

**RYE WATER DISTRICT  
MEETING  
June 3, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.  
Via ZOOM Video Conferencing**

**In Attendance:**

Art Ditto, Commission Chair  
Ralph Hickson, Commissioner  
Tom Clifford, Commissioner

**Others Present:**

Dyana Ledger, Business Manager  
Arik Jones, Superintendent  
Selectman Phil Winslow  
Chris Berg, Wright Pierce

**I. Call to Order**

Chair Ditto called the meeting to order via Zoom video conferencing at 9:00 a.m.

Statement by Art Ditto:

As chair of the Rye Water District Commission, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video and other electronic means. We are utilizing Zoom for this electronic meeting. All members of the board have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting by clicking on the following website address: [www.zoom.com](http://www.zoom.com) ID #869-1036-8914. Password: 03870

Public notice has been provided to the public for the necessary information for accessing the meeting, including how to access the meeting using Zoom telephonically. Instructions have also been provided on the website of the commission at: [ryewaterdistrict.com](http://ryewaterdistrict.com) go to the Meetings/Agenda page and click on the agenda for this meeting.

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled. Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote.

Roll call attendance of commissioners:

1. Tom Clifford
2. Ralph Hickson
3. Art Ditto

## **II. Approval of Meeting Minutes – May 6, 2020**

**The following correction was noted:**

- Page 3, under Old Business, 2<sup>nd</sup> sentence should read: **It was agreed that limited contact will continue throughout the month of May and the office will remain closed.**

**Motion by Ralph Hickson to approve the minutes of May 6, 2020 as amended. Seconded by Tom Clifford.**

**Roll Call: Ralph Hickson – Yes; Tom Clifford – Yes; Art Ditto – Yes**

**Motion passed.**

## **III. Discussion with Wright-Pierce re: Projects and Updates**

**Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce Engineering**, gave an update to the Commissioners in regards to ongoing projects for the District. In regards to the Cedar Run Well, pump tests will start on site within the next two weeks. He will submit that information to the Commission as soon as it becