. Additionally, RWD received support from many people: NH DES staff; Town of Rye Leadership Team; Rye Fire Department; Rye Police Department; Rye Public Works Department; Lions Club; Portsmouth Water Works; Aquarion Water; John Guilfoil Public Relations; Wright-Pierce Engineering; New England Backflow; Electrical Installations; BAU and Hopkins; F.W. Webb; Seacoast Analytical; Underwater Solution; and Harcross Chemicals.

Public water in Rye is supplied by the Rye Water District, Portsmouth Water Works; and Aquarion. RWD has 1702 service connections and serves 4300 people. Three wells make up the current supply for the RWD; Cedar Run Well, Bailey Brook Well, and Garland Well. The Cedar Run and Bailey Brook wells are bedrock wells. The Garland Well is a sand packed well. The RWD Office is located at 60 Sagamore Road and the Garland pump house is at 90 Garland Road. There are three water tanks that service the system; one at Breakfast Hill and two located on Washington Road.

The Rye Water District was established in 1948 and originally received its water from the City of Portsmouth. In 1977, RWD transitioned from Portsmouth water supply to its own supply after the Garland Well was installed. The Bailey Brook Well was installed in 1986 and Cedar Run was installed in 2004. RWD has not had to disinfect the water because groundwater sources do not require disinfection. RWD has never had a boil order before. The District maintains compliance with all NH DES and EPA regulations. Processes and procedures are adjusted as necessary to maintain compliance. The RWD staff conducts regular monitoring and testing for a range of chemical and potential contaminants. This includes monthly sampling and testing for bacterial contamination focused on:

- ***Total Coliform Bacteria (TC)***: Coliforms represent a broad category of bacteria that are always present in the digestive tracts of animals, including humans, and are found in their wastes. They are also found in plant and soil materials.
- ***Escherichia coli (E. coli)***: Bacteria found in the environment, foods, and intestines of people and animals. E. coli are a large and diverse group of bacteria. Most strains of E. coli are harmless while others cause urinary tract infections, respiratory illness and pneumonia, and other illnesses.

Boil Order Timeline:

- **10/4** – Routine Monthly Samples Collected
- **10/7** – Monthly samples tested positive for coliform, NH DES issues a letter for repeat sample requirements to RWD
- **10/22 – 10/12** – Repeat samples collected, E. coli detected, boil water issued
- **10/12 – 10/17** – Flushing of system and continued monitoring
- **10/17 – 10/18** – Bottle water distribution starts because of continued TC & E. coli positive results from samples
- **10/18 – 10/23** – Chlorinate and flush distribution system and continued source contamination investigation
- **10/24 – 10/27** – Round 2 samples collected, TC detected, mandatory chlorination ordered by DES
- **10/27 – 11/2** – System fully chlorinated
- **11/2 – 11/4** – Back-to-back negative samples obtained and boil water order lifted by DES

Wright-Pierce Engineering was retained by the District during the Boil Order to provide technical expertise for the contamination source investigation. Wright-Pierce first reviewed the current response actions by RWD, which included Level 1 and Level 2 Assessments with DES, inspection of the wells, RWD facilities, water tanks, and distribution system. No source of contamination was detected during the assessments by RWD. Wright-Pierce then moved on to review cross connections in the system, which are not the tanks, wells or RWD facilities, and is

essentially the consumer end of the system. There are two cross connections in the system: high hazard, which are institutional, commercial and irrigation systems; and the low hazard, which are residential.

Cross connections are a point in a plumbing system where non-potable water may come into contact with potable water. This may be a garden hose in a bucket of water; a submerged outlet of an irrigation system; or a piped connection of public water to an industrial process. There are two different types of backflow types that can occur:

- ***Backsiphonage*** – Low pressure in the system draws water into the distribution system
- ***Backpressure*** – High pressure on the customer side pushes water into the distribution system

Cross connections should be eliminated where possible. Backflow prevention devices protect against instances where cross-connection is necessary. Cross connection examples include: irrigation systems, improperly installed boiler; private well connected to a home that is on a public water system; faucet hose in a kitchen sink; and toilet tank refill line that sits below the water line.

Contamination Source Investigation Steps:

- **10/12** – RWD/NH DES contamination investigation begins
 - Level 1 and Level 2 assessments; wellhead protection area assessment, district facilities assessment, distribution system assessment
 - Well sources sampled multiple times; no E. coli has been present since the chlorination process has begun
 - Breakfast Hill Tank isolated; exterior/interior inspections of the tank
 - Washington Rd tanks; exterior/interior inspections of the tank
- **10/27** – RWD engages Wright-Pierce to assist with contamination source investigation
- Breakfast Hill Tank will be disinfected per American Water Works Association (AWWA) C-652-11 protocols prior to bringing it back online.
- New England Backflow engaged to perform water service cross-connection surveys and backflow device testing.

To guard against contamination of the system, disinfection of the water can take place. The primary disinfection is at the water source. In order to meet the requirements of the groundwater rule, viruses that could be present need to be 99.99% inactivated. The level of which RWD is disinfecting, with the disinfection contact time and at the level that is required per the state and federal guidelines, will take care of the bacteria. Chlorination and disinfection in this manner provides a secondary disinfection residual that will continue to provide disinfection into the system. If a cross connection happens outside of the sources, there will be additional protection against bacterial contamination.

The state and federal guidelines for testing for the effectiveness of disinfection is to test for Total Coliform and E. coli. Coliform bacteria survive better than most pathogenic organisms, is easy to test for and is less expensive than testing for specific pathogens. The presence of fecal coliform (E. coli) in water samples indicates the possible presence of disease-causing organisms and the need for public notification (Boil Order).

The disinfection that RWD will use and continue to use is chlorine. Chlorine is the most common cost-effective means of disinfecting the water in the U.S. The process has been used for over 100 years across the nation. There are many neighboring towns that use chlorine as its disinfectant for their water: Portsmouth; Dover, Hampton; Newmarket; Exeter; Newfields; Kittery; Seabrook and many others. Over 90% of large community water systems in NH have chlorinated water. It's the standard for disinfection. One of the real benefits is having the secondary (residual) in the system for protection against pathogens in the distribution system.

What to Expect Moving Forward:

- Water may have a chlorine “smell.” The chlorine is less than half of the level of typical swimming pool chlorination. There may be a decomposition smell as chlorine interacts with the organic material in the water system. This will fade as more and more water is used.
- RWD staff will optimize chlorination dose to provide effective disinfection while minimizing taste and odor concerns.
- RWD will be continuing to chlorinate for the foreseeable future.
- RWD will continue the investigation in an effort to find the source of the contamination; however, most likely, the cause will never be known.
- RWD is committed to reducing the potential for this type of event to occur again.

III. Public Comment

Questions received from residents by email *(answers emboldened and italicized)*

Kathleen Clancy, 52 Park Ridge Ave:

How many wells and tanks?

Where are wells and tanks located?

How is water distributed from wells to tanks to houses?

These first three questions were answered in the presentation.

How often are routine water samples taken normally?

Samples are taken on a monthly basis.

What if anything has been learned about the source of the bacteria?

At this time, RWD has not identified the source; however, the investigation will continue.

Mike Garvan, 220 Washington Rd:

What have the coliform readings been during the boil order? I would like to know how high they have been relative to the safe drinking water standard.

The measure for coliform and/or E. coli is either present or absent. It's not a parts per million level. It's either there or not there.

Jim Porter

Have you investigated to see if the replacement of the water line on Wallis Road was the cause of the infiltration of E. coli into the system?

The water line project on Wallis Road has not been connected to RWD's existing distribution system. The only thing that has been done on that project is the installation of piping by the means of directional drilling. Even if it was connected, it would not be allowed to be operated until it was super-chlorinated and bacteria tested.

Laurie Holbrook

We have two hydrants on our street that have not been opened (and usually are twice each year). After flushing, we typically get low pressure for a day or two, and the chlorine smell comes through to the house taps.

Why aren't ALL hydrants being opened (as we've been told they are in numerous bulletins), and also with all the chlorination going on, how come we aren't smelling chlorine in the water as we normally do?

The Normal flushing process takes place in April and October. The flushing starts at the wellhead area and proceeds across town. In a normal situation, the work is started at the high zone (Washington Rd/West Rd) and then a backflush is done to the wells before moving forward into the system. At the same time, RWD is chlorinating, which is also part of the process. Sediment is being disturbed in the system and by introducing the chlorine, it's knocking out any potential contaminants that are harmful to the system. During the recent process, it was targeted at getting a shock chlorine residual out to the system.

When the situation is cleared up, what should each household do?

As part of the Boil Order posting on the Town's website, a list of things that should be done inside the household has also been posted.

The horse farm(s) on West Road typically push manure toward the back of the property, which has a small running brook, and is adjacent to the Garland property and well/Aquaphor.

Has anyone expressed concern about this practice and whether it can cause this current situation in times of drought and then subsequent runoff once rain begins again?

RWD has identified this as a problem and have talked to the Department of Agriculture. It's hard to pin down exactly who is responsible for managing this process. It is a concern and RWD is aware of it.

Is there any chance that the new development at the top of Washington Road was hooked up incorrectly and may be causing the problem? (The hydrant there is covered with a sign that says "Out of Order.")

During the process of that development, RWD staff was on site when the connections were made to the main line, and the installation of the hydrant. The "Out of Order" hydrant has nothing to do with the E. coli situation. The hydrant has been operated a couple of times. The valve to the hydrant has been shut off and was paved over, but it is not an issue to the system. RWD staff has done a visual check at the property of the meters and the backflow preventers and nothing appeared to be out of place.

Melissa Doerr

What caused the emergency? *RWD is still working on this.*

What has been done to repair the root source other than flushing and chlorinating the system?

The root source cannot be fixed because the cause is unknown at this time.

RWD will continue to work on this. However, the appropriate chlorination system has been installed to ensure the water is meeting the standards.

What work is being done on the water lines near Petey's Restaurant and has that work had anything at all to do with the contamination?

The work to date near Petey's on Wallis Road has not been connected to the system.

Where is the opinion from the outside environmental engineering agency that was retained?

Wright-Pierce Engineering is still working on the investigation and hasn't developed an opinion yet.

What strains of E. coli were found?

E. coli is not characterized. It's either present or absent.

How/when will the routine chlorination system be installed and fully operational?

The system has been installed and is fully operational.

What will be the regular testing schedule of the water going forward?

RWD is required to sample on a monthly basis for bacteria contamination and will continue to do so.

Per the RWD "Requirements for New Water Installation," there is an asphalt coating on the outside of the system pipes that is vulnerable to continuous exposure to chlorine; please provide an expert opinion on this.

The coating on the outside of the pipe is to protect against corrosion as it sits in the ground. The coating is not on the inside of the pipe because chlorination would strip that off.

Mary Nadolny:

Why isn't there some kind of municipal warning system? Not everybody's WIFI works all the time. We learned of this situation from our neighbor, NOT the Rye Water District.

There is a system in N.H. called Code Red which is set up to send out alerts. It can be a state-wide alert, but can also be individualized for communities and specific homes. Messages go out by text, email, or by a phone call. Most of the town departments have a social media page. The Rye Police Department has a Facebook page, Instagram, and Twitter. The goal is to have multi-layer communication throughout the Town. The Rye Water District also has a notification process. RWD will continue to update customers' information to have the most current contact numbers.

Meghan Bouchie

What is the plan for testing moving forward?

RWD will continue to test on a monthly basis as required.

Has there been a conclusive determination of the root cause? ***Not yet.***

Is the routine chlorination plan/system already in place? ***Yes***

Are levels of chlorine in the water safe for infants? ***Yes***

Will an outside consulting firm be held on retainer for future problems?

Yes. Wright-Pierce is RWD's engineering contractor and the district has an open contract with the firm.

How do you plan on improving communications to residents in the future?

RWD will continue to work on this effort.

Michele Jones

Why were Rye residents not notified sooner when the Oct. 4 samples came back contaminated?

The October samples came back positive for total coliform. When there is a positive hit for total coliform, resamples have to be taken. Samples have to be taken at the original sample location plus one upstream and one downstream. Most times, those samples come back clean. In this case, E. coli was detected and that is when the Boil Order was issued. Public notification happens when E. coli is detected, not coliform. It is not uncommon for systems, especially the August/September period of time, to get a hit of coliform. If the samples come back clear, there is nothing to be done from that point forward.

Why was the boil order lifted on Friday, Nov. 4th, at 2pm when we received an update at noon that very same day with positive coliform results and to continue to boil water?

The update that was issued at noon was actually for Thursday and it was talking about the results that were issued on Wednesday, which said the system was clean of total coliform and E. coli. The Boil Order was lifted after proper notification was received from NH DES that they had lifted the order.

Mindi Messmer

Why, when EPA requires re-testing within 24 hours of a TC+ test, did it take 6 days to collect repeat samples (10/4 and then 10/10).

Samples were taken on 10/4 and it took three days, which was 10/7, to get the results. The results were received around 11:00 am on 10/7, which was a Friday. In this case, an additional 24 samples were required to be taken, which takes a total of about 8 hours. DES had identified that as being a potential problem to get the samples to the lab on Friday afternoon when there is no one there on Saturday to process them. As Monday was a holiday, the resamples were taken on Tuesday 10/11. The verbal results were received from DES on Wednesday, 10/12 and the Boil Order was issued.

Questions taken from the public at the meeting:

Renee Gifroy, 39 Colburn Rd., asked what the next steps are in the investigation of the source and what steps the residents should take.

As part of the investigation, Wright-Pierce has engaged New England Backflow to conduct cross connection surveys and backflow testing. They will be testing all the existing backflow prevention devices and the facilities that utilize those. In addition, a couple of locations where E. coli was present will be investigated. The thrust of the action taken is the permanent chlorination of the system.

David Rimbach, 731 Washington Rd., asked about the concentration level of the E. coli detected?

E. coli levels are not tested. It's either absent or present. Currently, there is no E. coli.

Shari Cohen, 399 South Rd., expressed her concerns about the levels of manganese and PFAS in the water.

The Rye Water District will be addressing PFAS at a separate meeting in the near future.

Del Record, 260 Grove Rd., asked if the junk cars that are stored near the Garland Road wellhead are free of hydraulic, gasoline, oil, and other contaminants, as well as the washing machine and other junk on the Rye Water District property.

This is not known.

Ann Fox, 73 Washington Rd., spoke about the need to provide better and more information to the residents about the water.

The Rye Water District holds a public meeting with the Commissioners the first Wednesday of the month. They also hold an annual meeting at the end of March for residents to vote on warrant articles and the budget. The meetings are publicized and residents are encouraged to attend. Rye Water District also issues a Consumer Confidence Report on an annual basis, which contains information on the samples that have been taken on the water.

Joe Cummins, 990 Washington Rd., suggested having a list of the residents' questions with the answers on the RWD's or Town's website. He also spoke about letting the residents know the moment that coliform is detected in the water, so they can make the decision on whether or not to drink the water.

Elizabeth Sanborn, 16 Dow Lane, spoke about the flush of water that came through the system a few weeks before the E. coli was detected. She asked if this could have been the cause of this outbreak.

RWD staff does not believe that had anything to do with this situation. Water District operators were exercising valves as required. The valves will build up sediment and perhaps some of what was received was that sediment. In the future, residents are encouraged to call the District if they are having any issues or concerns about the water.

Brian Fitzgerald, 31 Fairhill Ave., asked if the residential connections have backflow preventers built-in.

There is a residential dual check valve which is located just after the meter. Most residential check valves are not testable.

Suzanne Barton, 114 Clark Rd., expressed her frustrations over having to chlorinate the water system.

John O'Brien, 23 Seaglass Lane, asked where the initial E. coli was found.

E. coli was found on the repeat samples for 235 Parsons Road, 1257 Washington Road, and 271 Lafayette Road. Repeat samples have to be pulled from the original site with five upstream and five downstream.

Jaci Grote, 124 Washington Rd., asked what residents can do to help the Water District with regard to the interconnections between homes and the water system.

There are many situations to consider; such as, hoses being connected properly and the operation of irrigation systems. It's important for residents to remember that irrigation systems are high hazard cross connections. The check valve after the meter is not a high hazard device. Residents are encouraged to call the District if they have any questions.

Lindsay Gray, 9 Acorn Acres, asked about leaks in the distribution system. She also asked what is being done to measure the pressure in the system. Is there an instance where there could be negative pressure coming through those leaks?

Negative pressure would exist from either a main break or hydrant operation during a fire. There was a fire about a month and a half ago, but the flow didn't cause depressurization. Annually, RWD does a leak detection for the whole district, which is sponsored by the State. Any leaks that are found are repaired immediately.

Steven Borne, 431 Wallis Rd., asked if DNA testing has been done on the E. coli. He expressed concerns about the leachfields in the Parsons Creek Watershed and anything flowing into the system.

The Wallis Road project is being done because this is an area of high concern. There was a substantial break in this area back in 2016. There haven't been any events that have indicated that backsiphonage would be an issue. The Water District does not do DNA testing.

Paul Goldman, 1190 Washington Rd., spoke in regards to the levels of chlorination to the system being done at levels that are not objectionable to the quality and taste of water in Rye. He urged RWD to find the root cause of the E. coli, so proactive and problem analysis can be done to prevent it from happening again.

The target induction of chlorine into the system is 1.5 parts per million, as required by DES. At the farthest end of the system, RWD is required to have .2 parts per million. The highest level of dosing allowable in a distribution system is 4 parts per million. Rye Water is significantly lower than what is allowed. Some residents may notice the chlorine more than others because their properties are located closer to the point of entry for the chlorine.

Melissa Doerr asked why the District has not chlorinated thus far.

RWD has groundwater sources which are not required to chlorinate. A system served by surface water, more than likely has some type of treatment. If RWD starts PFAS treatment, chlorination will be required anyway.

Ms. Doerr asked if there has been pushback on not chlorinating in the past.

RWD has not been required to chlorinate and the residents have not wanted it. At this time, there are only four systems in the State of NH that don't chlorinate. At the present time, two are under a mandate to chlorinate, so there are only two systems.

John Nadolny, 10 Young Lane, asked if a failed septic system could be a potential cause for this sort of contamination. With the notion of how many failed systems are in the Parsons Creek Watershed, is this an issue with respect to contamination?

No.

Mr. Nadolny asked the town representatives if they are aware of how many systems have failed and/or refused to comply with the septic ordinance.

Currently, there are 30 systems who have failed to comply.

Mr. Nadolny asked what action is being taken by the Town with respect to enforcement.

Property owners are being notified by the Building Inspector's Office. They have a deadline to comply. If they do not comply, Town Counsel will be engaged to enforce compliance.

Ben Tweedie, 45 Random Rd., asked if residents will be responsible for paying for three weeks of non-potable water.

The average residence is charged \$133.00 for 50,000 gallons. If the residence goes over the 50,000 gallons, it goes into a tiered system and it increases from there. The District cannot refund all the customers in the District.

Don Cavallaro, 6 Random Rd., commented that the PH of the water can be affected by chlorination. There are a lot of older homes in Rye. The lead in fixtures didn't change until 1987. He asked if the chlorination will cause more etching of lead out of anyone's system. He assumes there are no lead pipes in the Distribution system.

Presently, there is a survey required by EPA to locate any lead pipes, if any, in the system. The Water District was established in 1948 and the standard during that time period was copper. Prior systems that were established in the early 1900's have a good possibility of having lead service lines. As RWD moves forward, they will identify, if any, lead service lines that are out in the system. Chlorine is a corrosive agent. RWD's lead and copper sample schedules will be changing from this point forward. The District monitors the PH on a monthly basis, similar to the routine samples. The PH will tell whether the water is corrosive in specific areas. The target range is 7.1 to 7.2.

Steve Carter, 620 Wallis Rd., expressed concerns on going back to only testing on a monthly basis.

RWD will continue to sample on a monthly basis. However, from this point forward, RWD will also be testing the wells for compliance, where they were not being done before. Outside of compliance sampling, the District does a tremendous amount of general analysis sampling also.

Terri McGee, 7 Forest Green Rd., asked if there will be any sort of water shortage, due to the tanks having to be emptied for cleaning. She also asked if anything can be done about the hard water situation.

The water levels are good at this time. The tanks will be filled at a slow process, just as they are drained slowly. There have been rain events lately that have brought the severe drought down to a moderate drought. Also, the use is outside of the high use season. Irrigation systems is what puts a big demand on the system. In terms of hard water, the hardness is caused by calcium and magnesium. The two bedrock wells have no hardness to them whatsoever. The Garland Well, which is a gravel pack well, tends to have a high hardness. When the water is pumped into the system, it's not just pumped with one well all the time; it's mixed. Hardness tests have been done out in the system and it's been found to be 70 to 75, which is on the low end of hard water.

Joe McDonough, 5 Random Rd., asked if RWD has ever chlorinated the system.

RWD does chlorinate the water during flushing cycles, which are done in April and October. Prior to 1977, the water that was in the Rye Water District was Portsmouth water and that is chlorinated. After the Garland Well was established in 1977, the District discontinued using Portsmouth water and it became non-chlorinated at that time.

Mr. McDonough questioned the water sources all becoming contaminated at the same time.

The three water tanks did not become contaminated. There was absolutely nothing wrong with the Washington Road tanks. The sample that showed E. coli was at the sample site at the meter building at that tank site. General analysis samples were pulled from the tanks and did not show any E. coli. The sample site at the Washington Road site was chosen so that if anything like this was detected, it could be known immediately and the tank could be shut down. The District has the equipment put into place to allow for this to be done. There was never a sample taken directly from the tank that detected E. coli.

Cybele Grier, 1311 Ocean Blvd., asked if DNA testing could be done to determine if the source of the E. coli is in fact from human waste versus animal.

The samples are no longer available, as they go to the lab and there has been no further hits of E. coli. There's a hold time on a sample. Once a sample is drawn, it has to be sampled within 72 hours. Samples are not kept in-house by the Water District.

Charlotte Dura, 559 Long John Rd., asked if it's reasonable to wait an entire month to test after coming off an E. coli problem.

RWD took samples last week and will be taking the normal monthly samples within the next week or two. Those are the requirements from DES. If the residents want more testing, it can be put forth as a warrant article to be approved by the public at the District's annual meeting.

Tom Mack, 1064 Washington Rd., commented that the things that would need to be done to find the source is a long investigation, which may be months, and RWD may not find the issue. It could even be a combination of the drought and the wells being fully taxed and drawing in surface water. It's a complex situation that will take a long investigation to try to figure out. Mr. Mack noted that he's a hydrologist.

Joann Price, 19 Parkridge Ave., spoke about the Water District's master plan and the infrastructure needs of the District. She encouraged residents to attend the RWD monthly meetings and to get involved. Mrs. Price also spoke about the information in the Consumer Confidence Report.

The Consumer Confidence Report is published yearly for water test results that are generally taken at the end of the fourth quarter. The information in the report is based on the prior year's results and is the most up-to-date information available.

Jessica Mayer, 45 Random Rd., asked about the costs that this situation has created for the District.

The overtime expenses were handled through emergency management, which is exactly what that department is for. RWD has a capital reserve fund that can be used for emergency actions and this would fall under that category. The bottled water that was purchased by the Town will be covered by the Rye Water District to help eliminate some of the costs to the Town. The public relations firm did their work pro bono for the Town as part of public outreach.

Mindi Messmer, 291 Washington Rd., commented about the timing of the samples and communication to the residents if there is a total coliform hit. She expressed concerns about PFAS in the water.

Maureen Murtagh, Ocean Blvd., expressed concerns about the time it took for residents to be notified about the total coliform and E. coli detection. She also asked if there is any way that RWD can let the community know about retesting after a coliform hit on a sample.

RWD needs more advice before making any policy changes; however, it will be discussed.

Mr. Cavallaro asked if the Water District is reaching out for state and federal funds for water upgrades.

RWD has a hard time getting grants because of Rye's economic stature. RWD has put in for a loan, over the past six years, for the water treatment plant, but have never made the cutoff. If the treatment plant is built, chlorination would be part of the treatment plant. Right now, chlorination is done at the wellhead for the Garland Well, and the Bailey Brook Well.

Lindsay Beynon, 30 La Mer Rd., asked if the residents should be comfortable how drinking the water going forward.

NH DES confirmed that the water is safe to drink and that is why the Boil Order was lifted. Not only did the testing results show it, but there is now the other safety net of having disinfection residual in the system.

Julie Fehrstrom, 304 Wallis Rd., asked if there is any relationship between the water closures this past summer at the beaches and the Town's water supply. She also asked if testing by the Water District changes during those times.

Testing does not change during those times. Surface water is different than bedrock well water. The water from the ocean would not affect the wells on Garland Road. The RWD system is tested on a monthly basis for contamination of the system. The system is protecting its water internally.

RWD Commissioner Scott Marion thanked the Water District staff for all their work throughout this process. He also thanked the cooperation of the Select Board and Town Departments. He encouraged the residents to stay involved.

Select Board Chair Winslow thanked the residents for attending the meeting. He also thanked NH DES for attending, along with Health Office Dr. Gail Snow and the town staff.

IV. Other Business

None

Adjournment

At 3:30 p.m., Selectman Bill Epperson moved to adjourn the Select Board meeting. Seconded by Tom King. Select Board all in favor.

At 3:30 p.m., Rye Water District Commissioner Scott Marion moved to adjourn the Rye Water District meeting. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. RWD Commissioners all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

A large blue square graphic is positioned on the left side of the slide, spanning from the top to the bottom.

Boil Order Response

Rye Water District

November 6, 2022

Overview

- Introduction
- System Summary
- Boil Order Timeline and Corrective Action
- Investigation Efforts
- Chlorination
- Q & A

Introduction

- We are presenting a lot of background information necessary to understand Rye Water and the current situation.
- Today's discussion focuses on the response to bacterial contamination in RWD.
- PFAS will be addressed in a future meeting.
- Coakley Landfill meeting on 11/14

The Rye Water District

Rye Water District Office



RWD Commissioners

- Art Ditto
- Ralph Hickson
- Scott Marion

RWD Staff

- Business administrator
- Superintendent
- Lead Operator
- Operator

Boil Order Response Team

RWD Commissioners

RWD Staff

NHDES Staff

Town of Rye Leadership Team

Rye Police Department

Rye Fire Department

Rye Public Works Department

Rye Volunteers, Lions Club

Mutual Aid

Portsmouth Water Works

Aquarion

Consultants

John Guilfoil Public Relations

Wright-Pierce

Vendor Support

New England Backflow, Inc

Electrical Installations, Inc

BAU and Hopkins

F.W. Webb

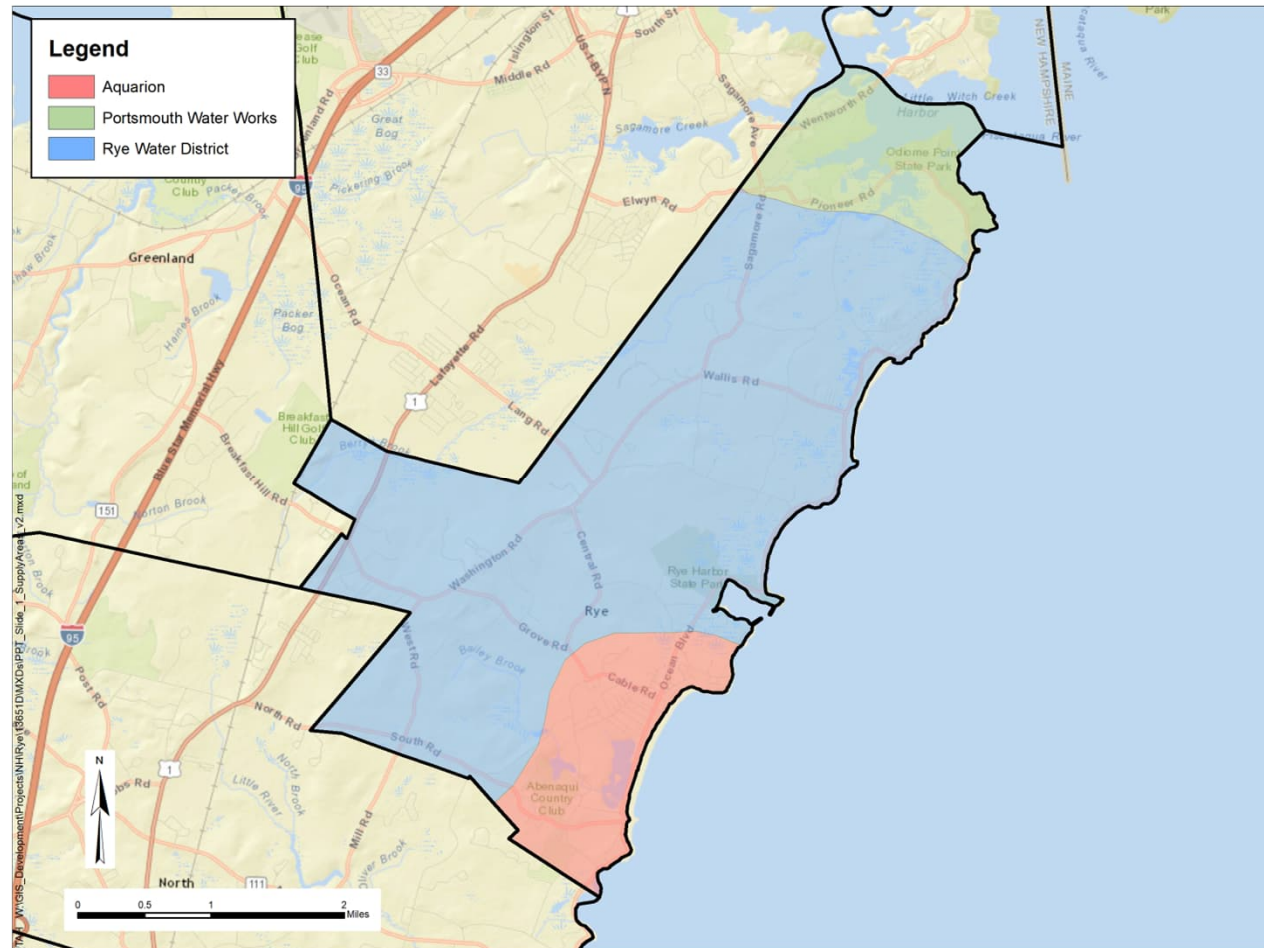
Seacoast Analytical

Underwater Solution

Harcross

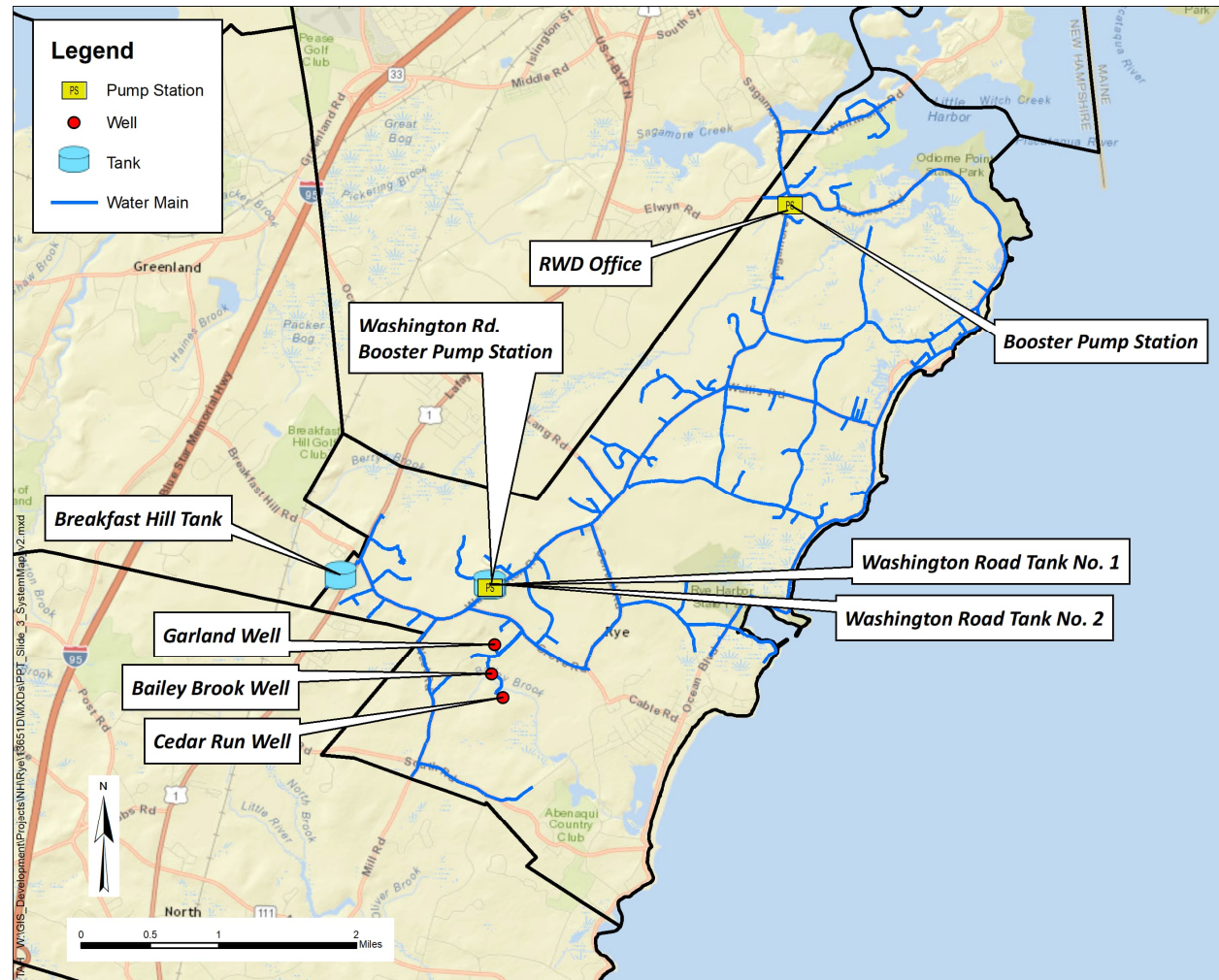
Rye Water District Service Area

- Public water in Rye is supplied by:
 - Rye Water District (RWD)
 - Portsmouth Water Works
 - Aquarion (Hampton)
- RWD served connections
 - ~1702 service connections
 - ~4300 people



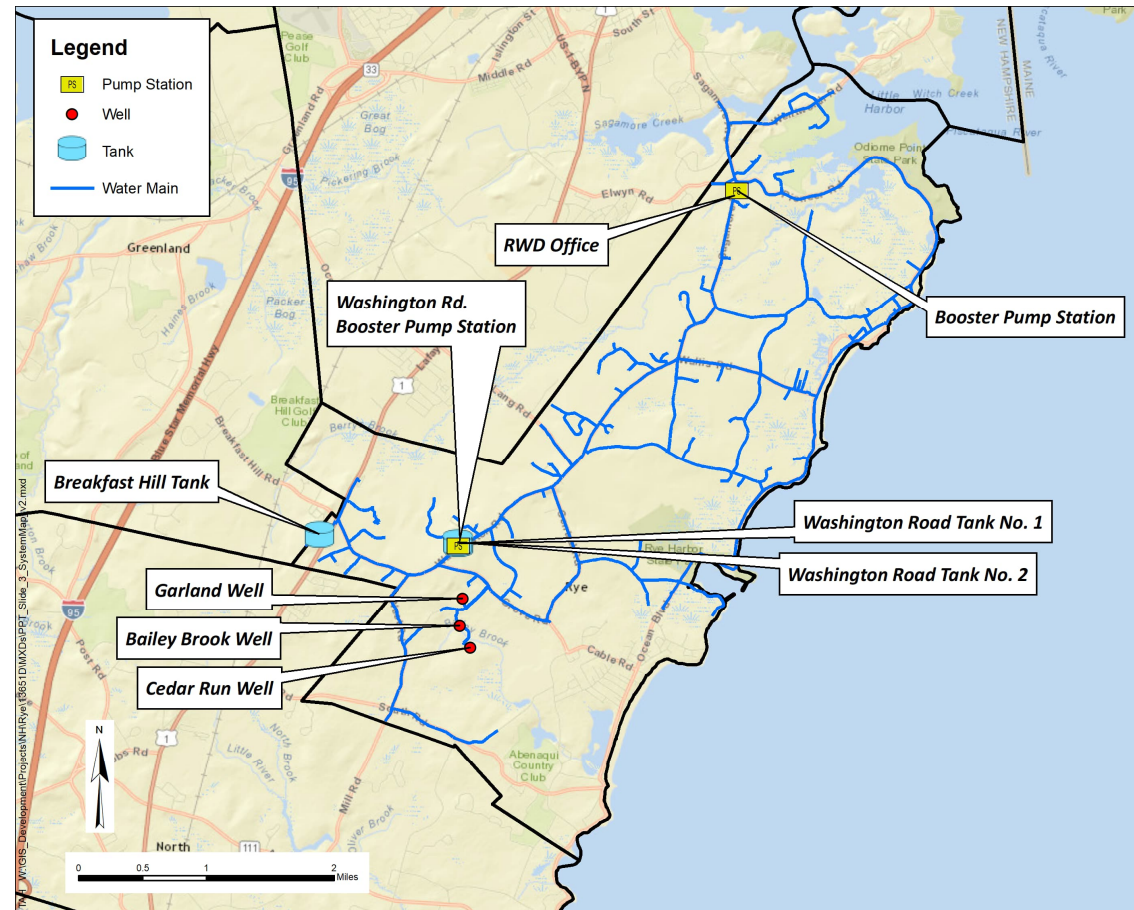
Rye Water District Current Water Supply

- Three wells make up the current supply
- Cedar Run Well
- Bailey Brook Well
- Garland Well
- RWD has been a non-disinfected (unchlorinated) water system



Rye Water District Supply History

- RWD transitioned from Portsmouth water supply to its own supply in 1977 after installing Garland Well.
 - Bailey Brook installed in 1986
 - Cedar Run installed in 2004
- Groundwater sources do not require disinfection.
- **RWD has never had a boil order before.**
- RWD has previously maintained compliance with all NHDES and EPA regulations.
- Processes and procedures are adjusted as necessary to maintain compliance.



Regular Monitoring and Testing

- The Rye Water District staff conducts regular monitoring and testing of a range of chemical and potential contaminants.
- This includes monthly sampling and testing for bacterial contamination focused on:
- Total Coliform Bacteria (TC): Coliforms represent a broad category of bacteria that are always present in the digestive tracts of animals, including humans, and are found in their wastes. They are also found in plant and soil materials.
- *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) are bacteria found in the environment, foods, and intestines of people and animals. *E. coli* are a large and diverse group of bacteria. Although most strains of *E. coli* are harmless, others can make you sick. Some kinds of *E. coli* can cause diarrhea, while others cause urinary tract infections, respiratory illness and pneumonia, and other illnesses.

Events Leading up to Boil Order

10/4

Routine Monthly Samples
Collected

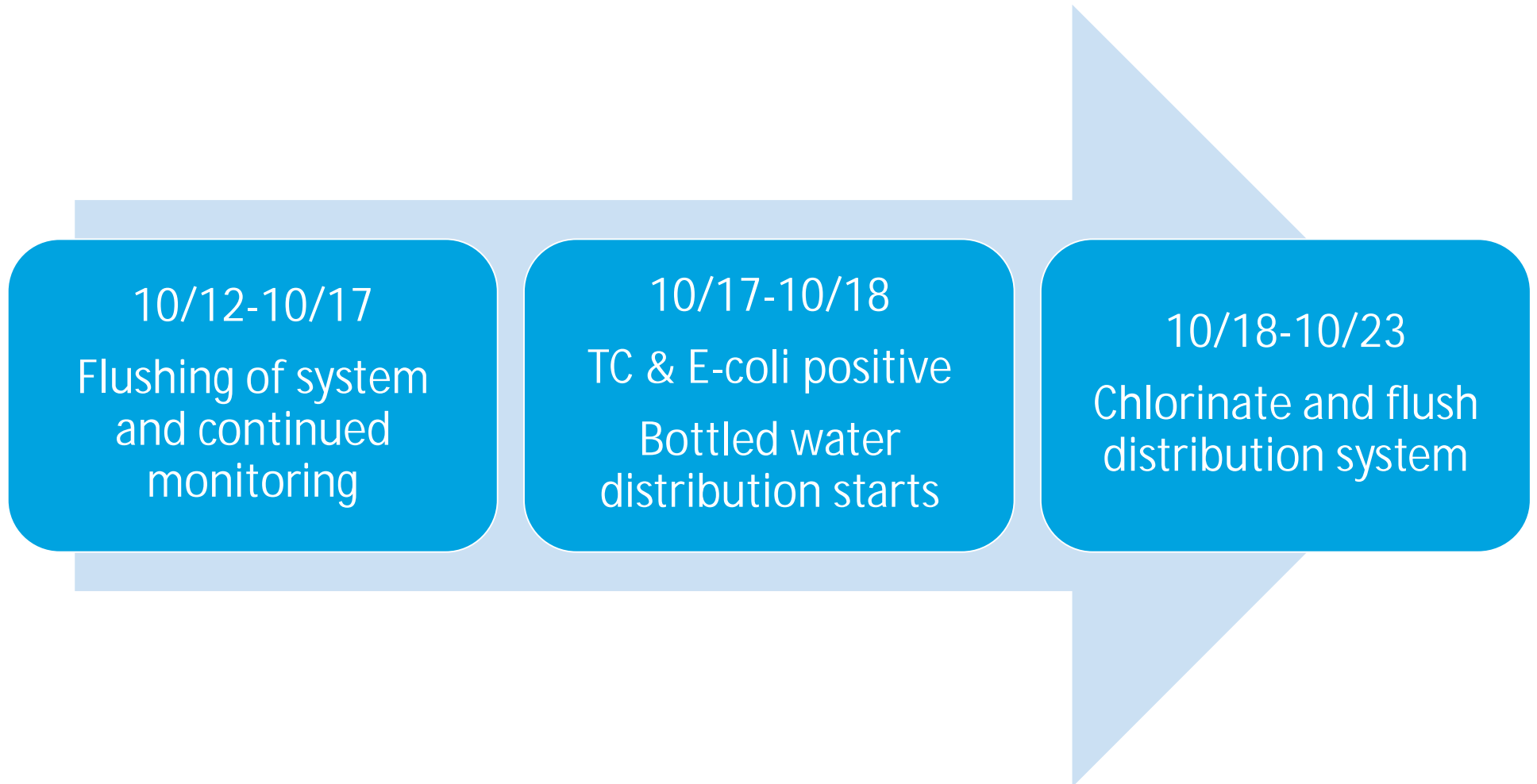
10/7

NHDES issues a letter
for repeat sample
requirements to RWD

10/11-10/12

Repeat samples collected,
E.-coli detected, boil
water issued

Boil Water Timeline



Boil Water Timeline

10/24-10/27

Round 2 samples collected
TC detected
Chlorination ordered

10/27-11/2

System fully chlorinated

11/2-11/4

Back-to-back negative
samples obtained
Boil water order lift

Contamination Source Investigation

- Review current response actions
- Evaluate potential sources of contamination
 - Wells
 - RWD Facilities
 - Tanks
 - Distribution System
 - Cross Connections
 - High hazard – institutional, Commercial, Irrigation system
 - Low hazard - Residential

Contamination Source Investigation

RWD/NHDES
contamination
investigation begins 10/12

RWD conducts Level 1 and
level 2 assessments.

- Wellhead protection area assessment
- District facilities assessment
- Distribution system assessment

Well sources
Sampled multiple times -
no E. Coli present

Breakfast Hill Tank
Isolated –
exterior/interior
inspections of the tank

Washington Rd Tanks
Exterior/interior
inspections of the
tank

RWD engages WP to
assist with
contamination source
investigation 10/27



Breakfast Hill Tank

Contamination Source Investigation

Breakfast Hill Tank will be disinfected per AWWA C-652-11 protocols prior to bringing it back online.

New England Backflow engaged to perform water service cross-connection surveys and backflow device testing.

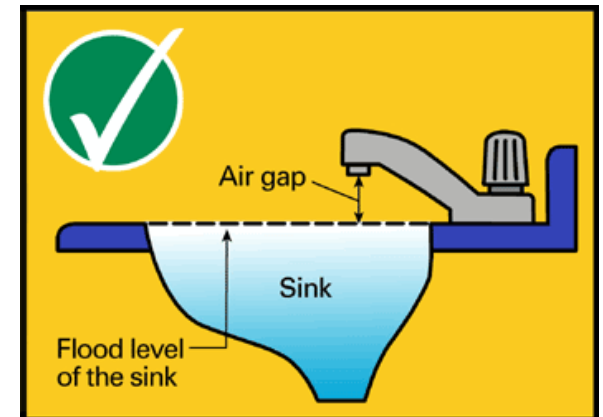
Washington Road Tank



Contamination Source Investigation

Cross connections

- A point in a plumbing system where non-potable water may come into contact with potable water
 - Garden hose in a bucket of water
 - Submerged outlet of an irrigation system
 - Piped connection of public water to an industrial process
- Backflow types
 - Backsiphonage – Low pressure in the system draws water into the distribution system
 - Backpressure – High pressure on the customer side pushes water into the distribution system
- Cross connections should be eliminated where possible
- Backflow Prevention Devices protect against instances where cross-connection is necessary



Source: Winnipeg Water Department ¹⁶

Contamination Source Investigation

- Cross-connection examples
 - Irrigation system
 - Improperly installed boiler
 - Private well connected to a home that is on a public water system
 - Faucet hose in a kitchen sink
 - Toilet tank refill line that sits below the water line



Disinfection

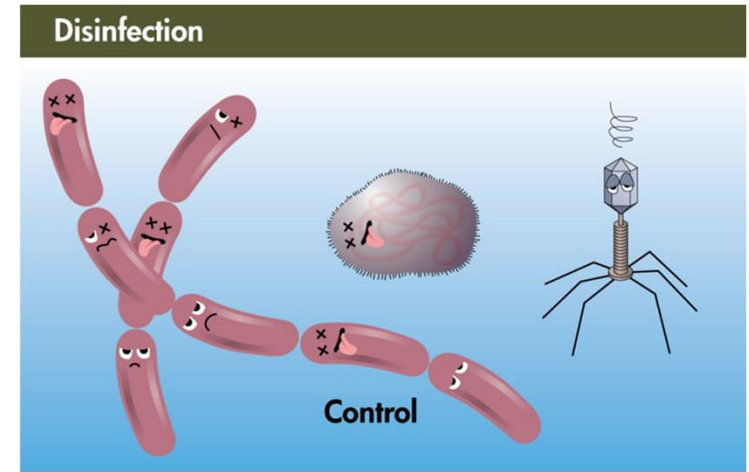
Primary Disinfection

- Requirement - 99.99% virus inactivation

Secondary or “Residual” disinfection

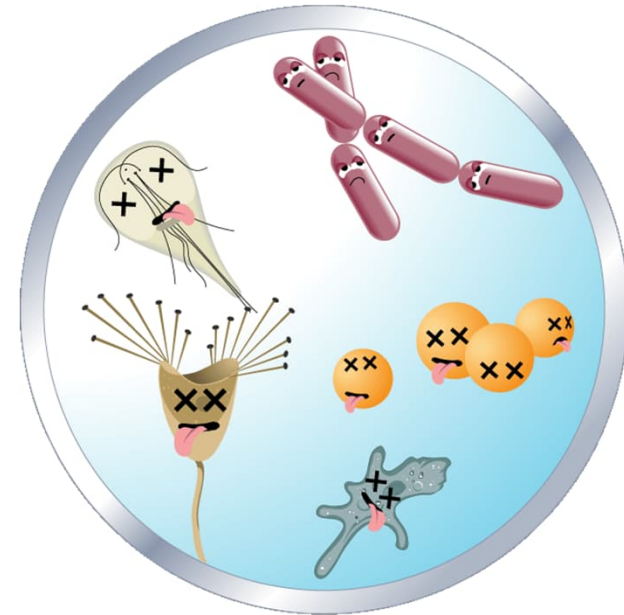
- Prevent distribution system contamination / regrowth

The effectiveness of disinfection in a drinking water system is measured by testing for the presence or absence of **coliform bacteria**.



Disinfection

- Why Test for Coliform?
 - Coliform bacteria survive better than most pathogenic organisms
 - Easy to test for
 - Test is less expensive than testing for specific pathogens
 - Conservative, simple, inexpensive
- The presence of **fecal coliform or E.coli** in water samples indicates the possible presence of disease-causing organisms and the need for public notification. (Boil Order)



Chlorination

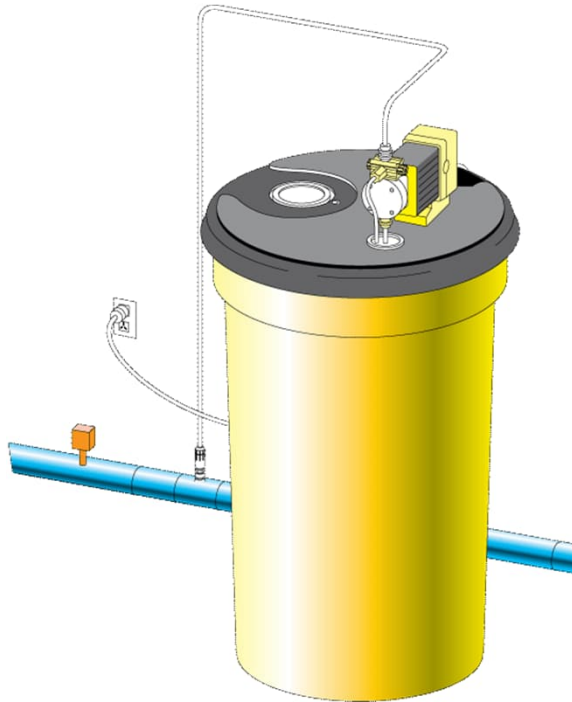
Chlorine is the most common cost-effective means of disinfecting water in the U.S.

Portsmouth, Hampton, Dover, Newmarket, Exeter, Newfields, Kittery, Seabrook and many, many more system all chlorinate.

The addition of a small amount of chlorine is highly effective against bacteria, viruses, and protozoa.

>90% of large community water systems in NH are chlorinated

Chlorination



- Chlorine is the standard for disinfection
- Chemical feed setup is simple and effective.
- RWD has already modified the current well facilities to chlorinate when wells are activated.
- Leaves an easily measurable residual (secondary disinfection)
- Provides a line of defense against pathogens in the distribution system.

What to expect?

- Water may have a chlorine “smell”
- RWD staff will optimize chlorination dose to provide effective disinfection while minimizing taste and odor concerns.
- RWD water treatment process will change to comply with forthcoming regulation changes
- RWD will continue the investigation in an effort to find the source of the contamination
- RWD is committed to reducing the potential for this type of event to occur again.

Questions and Comments



- Limit your question/comment to 3 minutes (shorter is better).
- Ask only one question until everyone who wants to speak has a chance to do so.
- Limit your questions to general questions about the Rye Water District and about the current situation.
- We will NOT respond to questions or comments about PFAS or related issues

THANK YOU

RYE WATER DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 5, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Commissioners Present:

Arthur Ditto, Chair

Ralph Hickson

Scott Marion

Others Present:

Arik Jones, Superintendent

Dyana Ledger, Business Manager

Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce

Howard Kalet, Rye Telecommunications Committee

Joann Price, Resident

I. Call to Order

Chair Ditto called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

- September 7, 2022

**Motion by Scott Marion to approve the September 7, 2022 meeting minutes as amended.
Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.**

III. Discussion w/Howard Kalet – Telecommunications Committee Chair Re: telecommunications equipment lease renewals

Howard Kalet, Telecommunications Committee Chair, met with the Commissioners to answer questions regarding the upcoming lease renewal between the Rye Water District and T-Mobile for the telecommunications equipment which is attached to the water tank on Lafayette Road. The renewal for T-Mobile is coming up in the year 2024. The question from the Rye Water District is whether the District should continue with T-Mobile or if there would be a different carrier that would be more beneficial for the Town.

Mr. Kalet noted that the owners of the Airfield Drive property are considering a cell tower for that property. However, the Water District has an advantage with the water tank because of the

height. He pointed out that the position of the tank on Lafayette Road is not ideal for the far side of the Town of Rye. The location would benefit the condominiums on Washington Road and the other developments along Route 1. Mr. Kalet also pointed out that the Telecommunications Committee is searching for another telecommunications location, but the water tank won't serve that need. The location needs to be closer to Rye Harbor. He suggested that the District wait until T-Mobile reaches out to renew their lease and for the District to consider adding one more carrier to the tank.

Superintendent Jones spoke about the disadvantages of having more cellular equipment on the tank from an operational and maintenance standpoint for the District.

It was agreed that the Water District will wait to hear from T-Mobile. At that time, a decision will be made on how to move forward with the lease.

IV. Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce

- NH DES Trust Fund – tank painting, authorization

Motion by Ralph Hickson to authorize Wright-Pierce to submit an application to the NH DES Drinking Water Trust Fund for the Washington Road tank painting project.

Seconded by Scott Marion. Vote: 3-0 all in favor.

- Brown Property - source investigation

Mr. Berg explained that the Wright-Pierce agreement covers the application preparation for NRCS and putting the information before the Rye Conservation Commission before submittal. The agreement also covers wetland and vernal pool delineation on the Brown property. The wetland investigation will begin over the next couple of months. The vernal pool investigation will be done in the spring.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the agreement with Wright-Pierce for the wetland and vernal pool delineation on the Brown property, along with the preparation of the application to NRCS, for an estimated total of \$10,000. Seconded by Scott Marion.

Vote: 3-0 all in favor.

- Soil characterization for tank on Washington Road

Mr. Berg noted that the soil characterization is proposed for one of the Washington Road water tanks. This is being done to investigate for lead and other chemicals because of the age of the tank that is located at the front of the property. There may be a need to investigate the back tank if the data shows that there may have been migration through the soil into that area. This is being done in preparation for the paint removal for the upcoming tank painting project.

Motion by Scott Marion to approve the agreement with Wright-Pierce in the amount of \$10,000 for chemical analysis of the soil around the Washington Road tanks. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. Vote: 3-0 all in favor.

- **Wright-Pierce projects update**

Mr. Berg gave an update to the Commissioners regarding ongoing RWD projects. The Garland Road pump house upgrade is essentially complete. Wright-Pierce is working on the final payment application and balancing change orders. By the end of 2022, the project should be wrapped up. The piping in the road at Garland pump house has to be switched over to a single point of entry.

Superintendent Jones noted that all the parts for that project are sitting in storage on site. It's been confirmed that the manganese ruling is going to be put off until July 2023. RWD will need to decide if they want to continue to move forward with the project. There are three road openings involved: in front of Bailey Cedar, in front of Garland well, and the hydrant for the sample tap and flushing. He suggested moving forward with at least the Garland driveway work. That would give the point of entry.

The Commissioners agreed to move forward on completing as much of the project as possible. It seems the most logical place to start is to replumb the Garland well to the 12" line.

Mr. Berg continued that the contractor for the Wallis Road project has completed some receiving pits for the directional drilling work. The drillers are scheduled to start work on October 10th. The intent is to get the directional drilling and a big piece of the installation done this fall. Referring to the asset management project, Mr. Berg noted that it's been put on pause for this month and will resume again in November once flushing for RWD has been completed. Wright-Pierce will be scheduling a public input meeting for some time in November or December. Mr. Berg noted that he will start work on the design for the Sagamore Road pump station. He will also be working on the engineering budget for 2023 to submit to the Commission for consideration.

V. Superintendent's Monthly Report, Pumping Chart, and Data Report, and Bacteria Tests for September

Superintendent Arik Jones presented his monthly report for September, along with the pumping and data reports.

- Referring to the pumping data, he noted that the year-to-date totals for 2022 mimic the trends seen in 2018, as far as continuing to rise and then falling in September. In 2020 and 2021, there were some rain events in mid-July and early August which caused the pumping totals to drop the July usage, unlike this year. RWD has already pumped more than what was pumped over the past five years.
- The fall flushing will be starting towards the end of October.
- Operator Greg Vaillancourt has completed his backflow test class and has passed the written exam. It appears he has also passed the hands-on testing and should be receiving his backflow certificate within the next month.
- Superintendent Jones and Operator Vaillancourt have both completed best management practices training, which covers bmp's on commercial sites within the Wellhead Protection Area.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the Superintendent's report for the month of September. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

VI. Cash Flow Reports for September

The Commissioners reviewed the cash flow and expenditure reports for the month of September. No issues or concerns were noted.

Motion by Scott Marion to approve the cash flow report for September. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

VII. Treasurer's Report

The Commissioners reviewed the Treasurer's reports for the months of June and July.

Motion by Scott Marion to accept the Treasurer's reports for the months of June and July. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

There was some discussion about the recent sale of the District's Ford pick-up truck. The truck was purchased by Londonderry Ford as part of the purchase agreement of the District's new truck. A check was received by the District in the amount of \$17,000 for the truck. The purchase of the new truck was approved by the voters to be taken from the Equipment and Buildings Capital Reserve Fund, which was voted on at the District Meeting in 2021. At this time, there is a total of \$78,000 in the capital reserve fund; however, a withdrawal of \$60,000 for the new truck will be made by the end of the year. This will leave a balance of \$18,000 in reserve. After some discussion, the Commissioners agreed that the \$17,000 should be returned to the Equipment and Buildings Capital Reserve Fund, as there may be a need for another vehicle for the District if another operator position is added.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to return the \$17,000 that was received from Londonderry Ford, for the purchase of the previous Ford truck, to the Equipment and Buildings Capital Reserve Fund. Seconded by Scott Marion. Vote: 3-0 all in favor.

VIII. Correspondence

None

IX. Old Business

a. PFAS Sampling Results Review

Chair Ditto noted that in looking through the results, they probably need to look at Garland well, as the numbers seem to be increasing. In looking at the August results, the numbers were up, as they were in 2020. August may be a month where numbers increase because water tends to be drawn down in that area. He pointed out that the Town doesn't really have a good sampling plan on the landfill to correlate with RWD's results. The Town's testing well is upgradient of the Garland well, which is only sampled once per year in April. The results that RWD has from the Town at this time are from 2021. He feels that someone from the Town is not managing the

landfill sampling and tracking. He's not sure they have a good idea of what's coming out of the landfill. However, it might all become a moot point soon anyway. If the standards get lowered too far, the numbers will be in exceedance.

The Commissioners reviewed the most recent PFAS sampling results.

X. New Business

a. October Calendar – budget & rate adjustment review sessions

Commissioners agreed to discuss the rate adjustment and 2023 budget at the next work session on October 19th.

b. Commissioner's Email Inbox

The Commissioners discussed how to clean out and organize the commissioner's email inbox, as there are quite a few old emails that may no longer be needed.

c. Water Restriction Enforcement for 2023

Chair Ditto noted that he has been trying to get before the Rules and Regulations Committee; however, there are no meetings posted for the near future. If RWD wants to get something before the Town about a building permit requirement for irrigation systems, they need to start at Rules and Regs. He pointed out that the Town shouldn't be opposed to this because the requirements they want to impose are the smart irrigation systems. They already require that of the developer in the Land Development Regulations. If someone in the development doesn't put irrigation in at the time of development but do it several years later, they still have to follow those rules. The Town has already implemented what RWD wants to do. There just needs to be a way to have people who are putting in individual systems outside the realm of developers to do the same. If the District can't submit a zoning amendment to the Rules and Regs Committee because they are not meeting, he's not sure how they can get past this. He pointed out that time is running out because there has to be a public hearing held on the proposed zoning amendments. The amendments then have to be brought into the Deliberative Session.

Chair Ditto agreed to send the proposed amendment to Planning Administrator Kim Reed. He will copy Selectman Winslow on the email.

XI. Other Business

None

Adjournment

Motion by Ralph Hickson to adjourn at 11:26 a.m. Seconded by Art Ditto. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted, Dyana F. Ledger

**RYE WATER DISTRICT
&
RYE SELECT BOARD
&
RYE CONSERVATION COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, September 15, 2022 – 7:30 p.m.
Rye Jr. High School Cafeteria

RWD Commissioners Present:

*Ralph Hickson
Scott Marion*

Also Present on behalf of the Water District:

*Arik Jones, RWD Superintendent
Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce Engineering*

Selectmen Present:

*Phil Winslow, Chair
Tom King
Bill Epperson*

Also present on behalf of the Town:

Attorney Eric Maher

Rye Conservation Commission Present:

*Suzanne McFarland, Chair
Sally King
Susan Shepcaro
Jaci Grote
Jeff Gardner
Karen Oliver*

I. Call to Order

Select Board Chair Phil Winslow called the joint meeting of the Select Board, Rye Water District, and Rye Conservation Commission to order at 7:36 p.m. and led the pledge of allegiance. The objective of the meeting is to discuss the lack of water issue in the District and to determine the proposed steps moving forward.

II. Current water situation in Rye

The Town of Rye Select Board, Rye Water District, and the Rye Conservation Commission met to discuss the ongoing water source investigation being done by the Water District in conjunction with their engineering firm Wright-Pierce. **RWD Commissioner Scott Marion** introduced Chris Berg from Wright-Pierce Engineering and asked him to go over some of the issues being faced by the Water District. The group will then get into the specifics of the Brown Farm Lane property.

Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce, explained that there are physically three wells that make up the existing water supply: Garland well, Bailey Brook well, and Cedar Run well. The Garland well is a gravel packed well. The Bailey Brook and Cedar Run wells are both bedrock wells. The Cedar Run well has degraded water quality for both iron and manganese at elevated levels, as well as elevated levels of topical organic compounds (TOC). When that well is online, it produces water that is consumable but is esthetically less of a quality of water than what is acceptable by the residents in the District. By having that well offline, the system has difficulty meeting the demands at certain points, particularly during the summer months. It also reduces the redundancy and reliability of the system. It puts the water system in somewhat of a compromised state. The development of a new water source, which the District has been pursuing for a number of years, would restore that water system capacity and capability. He continued that since 2018, the District has done a survey of the available properties within Rye that would meet setback requirements for wellhead protection. The District has also done investigations to understand how these sites could get developed. Some of the sites have covenant restrictions. Some have setback issues and other issues. However, there are a couple of sites within town that the District is pursuing. Most of those properties are either existing town properties or have a conservation easement in place. As the District moves forward in developing additional water supply to replace or supplement existing sources, the locations and areas that are available for development for water supply are areas that are in existing conservation.

Mr. Berg explained that the goals of wetland protection and general conservation are very much in alignment. Commercial development is not inline within an area where a well would be developed. The area should be kept as natural as possible so the well head is protected and potential for contamination is reduced.

RWD Superintendent Arik Jones explained that Cedar Run well has been offline from production since 2018 because of total organic compounds. Iron is one of the biggest issues with the Cedar Run well. RWD is not going to rectify the problem with that well. To treat it, the cost would be about ten million dollars. The Rye Water District has a mission to serve the people in the District. The mission is to provide clean, safe, drinking water and provide water for fire protection.

RCC Member Jaci Grote asked if the iron and manganese content that comes out of the Cedar Run well meet the current statewide levels for those contaminants.

Superintendent Jones explained that presently, it exceeds the secondary maximum contamination level (MCL). The secondary MCL's are esthetics, taste, odor and color. The secondary MCL on iron is .3 parts-per-million (ppm). Levels have been seen at times up to 5-ppm for iron and the manganese is following. At this time, it appears an MCL will be implemented for manganese. Cedar Run will be over the MCL that is proposed. The MCL was supposed to go into effect in July of this year; however, it was postponed to January 1st. It sounds like it may be postponed again until July of next year. However, it is coming. Mr. Jones continued that without Cedar Run online, the Water District has only two wells.

RCC Member Grote asked if the other two wells will meet the MCL.

Superintendent Jones noted that Garland well is basically no detect on manganese. The MCL being proposed is a .1-ppm for immune compromised people and infants. If the .1-ppm is exceeded, a public notification is required. If that continues to happen, more than likely treatment will be necessary. There are several means of treatment possible. Blending of water is one of them.

RWD Commissioner Marion pointed out that it's important to note that if one of the wells goes down, then the water is not being blended.

RCC Member Grote asked if both the Cedar Run and Bailey Brook wells meet the proposed MCL.

Superintendent Jones noted that Bailey Brook well is just below at .07-ppm. He also noted that the levels rise and fall. If the water is blended with Garland water, it will potentially fall under the .1-ppm value. He reiterated there are only two wells supplying the whole system. The Garland well puts out about 500 gallons per minute. Bailey Brook well puts out about 300 gallons per minute. That's only 800 gallons per minute to the system. Bringing on the Cedar Run well does assist; however, it's severely diminishing the water quality. Also, in the future, it will be in violation. It's mandatory that RWD finds another source that is higher in quality to build resiliency and redundancy. If one of the wells was to go down, there would be very limited production and capacity.

RWD Commissioner Marion noted that Cedar Run well does come on in the summers because of the irrigation burden. It comes on a lot. The District is very close to crisis mode many days during the summer.

Superintendent Jones explained that last year, during the irrigation season, the Cedar Run well was able to stay offline. This year, in order to support the system and keep the system ready for fire protection, all three wells had to be brought online at various periods of time.

RCC Member Grote pointed out that if they find a source for water, it's still two years away. She asked what is going to be done over the next two years if there are only two good wells.

RWD Commissioner Marion noted that if they don't start now, it's going to be another two years away. They have to start or they'll have to say people can't water lawns, or the size of the town

can't be increased. It would impose a different lifestyle. These are choices that people have to make. It's risky to only have two good wells. If RWD has the legal rights to look for water on other properties, they would be negligent as commissioners to not move in that direction.

Superintendent Jones stated that RWD is looking at irrigation control and what kind of by-laws can be put into place. Another avenue is controlling the consumption utilized by irrigation. One way to do it is to put mandatory restrictions in place. The other way is to change the rates. This is not a simple thing to do because the customer who is already being conservative should not be punished. However, something has to be put out to make people realize they might be abusing the water. The other option is treatment. In order to treat the water, it would be about ten million dollars for a central water treatment plant. At this time, the water is non-processed and non-treated. This is very different from processed, treated water. If the Cedar Run well is brought back online, there will have to be treatment. It will have a different taste and a different odor.

Referring to the recent Town Newsletter, **RCC Member Jeff Gardner** asked if it's true that one-quarter of the District's population is using about two-thirds of the water.

Superintendent Jones confirmed.

Selectman Bill Epperson noted there have been discussions about a possible interconnect with Aquarion Water for fire suppression at this time, and perhaps, domesticated water in the future. He asked if this is still a possibility.

Superintendent Jones replied this is still a possibility. There have been some challenges with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), so it has been halted and will be looked at in the future. He continued that RWD has acquired some infrastructure on Route 1. This puts one of RWD's hydrants and Aquarion's hydrants within 50ft of each other. It's not a connection, but it's for temporary availability. He continued there's also an interconnect with Portsmouth at RWD's office building on Sagamore Road. The equipment is probably dating back to 1955, so RWD is in the middle of doing a redesign for that connection to make it a viable source, which has probably not been used since the late 70's.

RWD Commissioner Marion stated that they should be pushing stronger conservation efforts; however, they cannot rely on one option. Everyone is present to talk about testing for water on the Brown property. RWD believes that based on the covenants that they have the legal right to do so and to do so carefully. RWD wants to work together with the Conservation Commission and the Town, so it's done in the best way possible.

Superintendent Jones noted there's a lot to providing and securing safe, clean, drinking water. All the wells are in the same area. As something as simple as a fuel truck rolling over on a snowy day could take out the wells. Having a well in a different location builds resiliency.

III. Review of the Brown property

Mr. Berg presented a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Brown Lane Farm property, which is located off West Road and is managed by the Rye Conservation Commission. The water rights on the property are governed by Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). The property is currently used by the public. There's a trail network that is connected through the land. In May 2022, Wright-Pierce, in conjunction with the District, conducted two geophysical surveys on the property. Three primary drilling targets were identified at the site. All three targets are located very close to the existing woods road and would be investigated as minimally invasive as possible on the site.

RCC Member Grote asked if the wellhead protection area is a radius of 400ft.

Superintendent Jones explained that the sanitary protection area (SPA) is 400ft. The wellhead protection area is much larger. In some cases, it's not a circle. It's determined by NH DES through the flow of water and surrounding businesses.

RCC Member Grote pointed out that this is a significant amount of space and the parcel is 51-acres. It was purchased for conservation and for enjoyment by the Rye residents. This was purchased with taxpayers' dollars. The consequences of that have to be discussed as well.

Superintendent Jones commented there's a trail system that goes through two of RWD's sanitary protection areas. On a daily basis, people walk through these trails and RWD does not prevent them from doing that.

RCC Member Grote asked how people having access in the sanitary radius would protect the wellhead and the water.

Mr. Berg noted it's all a part of the discussion about what would be allowed within the sanitary radius.

Mr. Jones explained that NH DES makes the decision on what is allowed and what is not allowed. Even if RWD does not have an issue with something, it has to be put in front of DES.

RCC Vice-Chair Sally King stated that if RCC encourages RWD to start with one well, or they go directly to the three, it impacts this land and the accessibility. There were other reasons why this land was conserved. They did get water rights on it and she still thinks this is a good idea. However, they have to take the process extremely slow, in order not to lose control of the whole parcel.

Superintendent Jones agreed. He noted that even though there are three targets on the site, RWD is not looking to activate all three.

RWD Commissioner Marion stated they are looking to only have one operational well. The 400ft radius is not for the test wells. It's for the operational well. There may not be any wells, but that's not known until they look.

RCC Chair Suzanne McFarland stated that as she looks at the big picture, they should take this slowly and be mindful that the former property owner lives next door. Also, RCC has been talking with several people about conserving their land. They don't want those people to take water rights off their land because of going too fast or alienating the people who conserved the land. For her, it's not just Brown Farm Lane. It's a much bigger picture. She agrees that they need education for the residents so they understand the process.

RWD Commission Marion explained that is why they are having this meeting. They are trying to figure out how to move at an appropriate, but respectful, and deliberative pace.

Select Board Chair Phil Winslow commented that they need a plan. At least the first couple of steps of a plan. He thinks everyone would agree that water is needed. The Brown property seems to be a good location. Where do they go from here? He totally understands the concerns about losing access to the property for conservation. That has to be mitigated as much as possible. How can the Select Board, Conservation Commission and the Water District work together to begin moving forward?

RCC Chair McFarland noted that the Conservation Commission doesn't make plans unless everyone has had a chance to talk about it. Not all of the RCC Members are present, so no actual decision can be made tonight. The other thing is that NRCS plays a big part in this and they have to know the process.

RWD Commissioner Marion stated that as he understands, RWD would have to submit a written plan to NRCS and that is not ready to go yet. He asked if NRCS would ultimately have the approval authority.

RCC Vice-Chair King explained that the Conservation Commission has the veto. NRCS worked with the RCC to get water rights on this property. The turnaround time for NRCS is extremely slow. She pointed out that water rights were put on this property deliberately. The Conservation Commission is not unaware of the water crisis. A minority of the people are using the majority of the water. It's her understanding that a majority of that water is going to irrigation. If there could be a control on drinkable water being casually treated, it would solve a lot of problems that got them to where they are now.

Select Board Chair Winslow stated that short-term, they are looking at one hundred and eighty units going up potentially in the next two years.

RCC Vice-Chair King stated that if this is approached as if they are using conservation land for more water, it's not going to sit well with a lot of people. It shouldn't be about future development. It should be about sustainability for what's been provided so far. The Water District is trying to get back up to speed, not see how many additional buildings can be put in.

Select Board Chair Winslow stated that from the Select Board's standpoint, the commitment is to provide the highest quality of service to the residents. If the residents want irrigation, that's part of the commitment. The Select Board has a commitment in place with the Water District to

come up with controls for irrigation. It may add some additional costs to the way people have been irrigating. It's a combination of programs to be able to solve the problem.

Superintendent Jones noted that an average daily production of water in the off-season is about 250,000 to 300,000 gallons per day. That's a baseline. There are more people who come into town in the summer season, which adds into domestic use. However, the seasonal customers generally don't have high use. In 2020, there was an upwards of 1.1 to 1.2 million gallons produced out to the system during the course of a twenty-four-hour period of time. Around 700,000 to 800,000 of that was out to irrigation. That would be taking 250,000 or 300,000 average and bumping it up to 400,000. The remainder would be 800,000.

RCC Member Susan Shepcaro commented that is ridiculous. The District is worried about having water to drink and enough water to put out fires, and people are putting it on their lawn. She thinks there needs to be some warrant article work done for putting restrictions on irrigation systems.

RWD Commissioner Marion pointed out there are mandatory restrictions in place right now. When driving around town, it can be seen that there are a lot of really green lawns. The challenge is not having an enforcement mechanism in place at this time.

RCC Member Grote asked if they can regroup after the Conservation Commission's October meeting. In the meantime, RWD can continue to do what they need to do.

RWD Commission Marion noted that RWD would like to move forward with preparing the application for NRCS. It won't be submitted, but it will be shared internally. RWD doesn't want to wait until October 13th to get the go ahead to even prepare that application.

RCC Member Grote replied as long as RWD understands that just filling out the paperwork is not a consent on Rye Conservation Commission's part.

RWD Commissioner Marion confirmed that they understand. He also confirmed that the Rye Conservation Commission will see the application before it is sent to NRCS.

RCC Member Shepcaro noted that she saw the overlay showing the vernal pools. Target well #1 is not near a vernal pool. Target well #2 is right next to a vernal pool. She pointed out that there are three major vernal pools on that property and they are extremely important. She thinks it would be reasonable to start with one well and not to think about target #2 because of where it's located.

Mr. Berg explained this will be a bedrock well. They are hoping to find water fairly deep into the ground and have those fractures be deep and not shallow. One of the reasons why Cedar Run is compromised is because it has a number of fractures higher up in elevation. It's pulling the organic carbon in from the surface water. He pointed out that one of the things that has to happen, as part of the permitting process through the State for a large groundwater withdrawal permit, is that a review of all the environmentally sensitive factors associated with vernal pools and wetlands is done to make sure the well is not impacting vernal pools or wetlands.

RCC Vice-Chair King reminded everyone that the Conservation Commission spent six years leveraging funding. Approximately \$540,000 plus came from NRCS for the protection of the vernal pools. The price of the property was \$625,000., so the Town made up very little of those funds. The Rye Conservation Commission feels an incredible obligation to the water resources on that property.

IV. Other Business

Public Comment:

Joann Price, 19 Park Ridge Ave, commented that this is the first time she is hearing of the problem. She wonders why this hasn't been addressed previously. It's a very important part of how this community will prosper. She asked if RWD has looked at other possibilities for the well. She also asked why they have decided on this particular location. She pointed out that RWD needs a master plan addressing water use and water availability in the community. This seems like an attempt to do something quickly. It doesn't seem like there has been any consideration of letting the public know how serious this problem is. She thinks if everyone knew how serious this problem was, they would be willing to do the things necessary to make water available to everyone fairly. She also commented that this brings up the thought of whether there should be a hiatus on any development because the water is not available. This requires the Water District to have a master plan that looks to the future. It also requires the Select Board to think seriously about what measures they should put in place to let the public know what's being faced. Plans should not be made just for now, but also for the future.

RWD Commission Marion noted that the Water District Commissioners meet the first Wednesday of every month at 9:00 a.m. at the RWD office at 60 Sagamore Road. This is not the first time this issue has been addressed. It has been an obsession of master planning for years. He invites people to attend the commissioner's meetings, so it can be discussed in depth.

Superintendent Jones noted this is not the only location that has been looked at. RWD has looked at several locations over the past several years. In 2020, RWD drilled on its own property looking for a backup well to Bailey Brook well and replacement well for Cedar Run well. RWD also looked at conservation property behind Rand property in 2019. They also looked at conservation property off Cedar Run at the same time. This is not new. RWD is not focusing directly on the Brown property.

Steven Borne, 431 Wallis Road, commented that he is very concerned about the bigger picture. The aquifer is a big math problem and he doesn't know if they have their arms around that. Aquarion Water is also looking at drilling more wells because they have a need. It's all one big aquifer everyone is pulling from. He really doesn't think they have a good handle on how much water is in the aquifer, and what the quality will be. With the development going on, he does not have a great feeling about the high-level thinking and the math. This is a huge issue for the entire town, not just the people who live in the Rye Water District. The Rye Water District has a small staff and are going one hundred miles per hour to keep the water they already have. There needs to be some more horsepower from somewhere to get the answers quicker.

Lydia Tilsley, 17 Central Road, stated that it feels like there needs to be a plan, not on another well, but a plan at a higher level where the Town is not adding another one hundred and eighty units and then drilling a well to meet the units. It feels like it's all interconnected. It needs to be led in that way or it won't work.

RWD Commissioner Marion pointed out that the Selectmen have been attending the District's meetings to work on these issues. He also pointed out the boards are independent. The Water District runs a separate election and is independent from the Select Board. He continued that it would be worth it to hear what Wright-Pierce has been doing over the last five years to help RWD with this problem.

Mr. Berg explained that in 2018, Wright-Pierce was engaged to start diving into where there may be a potential for wells within the District. An overall evaluation was done on available properties that would have the appropriate setbacks and they came up with a number of sites. Wright-Pierce has been working with the District to review and evaluate those sites over the past couple of years. A number of geophysical surveys were done across those properties that were available. Some test well investigation was done on the Rye Water District property. The other sites have not moved beyond the geophysical investigations. Beyond this work, from a planning perspective, the Rye Water District has engaged in a lot of asset management work over the last number of years. This coming year, the District will be working on a larger project that will be looking at population projections, and demand analysis that will help form some of the master planning. This is part of an asset management project that will be going on over the next two years. The Town and Conservation Commission will also be engaged for their input as well.

Select Board Chair Winslow clarified that the one hundred and eighty units are not approved. Selectman Epperson and the Planning Board went to the Water District about those projects. The Water District said there is not enough water to allow that development to continue, so it stopped. He continued they are balancing a number of things. They are balancing the water needs and conservation. They are also balancing the need in the community for workforce housing. One of the Rye's ordinances is that twenty percent of condo developments have to be set aside for workforce housing. He reiterated they have major issues they are trying to balance and some are more challenging than others. He stated that there was almost a 1.1 billion dollar increase in the assessed values of properties. Homes have increased by forty-eight percent. Young families are not going to be able to move into town, so the balance is to provide workforce housing. There are multiple issues to be considered.

Selectman Epperson pointed out that the last real tract of land that is developable on Route 1 is the Ciborowski property, which is about 100-acres of land. There have been projects projected for that land for sixty to eighty units. In going back to the Water District, it was made very clear that this cannot be supported because the water resource is not available to do it. It can't happen unless there is sufficient water. It doesn't look like it's going to happen anytime soon, so the one hundred and eighty units are not going to be built.

Select Board Vice-Chair Tom King stated that the Select Board has been encouraging the Water District to work on this issue for several years. The Select Board's goal is to try to be neutral, but emphasize the need to work together because there is a real problem. With that said, there is an entity that is not under the Town and an entity that is a town commission that need to work together. However, just like any other land use board, they can't deal with theocratics. There has to be a written plan. The Conservation Commission has to be able to review the plan and discuss it. At this time, he thinks the burden is on the Water District to put together a plan in writing and present it to the Conservation Commission.

Select Board Chair Winslow stated that it would be good to get some direction from the Conservation Commission about what they need specifically from the Water District.

RWD Commissioner Marion noted that the RWD did not come to the meeting with a plan because they didn't want it to seem like it was a done deal. They wanted to have a conversation before creating a plan. It seems there is now the go-ahead to create a plan. The plan that is written for NRCS is the plan that RCC would review. This is the next step for the Water District.

Select Board Vice-Chair King asked if the plan will have the detail that would be expected of someone going to the planning or zoning board. For example, the entrance off West Road to this property is not going to be conducive to large vehicles. For the Conservation Commission, they will need details that NRCS doesn't necessarily care about. How the road is going to be reconfigured for large vehicles, where the controls are going to be stationed, and where the generators will be located, will be the kind of details that the Conservation Commission will care about. These are the kinds of details that any land use board would need in order to make a decision about a project.

RCC Chair McFarland pointed out that NRCS has a warranty easement deed which asks for identification of the proposed locations and access for the test wells, and identification of every step of the process. She is going to read the warranty easement deed to see if there is anything else the Conservation Commission would be interested in. In regards to public education, a big piece of information that may be needed is why the other parcels weren't pursued and why the Brown Lane Farm property is now being considered. She is guessing that a lot of people don't know the history of this process.

RCC Member Grote commented that the majority of water suppliers in N.H. are very similar to the Rye Water District. She would love for this group to become an exemplary example of how to handle a difficult problem in a thorough way that involves everyone.

RCC Member Karen Oliver agreed. She commented that she appreciates being asked to come to the table to talk about it.

Select Board Chair Winslow asked what the next step would be after the RWD submits the NRCS paperwork to RCC for review.

RWD Commissioner Marion explained that RCC may say to submit it or there may need to be another meeting.

Select Board Chair Winslow asked what the next step would be if NRCS comes back with an approval to move forward.

Mr. Berg explained that the next step would be to actually schedule the test well drilling and to do the things necessary for those tests to be done.

Referring to the sanitary radius, RCC Vice-Chair King noted that two of the three run offsite. RWD will have to engage with private land owners to accomplish what is being discussed.

No further comments or discussion was heard from the three groups in attendance or the public.

Adjournment

Bill Epperson made a motion to adjourn the Select Board meeting at 9:00 p.m., which was seconded by Tom King. All in favor.

Sally King made a motion to adjourn the Conservation Commission meeting at 9:00 p.m., which was seconded by Jaci Grote. All in favor.

Scott Marion made a motion to adjourn the Rye Water District Commission meeting at 9:00 p.m., which was seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

RYE WATER DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

September 7, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Commissioners Present:

Arthur Ditto, Chair
Ralph Hickson
Scott Marion

Others Present:

Arik Jones, Superintendent
Dyana Ledger, Business Manager
Jennifer Mates, NH DES
Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce
Selectman Phil Winslow

I. Call to Order

Chair Ditto called the meeting to order at 9:07 a.m.

II. Meeting with Jenn Mates, NH DES

Jennifer Mates, NH DES, met with the Commissioners to discuss point of entry sampling criteria for blending purposes to accommodate the new ruling on manganese levels, which is anticipated to take effect on January 1, 2023.

III. Approval of Minutes

- August 2nd

Motion by Scott Marion to approve the August 2, 2022 meeting minutes as presented.
Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

- August 17th

Motion by Scott Marion to approve the August 17, 2022 meeting minutes as amended.
Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

IV. Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce

Chris Berg, Wright Pierce, gave a brief update to the Commissioners in regards to ongoing Water District projects. A disbursement request for the Garland well project was submitted to the Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund for August. Apex Construction should be submitting their final pay requisitions within the next few weeks for completion of the project. Final completion paperwork will be processed by Wright-Pierce over the next six months.

Mr. Berg submitted an engineering service agreement from Wright-Pierce outlining the scope of additional work associated with the Garland Well blending in the amount of \$20,000.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the On Call Engineering Service Agreement with Wright-Pierce for the additional Garland Well work associated with blending for an estimated \$20,000. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

Mr. Berg also submitted an engineering service agreement, in the amount of \$100,000., for asset management which will be reimbursed through a grant from NH DES once the work is completed.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the On Call Engineering Service Agreement with Wright-Pierce for the asset management project in the amount of \$100,000., which will be reimbursed through a NH DES Grant. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

Mr. Berg noted that a kick-off meeting is required for the Asset Management Grant. The meeting will be held with a representative from DES and will review the scope of work, scheduling and process moving forward. It was agreed to hold the kickoff meeting on September 21st at the workshop meeting. Mr. Berg will follow up with Louis Adorno, NH DES, about the 21st meeting.

Mr. Berg continued that construction for Wallis Road is due to start next week. They'll be starting in the Route 1A area. After that area, they will start working on Wallis and moving away from Route 1A. The focus is to get the Route 1A work done and the directional drilling this fall. Beyond that, they will get as much water main into the ground as possible from the entrance of Appledore Avenue and moving towards Odiorne.

There was some discussion about possible upcoming grant opportunities.

V. Superintendent's Monthly Report, Pumping Chart, and Data Report, and Bacteria Tests for August

Superintendent Arik Jones presented the monthly data reports and the superintendent's report for August.

- The monthly pumping totals are reflecting a decrease. However, the pumping totals are at a historical high on an annual basis.
- A leak that was detected on Fairhill was repaired over this past month. This leak was discovered during the leak detection work that was completed.

- The KOH pump switch has been implemented at the Garland pump house. The location of the pump switch is working out well for the operators. The next step is to install the transducer. The software and Excel reporter has been installed. Having this equipment is going to allow for consistent reporting, as the information is currently being input manually at different period of times.
- Benchmark is moving forward with connection to RWD's existing main on the western side of Route 1. Jones & Beach will be establishing a hydrant at the end of the line in the easement area for flushing purposes. Aquarion's hydrant and RWD's hydrant will be within 50' to 75'. At this time, the main is dead-ended near the town line; however, a connection could be made if needed in the future.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the Superintendent's report for the month of August. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

VI. Cash Flow Reports for August

The Commissioners reviewed the cash flow reports for the month of August. It was noted that \$100,000 was budgeted for 2022 for the Asset Management Grant. Whatever funds are not used this year will need to be encumbered for 2023. This will be voted on at the December monthly meeting.

There was some discussion about the upcoming lease renewals for T-Mobile and Seacoast Security for the telecommunications equipment on the water tanks. It was agreed to reach out to Howard Kalet from the Telecommunications Committee to discuss possible overall benefits for the town with regard to the cell equipment on RWD property.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the cash flow reports for August. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

VII. Treasurer's Report

The Commissioners reviewed the treasurer's reports for the months of April and May.

Motion by Scott Marion to accept the April 30, 2022 Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

Motion by Scott Marion to accept the May 31, 2022 Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

VIII. Correspondence

None

IX. Old Business

a. Update status of Garland Road piping reconfiguration

Superintendent Jones gave an update on the piping reconfiguration project at Garland Road.

X. New Business

a. Rules & Regulations Committee meeting of September 6th

Chair Ditto reported that the Rules and Regulations Committee meeting was scheduled for September 6th at 4:00 p.m. The agenda stated that the meeting would be opened and then the committee would be going into a non-public session. He arrived before 4:00 to speak with the committee and let them know that RWD would like to submit a proposed zoning ordinance for irrigation systems. When he arrived, the meeting room doors were closed and the committee was already in a non-public session. He was not able to speak with the committee. He noted that his frustration is that the meeting was posted for 4:00 p.m., but the non-public meeting was already in process when he arrived.

b. RCC meeting of September 8th

RWD and Greg Smith from Wright-Pierce will be meeting with the Rye Conservation Commission on Thursday, September 8th, at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the process involved with the District's water source investigation on conservation land in town.

XI. Town Planning and Zoning Minutes

No issues or concerns were seen in last month's meeting minutes for the planning and zoning boards.

XII. Other Business

Superintendent Jones spoke to the Commissioners in regards to the possible addition of another water operator for RWD.

Adjournment

Motion by Ralph Hickson to adjourn at 11:08 a.m. Seconded by Art Ditto. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

RYE WATER DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

August 17, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Commissioners Present: Arthur Ditto, Chair, Ralph Hickson and Scott Marion

Others Present: Arik Jones, Superintendent, Dyana Ledger, Business Manager and Tom Mack, Resident

I. Call to Order

Chair Ditto called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

II. Review of Garland Project – proposed additions

The Commission reviewed additions to the Garland Road upgrade project proposed by Superintendent Jones. The proposed items would be covered under the NH DES Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund Loan, which was voted on and approved by the voters at the July 11, 2020 RWD Annual Meeting. Proposed items to include:

1. KOH feed system pipe replacement. Estimated cost for the purchase of piping is \$2,000 with the work to be done by Rye Water District.
2. Relocation of the RUN/STOP button for the KOH system. Estimated cost for parts and installation is \$1,000. Work will be done by Ewing Electric.
3. Ultrasonic level transducer tied to the SCADA system for KOH day tank assessment. Estimated cost is \$3,500 for instrument, wiring and programming.
4. Excel Reporter to produce NH DES reporting sheets, which would help increase accuracy and reporting consistency. Estimated cost is \$3,500 to purchase the software license and have it configured by Electrical Installations, Inc.
5. Connection of power and communications to the permanent location of the Connex office trailer. Cost of work is \$5,000.
6. Purchase of Connex office trailer, as work will no longer be done in the well building. Cost of purchase is \$16,000.

The Commissioners did not have any issues with the proposed additions as presented.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the proposed additions to the Garland Project as presented. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

III. Other Business - *No further business.*

Motion by Ralph Hickson to adjourn at 9:18 a.m. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.
Respectfully Submitted, Dyana F Ledger

RYE WATER DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

August 2, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Commissioners Present:

Arthur Ditto, Chair
Ralph Hickson
Scott Marion

Others Present:

Arik Jones, Superintendent
Dyana Ledger, Business Manager
Selectman Phil Winslow

I. Call to Order

Chair Ditto called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

- July 6, 2022

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the July 6, 2022 meeting minutes as amended.
Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

III. Superintendent's Monthly Report, Pumping Chart, and Data Report, and Bacteria Tests for July

Superintendent Arik Jones presented the monthly data reports and the superintendent's report for July.

- The water pumping totals continue to climb on a monthly basis, as well as year to date totals.
- The bacteria samples for July came back clear.
- Separate meters for each building at White Birch have been installed, which will provide more detailed data on individual building water usage.
- A preconstruction meeting for the new development going in off Route 1 was held on July 19th. Things seem to be moving forward with the project as expected.
- Training has been ongoing in the field with the water operators.

- A preconstruction meeting for the Wallis Road project was held on July 26th at the Water District office.
- Notices to residents were delivered informing them of the temporary shut down of water for repairs in the Fairhill Ave and Parsons Road areas.
- The Garland Road project is almost complete. There are funds still available through the SRF loan that may be able to cover additional Garland upgrades; such as, the KOH feed system, KOH control button relocation, ultrasonic level transducer, software to generate NH DES reports and Connex office purchase.

The Commissioners reviewed the data charts and monthly report.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the Superintendent's report for the month of July. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

IV. Cash Flow Reports for July

The Commissioners reviewed the cash flow reports for the month of July. There were no concerns or issues noted.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the cash flow reports for July. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

V. Old Business

a. Mandatory Restrictions and Enforcement

There was some discussion about communication with the residents in regards to the mandatory water restrictions. It was agreed that post card notices should be sent to each household. It was also agreed that the message boards should be set up in front of the Town Hall and at Lang's Corner Garage. Superintendent Jones will check with Town Administrator Kevin Walsh about having a sign in front of the public safety building.

VI. New Business

a. Review 2023 CIP Projects

Chair Ditto reviewed the narratives for the CIP projects, which he has been working on for the CIP Committee. The projects being submitted include the water treatment plant, Wallis Road main replacement update (fall 2023), Washington Road tank maintenance (2024), Sagamore Road pump station (2023), and Parson's Road (2023).

The Rye Water District Commission continues to provide this information to the Town of Rye CIP Committee consistent with the provisions of RSA 674:7 for their consideration and discussion in developing the town CIP. This is just an input from RWD so the CIP Committee knows what projects the Rye Water District is doing, so they can match them up with the town's projects. The Water District is not obligated to change and revise the information submitted.

b. Discussion – Rate Structure Modification

The Commission reviewed and discussed preliminary rate structure numbers. A modification of the District's current rate structure is being considered starting with the 2023 Budget.

VII. Town Planning and Zoning Minutes

No issues or concerns were seen in last month's meeting minutes for the planning and zoning boards.

a. Review Rules and Regs Subcommittee meeting minutes 6/28/22

Chair Ditto noted that the Rules and Regulations Subcommittee held a meeting on June 28th. They went through the proposed LDR amendments. Amendment 2022-26 addresses irrigation systems. The amendment will add an Appendix G, which follows the NH DES model ordinance. This model ordinance is what RWD used to develop the guidance for standalone irrigation systems. The proposed amendment was sent to the Planning Board for review and discussion. The amendment was moved to a public hearing on September 20th.

Chair Ditto continued that what's absent in the amendment is how it's going to be managed and enforced. If a subdivision is going to put in irrigation, they have to follow Appendix G, which is basically what the State recommends. If an individual is going to install irrigation at a later date, it has to go before the Technical Review Committee. How are they going to know that this is going to be done? He pointed out that there's no enforcement action associated with the proposed amendment. He feels that RWD needs to move forward with proposing an ordinance to require a building permit for installation of irrigation systems.

VIII. Other Business

• Partner's Bank – meeting room

Business Manager Dyana Ledger noted that she spoke with the manager of Partner's Bank in regards to the availability of the community meeting room at the bank. The room is available to RWD for both day and evening meetings. This is just for the Commissioner's information for future meetings where it's expected there will be a large number of people attending.

• Town Newsletter

It was noted that the article for the town's newsletter is due on August 19th. Superintendent Jones will write up a draft and send it out to the Commissioners for review.

Adjournment

Motion by Ralph Hickson to adjourn at 11:54 a.m. Seconded by Art Ditto. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

RYE WATER DISTRICT MEETING MINUTES

July 6, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Commissioners Present:

Arthur Ditto, Chair
Ralph Hickson
Scott Marion

Others Present:

Arik Jones, Superintendent
Dyana Ledger, Business Manager
Resident Tom Mack
Selectmen: Phil Winslow, Tom King, Bill Epperson

I. Call to Order

Chair Ditto called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

- June 1, 2022

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the June 1, 2022 meeting minutes as amended.
Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

III. Superintendent's Monthly Report, Pumping Chart, and Data Report, and Bacteria Tests for June

Superintendent Arik Jones presented the monthly data reports and the superintendent's report for June.

- Pumping totals are up, as they have been, on a monthly basis. The totals are not only up on a monthly basis, but an annual basis as well. There is almost a million gallons difference in the pumping totals this year, as compared to June 2021.
- Cedar Run has had to kick on a number of times due to the levels in the tanks. There were three times over the last week that the levels went below, not only the start level, but the safe level for pressure as well.

- Superintendent Jones suggested that the District consider putting in a variable frequency drive (VFD) in the bedrock wells. The VFD system will overcome the head pressure loss and keep the same gallons per minute (GPM) across the board.
- A leak detection survey has just been completed with a report due back to the District shortly. The survey was coordinated through DES and covered by a grant. There are two areas of concern: Fairhill and Wallis Road. They are not big leaks because the water is not surfacing. However, both areas have a predominant amount of groundwater, so leaks may not always be seen. Once the report is received, Superintendent Jones will be working towards finding the leaks and getting them repaired.

The Commissioners reviewed and discussed the pumping charts.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the Superintendent's report for the month of June. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

IV. Discussion with the Rye Selectmen

Bill Epperson, chair of the Rye Select Board, noted that the Selectmen would like to discuss the ability to supply water, specifically to the Route 1 development: Washington Road, Hector's site, Benchmark, Airfield Drive and the proposed development for the Ciborowski property. It's important to have a deep understanding of what the District's water situation truly is for any development moving forward. He pointed out that his tenor on the planning board over the last ten years has been focused on water. He is nervous that they aren't doing the citizens of Rye any justice by expanding development without the adequate water to supply. It's not fair to sacrifice the well-being of the people of Rye on the alter of development.

Chair Ditto stated that the District is at capacity right now and can't supply any more water. If the Ciborowski development asks if Rye Water District can supply them with water, the answer is going to be "no". Also, it is probably going to get worse before it gets better. Cedar Run well has high manganese and the standards have been changed. In January 2023, the standard will go from 0.84 down to 0.3. Cedar Run has seen manganese levels above 0.3 and is basically out of compliance.

Selectman Epperson asked if the District will be looking at some sort of treatment to bring it into compliance.

Chair Ditto replied that treatment is just one component. The District was looking at blending the water between the Cedar Run, Bailey and Garland wells. However, there is a change in the PFAS standard coming up. Right now, the health advisory has been changed from a total of 7ppt for PFOA/PFOS down to basically zero. The next step in the process is that the EPA will establish maximum contamination level (MCL) goals. Once they establish that number, they will actually establish an MCL. The timeframe for that is probably by the end of the year. The MCL will probably be at, or lower than, what is being seen in the water. This will drive the District to have to build a treatment plant to treat the PFAS. The iron and manganese could be treated, as well. He pointed out that there is no sense in focusing on treatment for the Cedar Run

well while building a treatment plant. There will be a time period where the District will be hurting for water. It will probably put a restriction on the whole system. He commented this is the long answer to the question about the Ciborowski development. The District will not be able to provide the water.

Selectman Epperson stated that he appreciates the answer because it's something he can get his "hands on". It's not possible to supply water to Ciborowski based on the eighty units they want to put in because it's not available. In any circumstance, a treatment plant is going to be necessary anyways.

The Commissioners confirmed.

Referring to future development on Route 1, Superintendent Jones stated that without another supply source and water storage tank in that area, the District cannot supply the water, even without the pending treatment issues.

Selectman Epperson noted that the Select Board had a meeting with the City of Portsmouth about the sewer implications along Route 1. The possibility of running the sewer line along with a water line came up. He pointed out there are a lot of issues along Route 1, as far as the sewer is concerned; such as, future capacity issues. He thinks that the Select Board and the District will need to have a serious conversation about how to get the treatment plant moving forward.

Superintendent Jones pointed out that the treatment plant will provide a higher quality of water to the system, but not more water.

Commissioner Hickson stated that a number of years ago, the District recognized there was an issue with iron and manganese. The District has a shelf design for an iron and manganese treatment plant, but it was never brought forward because there was no requirement. There was no justification at that point for a six million dollar treatment plant. The new regulations that are coming out now are going to drive the District to do something.

Chair Ditto noted that they will have to revisit the treatment plant design because it's not designed to treat PFAS. The original design was done back in 2012, so the cost estimate to build the plant has probably gone up significantly. Unfortunately, it's not going to happen overnight. Referring to the point about volume, he explained that a day tank is needed. When there is a high demand, such as in the morning, the day tank will help feed the supply surge. When the demand drops off, the tank is filled for the next surge. He pointed out that the tank at Breakfast Hill is a pressure tank, not a volume tank. The two tanks on Washington Road are supply tanks. He reiterated that even if a treatment plant is put into place, the District still does not have the capacity. In regards to Route 1, he talked to Brian Goetz about running the sewer and water lines down the corridor at the same time. Assuming that the City of Portsmouth has the water supply, Rye Water District could purchase the water for that section of the town. This would be ideal for the District and it has been considered. However, it's a big cost to run a water line in that area. The question is whether there's really a problem, other than excessive irrigation. The District has sufficient water to meet domestic demands.

In regards to the volume of water, Superintendent Jones noted that between 2:00 a.m. until noon, the tank levels are low and that is because of irrigation. Getting control of the usage during that period of time is extremely critical.

Selectman Winslow asked how many District customers are seasonal.

Superintendent Jones noted that the District has about sixty seasonal customers. However, the seasonal users have a small window of usage. There are other factors that drive the usage during that particular window of time, which is irrigation.

Selectman Epperson commented there have been conversations about limiting irrigation or mandatory restrictions on irrigation systems. He's been told that it's out of the Select Board's purview, unless a drought has been declared. However, the Water District can do it. He suggested that the District think about how to do this. The Select Board will support it.

Chair Ditto replied they have been working on it. The Commission has come up with an interim lawn watering policy for the time being, until a process can be established. He continued that in 2019, the Commission developed requirements for standalone irrigation, which means that it has its own meter. These requirements were taken from DES's guidance on how to manage land development for water. Right now, the planning board is working on Land Development Regulations (LDR). Basically, the District's requirements parallel the LDR amendments. This all needs to be morphed into something for residential. In order to get to the residential systems, there has to be some way to track it with the ability to enforce. This goes back to developing an ordinance. He noted that the Commission has drafted an ordinance to give to the Rules and Regulations Committee. The ordinance would require irrigation systems to have permits and be built in accordance with Rye Water District's regulations. This will be for new systems, but it will be difficult to make it retroactive for the systems already in place. How to implement it will have to be considered.

Selectman Epperson stated that right now, there is a convergence of concerns and they now have the opportunity to make an impact. From his perspective, he's in total support of what the Water District is trying to do with mitigating water usage.

Referring to the treatment plant, Selectman Winslow asked if the District's engineers are working on looking for funding.

Chair Ditto noted that every time there is a chance to submit projects to the State, the treatment plant is submitted, but it doesn't make the cut. The District will continue to look for funding through the State's revolving loan fund. As far as grants go, there are going to be a lot of communities in the same boat as Rye, as the PFAS issue is a countrywide issue. Hopefully, there will be some kind of funding mechanism to do this. In regards to irrigation systems, the Commissioners will be submitting to the Rules and Regulations Committee a proposed town ordinance. The responsibility and requirements will revert back to the Water District. There will be no demand on the building department. The Water District would just like to have the ability to know when systems are being installed by requiring a permit and for the systems to be installed in accordance with the Rye Water District's policy for irrigation systems. The town can

keep the building permit fee. Once the Water District is notified of the permit, the applicant will come to the District to seek the guidance. The District will have the responsibility of doing the inspections on installation.

Selectman Epperson asked if there has been further thought given to interconnections with Portsmouth and Aquarion Water.

Superintendent Jones noted that the District already has an interconnect with Portsmouth. At this point in time, a door has closed on making an interconnect agreement with Aquarion Water. However, the pipes for interconnection are very close together.

Chair Ditto explained that the interconnection with Portsmouth is for emergency use. The District doesn't have an interconnect for purchasing water. The only area where the District purchases water from Portsmouth is for Wentworth Road. If there was an interconnect with Aquarion, it would be for emergency use only. Interconnections for the purchase of water is a separate action. He pointed out that the Seacoast Water Commission is working on more interconnections for emergency use.

There was some discussion about how the District is going to try to control the irrigation usage in the short-term.

V. Cash Flow Reports for June

The Commissioners reviewed the cash flow reports for the month of July. There were no concerns or issues noted.

Motion by Scott Marion to approve the cash flow reports for July. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

VI. Treasurer's Report

Not available

VII. Correspondence

None

VIII. Old Business

a. Standalone Irrigation – City of Portsmouth Rates

The Commissioners reviewed the rates and bracketed usage for standalone irrigation for customers who receive Portsmouth Water, which is along Wentworth Road. The new rates will go into effect starting 2023. Customers with standalone irrigation will be notified before the meters are installed for the season next year.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to adopt the Portsmouth Water Rates for standalone irrigation systems, using the same bracketing as the Rye customers. Seconded by Scott Marion.

All in favor.

IX. New Business

a. Environmental Regulation Standards – Manganese/PFAS

Addressed earlier in meeting.

b. Rules & Regulations Update

Chair Ditto noted that he was not able to attend the Rules and Regulations meeting on June 28th. However, he was able to submit a copy of the District's standalone policy to the committee before the meeting. The policy is based on the guidance from DES, which is basically the same as being proposed by Rules and Regs for the Land Development Regulations.

X. Town Planning and Zoning Minutes

No issues or concerns were seen in last month's meeting minutes for the planning and zoning boards.

XI. Other Business

- A preconstruction meeting for the Hector's site development is being held on Tuesday, July 19th at 9:00 a.m.
- A preconstruction meeting for the Wallis Road main replacement is being held on Tuesday, July 26th at 9:30 a.m. at the Water District Office.

Adjournment

Motion by Ralph Hickson to adjourn at 10:54 a.m. Seconded by Art Ditto. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

RYE WATER DISTRICT

June 1, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Commissioners Present:

Arthur Ditto, Chair
Ralph Hickson
Scott Marion

Others Present:

Arik Jones, Superintendent
Dyana Ledger, Business Manager

I. Call to Order

Chair Ditto called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

- May 4, 2022

Motion by Scott Marion to approve the May 4, 2022 meeting minutes. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

- May 18, 2022

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the May 18, 2022 meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

III. Chris Berg, Wright Pierce *Not present at meeting.*

IV. Superintendent's Monthly Report, Pumping Chart, and Data Report, and Bacteria Tests for May

Superintendent Arik Jones presented the monthly data reports and the superintendent's report for May.

- The water usage has climbed over the five-year period of time. The usage has increased about 1.5 million gallons on a monthly basis from this time last year. The monthly usage for May is almost at 16 million gallons; whereas, April usage was similar to the last three years. The high usage is most likely due to the

transition of real estate in the town and the change in population with new development.

- The system leak survey will be starting within the next two weeks. This is being done through NH DES and is being covered by a grant that has been awarded to the District.
- The posts for fencing have been installed at the Garland pump house site. The fence work should be completed within the week. The project is just about completed with a few minor things to be done.
- There have been communications with Carl McMorran, Aquarion Water, in regards to Aquarion's water main located on Route 1, near the location of the new development at the old Hector's site. Aquarion has made the decision to abandon the main located in Rye. The plan is to dig up the main, end cap it and install a hydrant at the North Hampton end for flushing purposes. Aquarion will be providing an email stating that they are abandoning the pipe. Superintendent Jones reached out to DOT because the pipe is within their right-of-way. DOT has no issues with Rye taking ownership of the pipe.

There was some discussion about what the procedure might be to give the District the right to assume ownership of the pipe. It was agreed that Superintendent Jones should reach out to Attorney Quinn to handle the process of taking over the pipe, if there is a possibility. The District would benefit by taking over the pipe because it would eliminate the need for directional drilling across Route 1, which is owned by DOT. It will also allow for a closer proximity to Aquarion for an interconnect agreement in the future. The new development at the Hector's site will have an easier connection for water and will have better flow capacities. Currently, the District's water main in that location runs along the east side, which is the same side as Aquarion's pipe. The District's main stops at the Benchmark property, crosses over to the location of the Allegiant property and runs down to Dow Lane. Aquarion's main runs north and stops near the entrance to Benchmark. It was noted that the new development at the Hector's site is scheduled to start the week of July 4th. The expansion at Benchmark has been postponed to later this year and may not happen until 2023.

Superintendent Jones continued his report:

- The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) has been completed and sent to households. A copy of the report will be available on the Rye Water District website.
- The Pease Development Authority (PDA) made a decision to cease and desist on an unapproved temporary water line that was installed which was feeding the boat yard and a couple of the cabins at Rye Harbor. It was later discovered that this temporary water line was also serving the Rye Lobster Pound. An alternate connection plan for the entities has been laid out for water service, which will be done under the guidance and approval of PDA. Until the decision to connect is made, the temporary water line has been cut and ended by PDA.

Motion by Scott Marion to approve the Superintendent's report. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

V. Cash Flow Reports for May

The Commissioners reviewed the cash flow reports for the month of May. There were no concerns or issues noted.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the cash flow reports for May. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

VI. Treasurer's Reports for February & March

The Commissioners reviewed the Treasurer's report of the months of February and March.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the Treasurer's report for February. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the Treasurer's report for March. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

VII. Correspondence

• Abutter Notice – 850 Washington Road

An abutter notice was received for the proposed development at 850 Washington Road. It is not clear what is proposed for the property. The District will continue to keep an eye on the project as it moves through the Planning Board.

VIII. Old Business

a. Abandonment of Aquarion Main

Addressed earlier in the meeting. See minutes above.

b. Interim Water Policy

Chair Ditto noted that on the City of Portsmouth's website there's a water division application for an irrigation meter, which lays out the criteria and requirements. The criteria laid out by Portsmouth is pretty detailed. He suggested that they may be able to use it as a model for the District's.

There was discussion about requiring building permits for installation/replacement of irrigation systems, which would first need to be added to the ordinances. The jurisdiction and management of the building permit for the installation would be the responsibility of the District. Chair Ditto will work on a zoning ordinance proposal to be brought to the Rules and Regulations Committee, which handles the amendments to the ordinance. He will also forward a copy of Portsmouth's policy to the Commissioners for review.

IX. New Business

a. CIP Review

There was discussion about the request from the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Committee for information from RWD regarding the proposed projects for the District over the next five years. The Commission discussed how to submit the information to the CIP Committee. Chair Ditto agreed to work on a list of projects and projected costs. He will work on updating the documents sent from the CIP Committee.

b. PFAS Results

Chair Ditto noted that he has completed the PFAS results table. In looking at the results from April, it's about the same; however, Garland seems to be a bit elevated. Bailey and Cedar Run are basically the same. The system results decreased from the previous sampling. Samples are being pulled quarterly. Results for the landfill sampling for April have still not been received from the Town.

X. Town Planning and Zoning Minutes

a. Planning Board 6/14 Hearing – 850 Washington Road

Addressed earlier in the meeting. See minutes above.

XI. Other Business

None

Adjournment

Motion by Scott Marion to adjourn at 10:42 a.m. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

RYE WATER DISTRICT

May 18, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Commissioners Present:

Arthur Ditto, Chair
Ralph Hickson

Others Present:

Arik Jones, Superintendent
Dyana Ledger, Business Manager

I. Call to Order

Chair Ditto called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

II. Review of Wallis Road Main Replacement Loan Agreement & Authority to Borrow

The Commissioners reviewed the loan agreement terms for the Wallis Road main replacement. It was agreed that the \$852,000 loan for the project should be amortized over twenty (20) years with loan payments commencing within one year of the substantial completion date. The original term for the loan was ten (10) years when the project was passed at the 2020 Annual Meeting for \$315,000. Due to delays in the project from Covid related issues and increased construction costs, the bids for the project came in higher than the original loan amount. A warrant article for the new project cost was presented to the voters at the 2022 Annual Meeting and passed by unanimous vote.

Note: *The vote for the Wallis Road Project taken at the 3/26/22 Annual Meeting was not done by ballot vote. A Special Meeting was held on 4/27/22 to correct the minor procedural voting defect with a unanimous vote of approval received.*

Motion by Ralph Hickson to modify the Wallis Road Loan Agreement from a ten (10) year loan to a twenty (20) year loan term. Seconded by Arthur Ditto. Vote: 2-0 All in favor.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to name Arthur Ditto as the authorized representative for the Rye Water District to sign the loan agreement and related documents for the Wallis Road Water Main Replacement Project. Seconded by Art Ditto. Vote: 2-0 All in favor.

III. Rye Water District Interim Lawn Watering/Irrigation Policy

Further work is being done on the policy and will be reviewed at a meeting in the near future.

IV. Town Newsletter: Deadline 5/20

There was discussion about what to include in the upcoming Town Newsletter. It was agreed to include a write-up about lawn watering/irrigation best practices. It was also agreed to mention RWD's new commissioner and recent new hire.

V. Other Business

None

Adjournment

Motion by Ralph Hickson to adjourn at 10:21 a.m. Seconded by Arthur Ditto. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

RYE WATER DISTRICT

May 4, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.

Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Commissioners Present:

Arthur Ditto, Chair

Ralph Hickson

Scott Marion, via Zoom

Others Present:

Arik Jones, Superintendent

Dyana Ledger, Business Manager

Selectman Phil Winslow

Tom Mack, Resident

I. Call to Order

Chair Ditto called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

- April 6, 2022

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the meeting minutes of April 6, 2022 as presented. Seconded by Scott Marion. Vote: 2-0-1 Abstained: Scott Marion

- March 2, 2022 Public Hearing Minutes

Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the public hearing minutes of March 2, 2022 as presented. Seconded by Scott Marion. Vote: 2-0-1 Abstained: Scott Marion

- March 26, 2022 Annual Meeting Minutes

Motion by Scott Marion to table the meeting minutes of March 26, 2022 to the next meeting. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

- April 18, 2022 Public Hearing Minutes

Motion by Scott Marion to approve the public hearing minutes of April 18, 2022 as presented. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

- April 27, 2022 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion by Scott Marion to approve the special meeting minutes of April 27, 2022 as presented. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

III. Superintendent's Monthly Report, Pumping Chart, and Data Report, and Bacteria Tests for April

Superintendent Arik Jones presented his monthly report and pumping charts for the month of April.

- The water usage is about the same. With two wells being down, flushing was not able to start. The water operators have been working on just cleaning out the hydrants. There's a significant difference in unaccounted water totals from previous years. This year the total was 268,000 gallons to waste. The total is usually more like 1.5 million gallons. In reality, the numbers in usage were higher than they were last year.
- Severino is currently working on the driveway and site work at Garland. That project is coming to a completion. The fence work will be completed shortly after the paving is completed.
- Eversource has disconnected the temporary service to the Conex. The Conex has been moved to its permanent location. Permanent electrical and ethernet is being set up for operations. Eversource will be removing the old service pole and that will complete their work at the Garland site.
- Dan Saulnier from Wright-Pierce has been contacted to look at the parameters that might be causing the recent variable flow device (VFD) failures at the pump house. The parameters that were set for the controller might need to be reset to resolve the issue.
- Jacob Madore has completed the necessary paperwork and background check for the water operator position. He will be starting with RWD on May 16th.
- The distribution system and hydrants were laid out at Airfield Drive. However, the project has recently been put on hold due to funding issues.
- The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) has been completed. Those are in the process of being mailed.
- Superintendent Jones is meeting with Rainscape Irrigation and Lawn Care to discuss the District's ideas for an interim water policy for irrigation.
- The Town Newsletter deadline is May 20th.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to accept the Superintendent's report for the month of April. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

IV. Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce

Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce, gave an update to the Commissioners in regards to ongoing projects. The Wallis Road main replacement project is moving forward, as it was approved by

district vote at the special meeting on April 27th. The revised loan agreement is ready for signatures from the Commission.

The Commissioners discussed changing the terms of the loan from a ten-year to a twenty-year loan.

Mr. Berg agreed to follow up with DES in regards to revising the loan term. He noted that the loan still has to be approved by Executive Council, who will be meeting on June 1st. All paperwork will need to be submitted before that meeting date to be considered. Mr. Berg submitted an amendment for additional engineering services for the Garland pump house project, which covers the time extension for that project and design work for the new driveway.

Mr. Berg also submitted the paperwork to the Commissioners for the Drinking Water Infrastructure Grant through NH DES. The \$100,000 no match grant will be used by the District for asset management work. A vote by the Commission is needed to enter into the grant agreement with NH DES to fund a water system improvement project. A vote is also needed to authorize a representative of the Water District to sign any necessary documents related to the grant agreement.

Motion by Scott Marion to authorize Arthur Ditto to execute any documents which may be necessary to effectuate the grant agreement with NH DES. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

V. Cash Flow Reports – April

The Commissioners reviewed the cash flow reports for the month of April. There were no issues or concerns.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to accept the cash flow reports for the month of April. Seconded by Scott Marion. All in favor.

VI. Treasurer's Report

Not available at time of meeting.

VII. Correspondence

None

VIII. Old Business

a. Interim Lawn Watering/Irrigation Policy

The Commissioners reviewed the draft Interim Lawn Watering/Irrigation Policy. This interim Lawn Watering/Irrigation Policy is being implemented, prior to the 2022 heavy watering season, by RWD for use in managing lawn watering and irrigation practices while a formal comprehensive Lawn Watering/Irrigation Policy is developed and adopted by the RWD. The procedure being considered is beginning June 1st, 2022 a voluntary every-other-day watering

and/or irrigation requirement will be put into effect. To start this watering cycle, residents and businesses with odd number street addresses would begin their voluntary, every other day, watering cycle. On June 2nd, residents and businesses with even number street addresses will begin their voluntary, every other day, watering cycle.

There was some discussion about daily watering times that should be recommended in the policy. The Commissioners are in agreement with the concept; however, some work is still needed on the procedure. Superintendent Jones will work on getting some feedback on the policy from some local irrigation companies.

IX. New Business

a. Conex Discussion

Superintendent Jones noted that he reached out to the company that holds the rental for the Conex being used at the Garland pump house as an office for the water operators in the field. The structure can be purchased for \$16,000. Working conditions inside the pump house are such that the operators will not be able to have an office in that building. The N.H. Labor Board would also restrict the operators' time spent in the building. He feels the Conex is the simplest solution, whether RWD moves forward to purchase the structure or continue to lease.

The Commissioners agreed that for the remainder of this year, they will continue the rental on the Conex, as there may be another solution in the future with the possibility of a treatment plant.

b. Senior Operator Position

Business Manager Dyana Ledger noted that there was some consideration being given to implementing a senior operator position. The idea is to move Greg Vaillancourt from a Scale 3 Water Operator to Scale 4 and to give him the title of Senior Water Operator. Mr. Vaillancourt has been with RWD for two and a half years. At this time, the RWD will not be filling the vacant assistant superintendent position, but will fill the void with the new senior operator position. Mr. Vaillancourt would be responsible for training and overseeing new hires coming in to the District, under the direction of the Superintendent. It is intended for this new position to take effect on May 16th, which is the same date the new hire will be starting. There are no issues with the 2022 budget for employee wages with this change in personnel.

Motion by Scott Marion to approve the implementation of the Senior Water Operator Position, effective May 16, 2022. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

X. Town Planning and Zoning Minutes

No issues or concerns were noted in the Town Planning and/or Zoning minutes.

XI. Other Business

None

Motion by Scott Marion to adjourn at 10:28 a.m. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

Rye Water District Special Meeting
Wednesday, April 27, 2022, 7:00 p.m.
Rye Junior High

On April 27, 2022 at 7:06 p.m. at the Rye Junior High School, Moderator William Scott opened the Rye Water District Special Meeting. Moderator Scott explained that the purpose of the special meeting is to revote on the article that passed at the District's annual meeting which was held on March 26, 2022. At that time, the vote on Article #02 was not taken by ballot with the ballot box remaining open for one hour, which is required under RSA 33:8-a II for any warrant article proposing a bond in excess of one hundred thousand dollars.

Moderator Scott read Article #02.

Article #02 To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$852,000.00 (gross budget) for the Wallis Road Water Main Replacement, 1,165ft from the intersection of Wallis Road and Ocean Boulevard to the intersection of Wallis Road and Odiorne Drive, and all costs incidental thereto and connected therewith: and to authorize the issuance of not more than Eight Hundred Fifty- Two Thousand Dollars (\$852,000.00) of bonds and notes in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33); and to authorize the Rye Water District Commissioners to issue and negotiate such bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and to authorize the Rye Water District Commissioners to expend the proceeds so raised to that stated purpose. This warrant article supersedes Warrant Article #04 passed by the voters at the Rye Water District Annual Meeting on July 11, 2020. A 3/5 ballot vote is required.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: 3 - 0
THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE: 9-0

Motion by Arthur Ditto to move Article #02 to the floor. Seconded by Ralph Hickson.

Commissioner Ditto explained that the design from this project started in 2016 with a warrant article being drafted in 2019. The warrant article passed by the voters at the annual meeting on July 11, 2020. Due to the cycle of events, a year was lost and the bids came in higher than what the warrant article authorized, which was \$315,000. He continued that the design was revisited and it was found that there is ledge at the upper end of Wallis Road, resulting in an increase in pricing. The ledge, plus the increase in costs for materials due to Covid, are the reasons the project is now proposed at \$852,000.

Hearing no further discussion, **Moderator Scott opened the ballot box for Article #02 at 7:10 p.m.**

At 8:10 p.m., Moderator Scott closed the ballot box and called for a count of the ballots. Article #02 passed by a 10-0 vote.

No further business came before the meeting.

**At 8:12 p.m., Commissioner Scott Marion made a motion to adjourn the special meeting.
Seconded by Commissioner Arthur Ditto.**

Moderator Scott closed the Rye Water District Special Meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna DeCotis
RWD Clerk

Rye Water District Public Hearing

Monday, April 18, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

RWD Office, 60 Sagamore Road

Commissioners Present:

Chair Arthur Ditto

Ralph Hickson

Scott Marion

Public Notice:

The inhabitants of the Rye Water District in the Town of Rye, in Rockingham County, State of New Hampshire qualified to vote in Rye Water District affairs are hereby notified of 2 phases of a Special Water District Meeting will be held as follows:

First Session Special Meeting: Public Hearing Date (Pursuant to RSA 31:5-bII(c))

Date: April 18, 2022

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Rye Water District Office, 60 Sagamore Road, Rye

Second Session Special Meeting: Special Water District Meeting (Pursuant to RSA 31:5-bII(b))

Date: April 27, 2022

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Rye Junior High, 501 Washington Road, Rye

Details: To hold official ballot voting on the following:

Article# 02* To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$852,000.00 (gross budget) for the Wallis Road Water Main Replacement, 1,165 ft from the intersection of Wallis Road and Ocean Boulevard to the intersection of Wallis Road and Odiorne Drive and all costs incidental thereto and connected therewith: and to authorize the issuance of not more than Eight Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$852,000.00) of bonds and notes in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33); and to authorize the Rye Water District Commissioners to issue and negotiate such bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and to authorize the Rye Water District Commissioners to expend the proceeds so raised to that stated purpose. This warrant article supersedes Warrant Article #04 passed by the voters at the Rye Water District Annual Meeting on July 11, 2020. A 3/5 ballot vote is required.

* This is the same Warrant Article #02 that was presented and voted on during the Rye Water District Annual Meeting held on March 26, 2022. This Warrant Article #02 is being re-noticed and re-voted to correct a procedural defect with the March 26, 2022 vote, to wit: the bond/note article was to be voted on by ballot and the ballot has to stay open for one hour.

At 7:05 p.m., Chair Ditto called the meeting to order and opened the public hearing.

Chair Ditto explained that the purpose of this public hearing is to explain why it is necessary for RWD to call for a Special Rye Water District Meeting to be held on April 27, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Rye Junior High School. This public hearing action is required by RSA Chapter 31, Section 31:5-b II (c), which states; *“Not less than 7 calendar days prior to a special town meeting, not counting the day of the special meeting, the governing body shall conduct a public hearing at which the reasons for the special town meeting shall be explained.”*

Chair Ditto continued to explain that on March 26, 2022, Rye Water District held its annual meeting to act upon 7 articles contained in the RWD’s proposed 2022 Warrant. Article #02 of that warrant, dealt with a proposed bond issue of \$852,000 for replacement of 1,165 feet of water main on Wallis Road. As required by RSA Chapter 33, Section 33:8-a II warrant articles proposing a bond in excess of \$100,000 need to be voted on by ballot, with the polls remaining open and ballots accepted not less than one hour following completion of discussion on the respective article. Unfortunately, Rye Water District failed to use the ballot voting process for Article 2, but rather requested a show of hands. Thus, the vote on Article #02 was invalid.

In order to correct this irregularity and procedural defect, following the provisions of RSA 31:5-b, Legalization of Meetings, the Commissioners of the Rye Water District have called for this Special Rye Water District Meeting to properly re-accomplish the actions relative to Article #02 of the 2022 Warrant.

Chair Ditto opened for public comment. Hearing none, **he closed the public hearing relative to the Special Rye Water District Meeting at 7:08 p.m.**

Adjournment

Motion by Scott Marion to adjourn at 7:09 p.m. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna DeCotis
RWD Clerk

RYE WATER DISTRICT MEETING

April 6, 2022, 9:00 a.m.
Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Commissioners Present:

Ralph Hickson, Chair
Art Ditto

Others Present:

Arik Jones, Superintendent
Dyana Ledger, Business Manager
Phil Winslow, Selectman

I. Call to Order

Chair Hickson called the meeting to order at 9:12 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes – March 2nd

Motion by Art Ditto to approve the minutes of March 2, 2022 as presented. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

III. Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce

Chris Berg, Wright Pierce, gave an update to the Commissioners regarding ongoing projects for the Water District. The Garland pumphouse project is nearly completed. There are a couple of functional items that Apex needs to address. After which time, final completion documents can be drafted. The next step would be to wrap up some of the site development work related to the driveway and fencing. He will be submitting an amendment for engineering services related to site development assistance.

Referring to the Wallis Road main replacement project, Mr. Berg noted that he sent Superintendent Jones information on the evaluation of the bids. Overall, the bids looked good. North East Construction used the wrong bid form; however, it doesn't change anything in regards to what Wright Pierce would recommend for an award. The recommendation is to move forward with Wickson Construction for both the base bid and the alternate. The proposed revised budget for construction was \$616,000 and Wickson Construction came in with a bid of \$617,000. Mr. Berg will be preparing a construction administration RPR agreement and will send it to the Water District. The project still has to be presented to the Governing Council for approval, which will be done in May or June.

Mr. Berg reported that he is working with Louis Adorno at DES to get the asset management project off the ground. The grant agreement will be developed within the next two weeks and will be sent to the District for signatures. The grant allows for a two-year window of time for the work to be completed. Mr. Berg is also working on estimates for the Washington Road tank painting for next year's budget. He will also be continuing to develop a conceptual design and cost estimate for the office booster pump station. He will also be working on the central water treatment plant concept for potentially submitting to the next round of SRF. The interconnection projects and treatment related projects have the best potential for getting funding.

IV. Superintendent's Monthly Report, Pumping Chart, and Data Report, and Bacteria Tests for March

Superintendent Arik Jones presented his monthly report and pumping information for the month of March.

- March had the highest monthly overall consumption over the past five years. It's also the highest annual average to the month of March. In looking at the totals from the beginning of the year to the end of March, it has gone from 6 million to 9.5 million at a consistent increase.
- Spring flushing will be starting on Monday the 11th.
- The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is being prepared at this time. The report needs to be completed and distributed by June 1st with a verification of completion by DES by June 10th.
- Interviews for the open operator's position have been ongoing.
- It was noted that the telecommunications lease for T-Mobile is coming up for renegotiations in 2024. The District will need to consider how to move forward with the lease agreement.
- Within the next week, Superintendent Jones will forward the commissioners information on a potential lease for the Port Way tower for the Water District to potentially place reading equipment on the structure.
- There have been no updates received from Aquarion in regards to the proposed interconnect on Route 1.
- All State samples have been pulled, including PFAS. The results should be available by the end of the month.

Motion by Art Ditto to accept the Superintendent's Report for the month of March. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

V. Cash Flow Reports March

Business Manager Dyana Ledger presented the cash flow reports for the month of March. No areas of concern were noted.

Motion by Art Ditto to accept the cash flow reports for March. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

VI. Treasurer's Reports

The Commissioners reviewed the treasurer's report for the months of January and February.

**Motion by Art Ditto to accept the treasurer's report for the month of January 2022.
Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.**

**Motion by Art Ditto to accept the treasurer's report for the month of February 2022.
Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.**

VII. Correspondence

None

VIII. Old Business

a. Tuck/Benchmark Agreement

Commissioner Ditto noted that the plan shows that the Benchmark connection goes underneath the driveway and within 3ft of the end of the Aquarion pipe. The Tuck connection shows the line going under Route 1. He asked if there is a way to valve the Memory Care connection so it can connect to Aquarion to feed the Water District's system if needed.

Superintendent Jones explained that the Benchmark connection is proposed to run southerly from the existing main and run within 3ft to 4ft of the existing Aquarion main. In the future, if RWD ends up with the Aquarion main, the connection can be made at that point.

Commissioner Ditto pointed out that Tuck will not be connected to that pipe at all, as they will be running their line underneath the road to connect on the other side of Route 1.

Superintendent Jones noted that RWD already has a crossover on Route 1. The District doesn't really want to own another crossover with piping going into the DOT right-of-way. He continued that Mike Garrepy and Benchmark prefer to move forward with obtaining the Aquarion pipe for connection. By the time construction starts, if RWD has obtained the Aquarion pipe, the Tuck property and Benchmark are both onboard with going in that direction. He suggested having Attorney Quinn revise the proposed agreements to reflect that they agree to connect to the Aquarion pipe if it becomes available before construction.

The Commissioners reviewed the proposed agreement from RWD to Tuck and Benchmark. There were no issues or concerns with the agreement. Superintendent Jones will have Attorney Quinn draft up language for the agreement to address the alternative connection to the Aquarion pipe. He will also follow up with Planning Board Chair Patricia Losik to give her an update on the agreement.

b. Landfill Monitoring

Referring to Monitoring Well 102, Commissioner Ditto noted that the latest results from the Town is from April 2021. A spike was seen after April in the Garland well. He assumes there will be sampling done this year also.

Superintendent Jones confirmed. He spoke with the Town Administrator and the samples will be taken within the month.

IX. New Business

a. Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair)

Motion by Ralph Hickson to nominate Art Ditto as chair. Seconded by Art Ditto. All in favor.

Motion by Art Ditto to nominate Ralph Hickson as vice-chair. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

b. Seavey Way, Greenland – Water Connection

Commissioner Ditto noted that he was able to find the water supply agreement, which was signed in January 2015. It was approved by voters at the annual meeting on March 28, 2015. He read from paragraph 8, Limited Supply:

The city agrees not to utilize water from the Rye Water District under this agreement to serve any properties other than those described above without further approval from the Rye Water District.

Motion by Art Ditto that in accordance with Paragraph 8 of the 2015 Water Supply Agreement between the City of Portsmouth and the Rye Water District, approved at the March 28, 2015 Rye Water District Annual Meeting, the City of Portsmouth's request to install a residential service connection to 399 Breakfast Hill Road is approved subject to the following conditions; 1.) The service connection is made at the existing water main located on Seavey Way; and 2.) The connection will be for domestic use only, no irrigation permitted.

Commissioner Ditto explained that the rationale for the conditions is that the District doesn't want the water mains changed. Also, the reason Portsmouth came to the Rye Water District is because they are required to provide this property with bottled water for drinking water. This approach is being taken in lieu of supplying bottled water, which is a reasonable approach. Bottled water is for drinking so this water will be provided for domestic use only. The basis for this is because of the mandate the State has issued to the City of Portsmouth to provide bottled water because the well at 399 Breakfast Hill Road exceeds the 1,4-dioxane standard.

Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

X. Town Planning and Zoning Minutes

No issues were noted

XI. Other Business

a. Special Meeting

At the Rye District Annual Meeting held on March 27th at the Rye Junior High, a bond article for the Wallis Road main replacement in the amount of \$852,000 was presented to the voters and passed by unanimous vote. At that time, the vote on Article #02 was not taken by ballot with the ballot box remaining open for one hour, which is required under RSA 33:8-a II for any warrant article proposing a bond in excess of \$100,000.

The Commissioners discussed the option of holding a special meeting for a revote on Article #02 following the requirements under RSA 31:5-b II (c) for a minor voting procedural defect. Under the requirements, the Commissioners need to vote on whether to hold a special meeting with a public notice of such meeting being posted within 24 hours of the vote. A notice must also be published in the local newspaper in the next possible publication. A public hearing explaining the reason for the special meeting is required to be held no less than 7 days before the scheduled meeting with the proper notice requirements being met.

The Commissioners reviewed a notice drafted by Attorney Quinn addressing the public hearing and special meeting.

Motion by Ralph Hickson to hold a special meeting on April 27, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Rye Junior High to correct a minor voting procedural defect pertaining to Article #02 which was voted on at the Rye Water District's Annual Meeting on March 26, 2022, and furthermore, to schedule a public hearing for April 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m., in order to explain the reasons for the special meeting.

Seconded by Art Ditto. Vote: 2-0 All in favor.

Adjournment

Motion by Art Ditto to adjourn at 11:14 p.m. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

Rye Water District Annual Meeting
Saturday, March 26, 2022, 10:00 a.m.
Rye Junior High

On March 26, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. at the Rye Junior High School, Moderator Joshua Scott convened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. Moderator Scott introduced the Water District Commissioners Thomas Clifford, Ralph Hickson and Arthur Ditto.

Article #01 To choose a Commissioner for the ensuing three (3) years.

Moderator Scott called for nominations for commissioner.

Jaci Grote, 124 Washington Road, nominated Scott Marion as water commissioner. She noted that she has known Scott Marion for at least ten years. He has served on the Budget Committee and is familiar with the budget of the Rye Water District. Mr. Marion's approach to problem solving in his profession is pragmatic and practical. She encouraged everyone to support the nomination.

Bill Epperson seconded the nomination.

Moderator Scott asked for further nominations or discussion on the motion. Hearing none, he called for a vote on the nomination of Scott Marion.

Motion passed.

Moderator Scott congratulated Scott Marion and thanked Tom Clifford for his work on the Commission.

Article #02 To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$852,000.00 (gross budget) for the Wallis Road Water Main Replacement, 1,165ft from the intersection of Wallis Road and Ocean Boulevard to the intersection of Wallis Road and Odiorne Drive, and all costs incidental thereto and connected therewith: and to authorize the issuance of not more than Eight Hundred Fifty- Two Thousand Dollars (\$852,000.00) of bonds and notes in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33); and to authorize the Rye Water District Commissioners to issue and negotiate such bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and to authorize the Rye Water District Commissioners to expend the proceeds so raised to that stated purpose. This warrant article supersedes Warrant Article #04 passed by the voters at the Rye Water District Annual Meeting on July 11, 2020. A 3/5 ballot vote is required.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: 3 - 0
THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE: 9-0

Motion by Ralph Hickson to move Article #02 to the floor. Seconded by Arthur Ditto.

Commissioner Ditto explained that this started back in 2016 when the Water District developed this particular project. At that time, the estimate for the work was \$315,000. The project was submitted to the NH Drinking and Groundwater Revolving Loan Fund and was approved at that dollar value. A warrant article was then developed for the Water District's annual meeting in 2020. Unfortunately, the District's annual meeting in 2020 kept getting bumped down the road, due to Covid, and was not held until July. The voters approved the project in July, but it missed the "bubble" for getting a contract at that estimate. The intent was to get the bids in by that summer and the RFP didn't get out until late fall of 2020. Bids started coming in over the spring of 2021 and were much higher because of increased costs due to Covid issues. As a result, the Water District tried to negotiate with the contractor to get it to an approved dollar amount; however, that was unsuccessful. Subsequent to that timeframe, the District was able to better define the estimate which came out to be \$500,000., which happened to be the bid received that spring. The Water District went back to the NH Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau, who authorized the loan for the State of New Hampshire, and got the ceiling amount raised to \$852,000 which is proposed today. The Water District has an approved loan from the State for this amount. The project now needs to be approved by the voters through this warrant article.

Commissioner Ditto continued that some of the issues that came up relative to increasing the cost of the project include the fact that ledge was found. This water line runs from the intersection of Route 1 and Wallis Road, up Wallis Road and across from the marsh. In the location across from the marsh, more ledge was found than was anticipated and that increased the cost. That area would involve using HDPE pipe, which is a plastic pipe that is more forgiving in the marsh environment and is more cost effective from a corrosion standpoint than a steel pipe. The other aspect of the project will realign the valves between the water line going down Ocean Boulevard and the water line at the intersection of Wallis Road to meet DOT requirements. All those reasons added up to increased costs. Also, the cost of materials has increased due to Covid issues. Included in the cost of the project is a ten percent contingency for the budget.

Steve Borne, 431 Wallis Road, pointed out that 1218 Ocean Boulevard is tied up in the courts right now. However, when that project starts, the road is going to be ripped up in that area. He asked if there could be discussions with DPW about how the Town wants that intersection to be. He asked if all the work can be done at once so it is less disruptive to the town's people.

Commissioner Ditto replied that the District tries to do that. For this particular project, when it was originally planned, the District was going to coordinate the paving with Public Works, so paving would only have to be done once to save money on both sides. The drainage upgrades in that area were going to be coordinated with DPW, so the work would be done at the same time to help minimize the disruption to the public. He pointed out that the work has to be done in the spring or fall, as summer is a busy traffic season. Whatever development or work that is going on in that area at the time of the project, will be coordinated to link the work together. The District tries to do this as best they can. Assuming this project goes through, the District will coordinate its activities with whoever else is doing work on that particular area to help minimize the impact to the motorists and to maximize the costs savings for all parties involved.

Moderator Scott called for further discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote on Article #02.

Motion passed.

Article #03 To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to be placed in the District's existing Equipment and Buildings Capital Reserve Fund established for the purpose of purchase, repair, modification, or replacement of equipment and buildings that support operations of the water distribution system. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority Vote Required.)

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: 3 - 0
THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE: 9-0

Motion by Arthur Ditto to move Article #03 to the floor. Seconded by Thomas Clifford.

Phil Winslow, 100 Harbor Road, asked the balance of each of the capital reserve and trust funds. He also asked what the last expenditure was from each one of the funds.

Commissioner Ditto explained that the balance for this particular fund is \$78,860. Last year, the voters approved a warrant article for the purchase of a new truck, which is still in process. The plan is to take out \$60,000 for the new truck. The truck is pending delivery due to Covid issues. The delivery time has been delayed at least six months. After the \$60,000 is used for the truck, there will be a balance in this account of \$18,860. The District usually replaces the trucks on a six year cycle.

Moderator Scott called for further discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote on Article #03.

Motion passed.

Article #04 To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to be placed in the District's existing Storage Tank Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund established for the purpose of maintaining the water storage tanks. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority Vote Required.)

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: 3 - 0
THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE: 9-0

Motion by Arthur Ditto to move Article #04 to the floor. Seconded by Thomas Clifford.

Commissioner Ditto noted that the current balance in this particular capital reserve fund is \$152,498. This fund is for storage tank maintenance. To date, this capital reserve fund has not been used, as it was established about four years ago for the painting of the tanks. However, the District has an upcoming project on the books for the painting of the tanks. Depending upon the level of effort of what needs to be done, it's probably going to exceed the level of funds that are

in this particular fund. The intent is to use the fund within the next two years for tank maintenance, depending upon when a contract can be issued

Moderator Scott called for further discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote on Article #04.

Motion passed.

Article #05 To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) to be placed in the District's existing System Replacement Capital Reserve Fund established for the purpose of replacing or enlarging the distribution system. (Majority Vote Required.)

**THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: 3 - 0
THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE: 9-0**

Motion by Ralph Hickson to move Article #05 to the floor. Seconded by Arthur Ditto.

Commissioner Ditto noted that the current balance in this particular reserve fund is \$137,115. The last time this fund was used was approximately four years ago in preparation for the Garland Road pumphouse maintenance. The Town was going to pave that road. At that time, about \$80,000 was spent for piping that was going to connect to the re-piping of the Garland Road pumphouse, so it wouldn't interfere with the paving of that road. This is just another example of the District trying to coordinate its work with the town's work to minimize disruption and double paving of a road.

Moderator Scott called for further discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote on Article #05.

Motion passed.

Moderator Scott read Article #06.

Article #06 To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Seven Hundred Sixty-One Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$1,761,760) for general District operations and to defray Water District charges for the ensuing year. This article does not include appropriations contained in any other article addressed. (Majority Vote Required.)

**THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS: 3 - 0
THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE BUDGET COMMITTEE: 9-0**

Motion by Thomas Clifford to move Article #06 to the floor. Seconded by Ralph Hickson.

Moderator Scott opened for discussion.

Mr. Borne commented that the budget is at 1.7 million. The only thing the Town spends more money on besides the schools is fire and safety, DPW and Rye Water. It's a huge part of what the residents choose to spend their money on every year. He would like there to be more actions

to get it tightly integrated into what is going on in the Town. There needs to be tighter integration with DPW and planning.

Referring to the Natural Resource Inventory, Mr. Borne commented that he wants to be sure the Commissioners have seen it. If not, when will the Commissioners review it and discuss how it will impact the Rye Water District? Referring to the Route 1 development, Mr. Borne noted there was a select board meeting where RWD Superintendent Arik Jones presented and discussed sensitivity impact. With all that extra development, if there were to be a drought, there could be more water shutdowns and more restrictions could impact the rest of the residents. If there's huge development on Route 1 and not enough water, it could impact the residents through water restrictions.

Mr. Borne asked if a high-level overview could be provided on what is happening with the wells. There's been construction and the District has been down one well. He pointed out that the water treatment plant has been moved up in priority and it seems that the District is closer to the reality of that happening. He asked about the timeframe. He commented that running a water treatment plant is really going to increase operation costs. The 1.7 million operating budget is probably going to rise even more. As a resident of the Rye Water District, he would really like to see the District say that they are not going to approve or support more development on Route 1, until there's a comprehensive plan of how the potential water and sewerage needs are going to be met. Both need to be done. He would like to see the Water District take that hard stand for the residents of Rye.

Commissioner Ditto noted that the Rye Water District does not deal with waste water. As far as saying "yes" or "no" to providing water, he doesn't know if they can legally say "no". That is something that the Commissioners would have to look into from that standpoint. If the District has to provide water, they just need to find a way. His feeling is that they need to look at how the water is used overall in the Rye Water District, typically the seasonal use is when a large amount is used for irrigation. The irrigation aspect is probably the most detrimental and biggest concern that he sees. Commissioner Ditto pointed out that in the budget for this year, there is a project for source investigation, which addresses finding new water sources and how to better manage the water that the District now has at hand. This gets into how the water is used on a daily basis. As far as looking for new wells, this is a difficult task. It involves finding a location to even put a well in, generating the necessary wellhead protection sanitary radius and finding water that is going to be of reasonable quality which can actually be used without some sort of treatment. The issue of the treatment plant comes into play with the changing of the regulations. Right now, there is a regulation that has been changed for manganese which lowers the standard. One of the wells is right at the cusp for that particular standard. The other standard that is probably going to be changing are the PFAS levels, which may drive the need to put in a treatment plant. The District is looking at the treatment plant and how it can be used, if and when it's built. He commented that he hasn't seen the Natural Resource Inventory, but will look at it at some point.

Mr. Borne pointed out that the Natural Resource Inventory is on the Town's website. It will also be linked to the Rye Civic League News. The Conservation Commission just presented a high-level overview to the Select Board; however, there is a ton of information in the document.

Ms. Grote stated that there is a commission that was legislated by the N.H. House called Seacoast Safe Drinking Water Commission. The Rye Water District is part of that commission. She sits on the commission, as does Danna Truslow and representatives from all the seacoast towns. This issue is not just Rye. It's a seacoast issue. It's a New Hampshire issue. It involves not only public water and sewer, but also involves septic systems and private drinking wells. She will send a link to the Commissioners so they can share it on the Rye Water District website. The Natural Resource Inventory is on the Town's website under the Conservation Commission.

Moderator Scott called for further discussion. Hearing none, he called for a vote on Article #06.

Motion passed.

Article #07 To transact any other business which may legally come before this meeting.

Moderator Scott opened to discussion or questions.

Commissioner Hickson noted that Tom Clifford is retiring after seven plus years as a commissioner. His hard work and dedication to the Rye Water District is greatly appreciated.

Hearing no further business, Moderator Scott called for a motion to adjourn.

So moved by Arthur Ditto at 10:28 a.m. Seconded by Thomas Clifford.

Moderator Scott closed the Rye Water District Annual Meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Donna DeCotis
RWD Clerk

Rye Water District Public Hearing

Wednesday, March 2, 2022, 7:00 p.m.

Rye Junior High, 501 Washington Road

In accordance with RSA 33:8a, the Commissioners of the Rye Water District held a public hearing to discuss plans for the replacement of 1,165ft of water main, from the intersection of Wallis Road and Odiorne Drive. A warrant article to authorize the funding of water main replacement through a loan of not more than \$852,000 from the New Hampshire Drinking Water & Groundwater Trust Fund will be presented at the District's annual meeting on Saturday, March 26, 2022.

Warrant Article #02:

To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$852,000.00 (gross budget) for the Wallis Road Water Main Replacement, 1,165ft from the intersection of Wallis Road and Ocean Boulevard to the intersection of Wallis Road and Odiorne Drive, and all costs incidental thereto and connected therewith; and to authorize the issuance of not more than Eight Hundred Fifty- Two Thousand Dollars (\$852,000.00) of bonds and notes in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33); and to authorize the Rye Water District Commissioners to issue and negotiate such bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon; and to authorize the Rye Water District Commissioners to expend the proceeds so raised to that stated purpose. This warrant article supersedes Warrant Article #04 passed by the voters at the Rye Water District Annual Meeting on July 11, 2020. A 3/5 ballot vote is required.

At 7:03 p.m., Chair Hickson opened the public hearing and introduced the Water District Commissioners; Tom Clifford, Art Ditto and Ralph Hickson. He turned the presentation over to Engineer Chris Berg from Wright-Pierce.

Chris Berg noted that the Wallis Road water main project will run from the intersection of Ocean Boulevard/Wallis Road up to Odiorne Drive. This area connects with three side roads; Parkridge Drive, Ocean View Avenue and Appledore Avenue. The water main in this area has burst a number of times and has an extensive break history. There's a lot of corrosive soils from tidal waters in that area. The water main will be replaced with HDPE pipe which is corrosion resistant. The main will be installed by directional drill under the two culverts in order to reduce pavement and environmental disturbances in the tidal area. The town is potentially replacing drainage in this area. There will be some road restoration at the back end of this project.

Mr. Berg explained that this project went through a bond hearing in 2020 for a lower amount of money. A warrant article was presented at Rye Water District's Annual Meeting that year and was passed by the voters. As the process continued, it was realized that the project would end up exceeding the costs approved by the warrant article. Due to the nature of construction, issues with Covid delays and increases in costs, the received bid in the spring of 2021 exceeded the

warrant article and the contractor would not hold the pricing. The project is now going back before the constituents to move through the process again. The total project cost is \$852,000. A significant construction contingency has been added. The major changes in the project include the DOT roadway restoration, as the paving requirements have changed. There's a significant amount of ledge that was identified in the design process. Material and labor costs are really the reason for the increase in the price of the project. He pointed out that there's still a base bid plus an alternate, so the project could potentially be "chopped up" if needed. However, the number being presented should be able to complete the entire project.

Mr. Berg noted that the project is out to bid currently. The bid opening will be within the next two weeks. It is anticipated that the award for this bid will be in April. Substantial completion is expected to be the end of November. Construction will not begin until the end of the summer season.

Chair Hickson opened to the public for questions or comments.

John Murtagh, 33 Pollock Drive, asked if there was any money carried over in the budget from when this was presented prior.

Commissioner Ditto noted that the bottom line for the cost of the project is what is being presented on the warrant. This project will be funded with an SRF Loan from the State. A revised application was submitted to the State to increase the amount.

Commissioner Clifford asked if the work is going to start after summer.

Mr. Berg explained that the way the contract is written is that if the construction company had 1,500ft of pipe and wanted to start immediately they could. However, there's a summer shutdown period from May 28th to September 10th.

No further comments or questions were heard.

At 7:15 p.m., Chair Hickson closed the public hearing.

Adjournment

Motion by Art Ditto to adjourn at 7:16 p.m. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

RYE WATER DISTRICT MEETING

March 2, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Commissioners Present:

Ralph Hickson, Chair
Tom Clifford
Art Ditto

Others Present:

Arik Jones, Superintendent
Dyana Ledger, Business Manager

I. Call to Order

Chair Hickson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

- February 2nd

Motion by Art Ditto to approve the minutes of February 2, 2022, as amended. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. Vote: 2-0-1 Abstained: Tom Clifford

III. Superintendent's Monthly Report, Pumping Chart, and Data Report, and Bacteria Tests for February

Superintendent Jones presented his monthly report and data charts to the Commissioners for the month of February.

- The pumping totals are in line with January's totals. There is a decrease of almost a million gallons pumped in February as compared to February 2021.
- The Garland well upgrade has reached substantial completion. There have been no issues with the operations.
- A substantial completion start-up meeting is scheduled with Wright-Pierce for Wednesday, March 9th at 9:00. Apex and Wright-Pierce will be walking through the pump house to confirm operation of equipment.
- The Bailey Brook well pump has been replaced. Final connections for the transducer will be completed this month.
- Water Operator Greg Vaillancourt will be attending the backflow certification classes March 16th through 18th.

- A draft interconnection agreement was received from Aquarion Water. Superintendent Jones submitted the draft to the Commissioners for review, along with the Planning Board conditions of approval for the Hector's site and Benchmark. It was noted that the development for the Hector's site is anticipated to begin in late spring.
- Superintendent Jones sent the Conservation Commission a letter in regards to vernal pool identification for the property off South Road. RCC will be addressing the letter at their next meeting on March 10th. The work is anticipated to begin in the spring. The scope of the project also involves the restoration of the vernal pools.

Motion by Art Ditto to accept the Superintendent Report for the month of February. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

IV. Cash Flow Reports for January

The Commissioners reviewed the cash flow reports for the month of January. No issues or concerns were noted.

Motion by Art Ditto to accept the cash flow reports for January. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

V. Treasurer's Report - December *Not available*

VI. Correspondence *None*

VII. Old Business

a. Selectmen's Route 1 Water and Sewer meeting

The Commissioners agreed that for future meetings with the Select Board, they would like to know the purpose of the meeting and the expected role of the Water District. The Select Board has requested another meeting with RWD. Superintendent Jones will follow up with Town Administrator Bergeron to find out the topic to be discussed and what information the Select Board is expecting from the Water District. A date for the meeting is to be determined.

b. Irrigation Systems By-Law: Development of a Requirement for Irrigation System Installation instructions

Commissioner Ditto will continue to work on a draft for the requirements for irrigation systems, which may be considered as a zoning amendment or building code requirement.

VIII. New Business *None*

IX. Town Planning and Zoning Minutes
There were no issues or concerns noted.

X. Other Business

a. Operator Position Posting

The Commissioners reviewed the job posting for the open water operator position. It was agreed to add the salary range and benefits to the posting. The Commissioners agreed the position can be posted on the water district's website, the towns' website, and both the Granite State Water Works Association and N.H. State Water Works Association websites.

Adjournment

Motion by Art Ditto to adjourn at 11:00 a.m. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

RYE WATER DISTRICT MEETING

February 2, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.

Commissioners Present:

Ralph Hickson, Chair
Art Ditto

Others Present:

Arik Jones, Superintendent
Dyana Ledger, Business Manager
Selectman Phil Winslow

I. Call to Order

Chair Hickson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

- January 12th

Motion by Art Ditto to approve the minutes of January 12, 2021, as presented. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

III. Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce

Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce, gave an update to the Commissioners regarding ongoing Rye Water District projects. The sustainability grant applications have been submitted to DES. The District should hear back by the end of February on whether those were accepted and what project will be moving forward. The District put in applications for water auditing, strategic planning and asset management. These grants are no match grants. There is \$50,000 available for strategic planning and \$100,000 for asset management. Mr. Berg noted that once the District knows what funds may be awarded, a scope of work can be put together for each project. Under the asset management scope, some of the work would be a water rate study, review of asset management and revision/updates of asset management plans currently in place. The District could take a much more in depth look at the water rates by hiring a consultant who specializes in rate structures for municipalities. A rate structure analysis will fit into the asset management grant guidelines. Mr. Berg noted that the strategic planning is mostly related to source development, whether it be looking for new sources or increasing the reliability of existing sources. It is anticipated that the grants will be funded in April or May of this year.

Mr. Berg spoke in regards to other grants and funding through the State that may be available for other District projects.

The water source investigation work will continue in the spring for the conservation property located off West Road. One of the first projects will be vernal pool identification, which can only be done within a short timeframe in the spring. The District will follow up with Rye Conservation Commission in regards to their plans for vernal pool assessment.

The Garland well upgrade project is scheduled to be completed this spring. A special application has been submitted to the Drinking Water Trust Fund for the Wallis Road main replacement, which will be considered at the February 14th meeting. A representative from the District will be attending the meeting with Mr. Berg to present the project to the Trust Fund Board.

The design work for the Washington Road tank painting project will begin in the spring, after the annual meeting. The Emergency Response Plan has been completed and has been submitted to the State and EPA for certification. The design work for the booster pump station at 60 Sagamore Road will begin this year. Wright-Pierce will work on a preliminary design and scope of work which can be submitted with the SRF application this year.

Superintendent Arik Jones reported that he has received a draft interconnection agreement from Aquarion Water for the Route 1 corridor. The existing water main on Route 1 is owned by Aquarion Water. The District has included funds in the 2022 budget to purchase the water main with the funds being reimbursed by the project developers for the old Hector's site and Benchmark. The developers have agreed to give RWD an easement area on their property for a future interconnect control building. The interconnection agreement is directed towards emergency connections. The sale of water would need to be discussed and is not something that is anticipated to happen in the near future.

There was some discussion in regards to the timeframe for the water connections for the two projects on Route 1 (old Hector's site and Benchmark). It is unsure if the interconnection agreement and water main purchase will be completed by the time the developments need to connect to water. It was agreed that Superintendent Jones will speak with Carl McMorran from Aquarion Water to see if there is a way to set up interim access to the water main.

Commissioner Ditto recommended that they go over current and future projects in more detail in March or April, so the District can be more precise in planning for the Town's Capital Improvements Plan (CIP). The District could also make better use of that information for its own planning purposes.

A public hearing is being held on Wednesday, March 2nd, 7:00 p.m., at the Rye Junior High for the Wallis Road water main replacement project. A snow date of March 9th has been scheduled. Chris Berg will be presenting the project for the Water District.

IV. Superintendent's Monthly Report, Pumping Chart, and Data Report, and Bacteria Tests for January

Superintendent Jones presented his monthly report and data charts to the Commissioners for the month of January.

- The pumping totals are consistent with the January 2021 totals.
- Bacteria samples are being pulled within the next two days for February.
- Maher Services is replacing the pump and motor at Bailey Brook well. They should be completed with their work by the beginning of next week. After that time, a pump flow test will be completed and samples will be drawn. It is anticipated that the well will be back on line by February 11th.
- The District is still waiting for the delivery of the new Ford truck.
- The NH Labor Board has returned to the District for reinspection. The District has passed all requirements. It was noted that the chemical rooms are non-occupiable space, nor is the pump room. Chemical identification is required for interior and exterior doors at the pump house. A written list of chemicals has been submitted to the Fire Chief, along with the Material Safety Data Sheets. The Fire Chief will be providing a lock box for the exterior of the building, so those sheets will be available before entry.

**Motion by Art Ditto to accept the Superintendent Report for the month of January.
Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.**

V. Cash Flow Reports for January

The Commissioners reviewed the cash flow reports for the month of January. No issues or concerns were noted.

**Motion by Art Ditto to accept the cash flow report for January.
Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.**

VI. Treasurer's Report - December

The Commissioners reviewed the Treasurer's reports, along with the Business Manager's reconciliations, for the month of December. There were no issues or concerns noted.

**Motion by Art Ditto to accept the Treasurer's report for the month of December 2021.
Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.**

VII. Correspondence

None

VIII. Old Business

a. Interconnect Service Agreement – Aquarion

The Commissioners received a copy of the draft agreement and will review for future discussions.

IX. New Business

None

X. Town Planning and Zoning Minutes

There were no issues or concerns noted.

XI. Other Business

a. Budget Committee Meeting

The Commissioners will be presenting the Rye Water District 2022 Budget to the Budget Committee at their February 2nd meeting.

b. Annual Meeting & Public Hearing

- **The Rye Water District Annual Meeting is being held on Saturday, March 26th, 10:00 a.m. at the Rye Junior High.**
- **A public hearing is being held on Wednesday, March 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at the Rye Junior High for the Wallis Road water main replacement**

c. March Newsletter – due Feb. 11th

Superintendent Jones has drafted an article to submit to the Selectmen's Secretary by the due date.

d. Annual Report

Superintendent Jones will begin drafting the annual report. Copies will be emailed to the Commissioners for review and edits.

Adjournment

Motion by Art Ditto to adjourn at 10:57 a.m. Seconded by Ralph Hickson. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger

RYE WATER DISTRICT MEETING

January 12, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.
Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Road

Commissioners Present:

Tom Clifford, Chair
Art Ditto
Ralph Hickson

Others Present:

Arik Jones, Superintendent
Dyana Ledger, Business Manager

I. Call to Order

Chair Clifford called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

- December 1st

Motion by Art Ditto to approve the minutes of December 1, 2021 as presented. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

III. Superintendent's Monthly Report, Pumping Chart, and Data Report, and Bacteria Tests for December

Superintendent Arik Jones presented his December monthly report and data/pumping charts.

- The end of year pumping total for 2021 was 138 million gallons, which is less 17 million from 2020 as 155 million was pumped for the year.
- The monthly pumping total is 500,000 gallons less than December 2020.
- The Garland well was back online on December 20th and is functioning normally.
- The generator load tests have been completed.
- The no heat issue has been resolved for Garland well.
- The Emergency Response Plan has been completed and submitted to DES and EPA.

Motion by Art Ditto to accept the Superintendent Report for the month of December. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

IV. Cash Flow Reports for December

The Commissioners reviewed the monthly revenue and expenditure reports for the month of December. No issues or concerns were noted.

Motion by Art Ditto to accept the cash flow reports for December. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

V. Treasurer's Reports – October & November

The Commissioners reviewed the Treasurer's reports, along with the Business Manager's reconciliations, for the months of October and November. There were no issues or concerns noted.

Motion by Art Ditto to accept the Treasurer's report for the month of October 2021. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

Motion by Arti Ditto to accept the Treasurer's report for the month of November 2021. Seconded by Tom Clifford. All in favor.

VI. Correspondence

None

VII. Town Planning and Zoning Minutes

No areas of concern

VIII. Other Business

a. New pay scale acceptance/approval

Motion by Art Ditto to approve the new pay scale/grade for the Rye Water District as agreed upon by the Commissioner's and presented in the District's 2022 Budget, pending budget approval at the annual meeting and conditioned upon the Employee Wage and Benefit Policy being revised as appropriate. Seconded by Tom Clifford.

Vote: 3-0

b. Warrant Articles

Article #02 To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$852,000.00 (gross budget) for the Wallis Road Water Main Replacement, 1,165ft from the intersection of Wallis Road and Ocean Boulevard to the intersection of Wallis Road and Odiorne Drive, and all costs incidental thereto and connected therewith: and to authorize the issuance of not more than Eight Hundred Fifty-Two Thousand Dollars (\$852,000.00) of bonds and notes in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act (RSA Chapter 33); and to authorize the Rye Water District Commissioners to issue and negotiate such bonds and notes and to determine

the rate of interest thereon; and to authorize the Rye Water District Commissioners to expend the proceeds so raised to that stated purpose. This warrant article supersedes Warrant Article #04 passed by the voters at the Rye Water District Annual Meeting on July 11, 2020. A 2/3 ballot vote is required.

Motion by Art Ditto to recommend Article #02. Seconded by Tom Clifford.

Vote: 3-0

Article #03 To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to be placed in the District's existing Equipment and Buildings Capital Reserve Fund established for the purpose of purchase, repair, modification, or replacement of equipment and buildings that support operations of the water distribution system. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority Vote Required.)

Motion by Art Ditto to recommend Article #03. Seconded by Tom Clifford.

Vote: 3-0

Article #04 To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000) to be placed in the District's existing Storage Tank Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund established for the purpose of maintaining the water storage tanks. This appropriation is in addition to the operating budget. (Majority Vote Required.)

Motion by Art Ditto to recommend Article #03. Seconded by Tom Clifford.

Vote: 3-0

Article #05 To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000) to be placed in the District's existing System Replacement Capital Reserve Fund established for the purpose of replacing or enlarging the distribution system. (Majority Vote Required.)

Motion by Art Ditto to recommend Article #03. Seconded by Tom Clifford.

Vote: 3-0

c. 2022 Proposed Budget

Article #06 To see if the District will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of One Million Seven Hundred Sixty-One Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty Dollars (\$1,761,760) for general District operations and to defray Water District charges for the ensuing year. This article does not include appropriations contained in any other article addressed. (Majority Vote Required.)

Motion by Art Ditto to recommend Article #03. Seconded by Tom Clifford.

Vote: 3-0

d. Meeting Dates

There was discussion about the annual meeting date. It was agreed the meeting should be held the last Saturday in March as normal; March 26th, 10:00 a.m. at the Rye Junior High.

There was also discussion about when the public hearing should be held for the Wallis Road main replacement warrant article. It was agreed to hold the public hearing on March 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at the Rye Junior High with a snow date of March 9th.

Superintendent Jones will follow up with the school to confirm the meeting dates.

Adjournment

Motion by Tom Clifford to adjourn at 10:31 a.m. Seconded by Art Ditto. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dyana F. Ledger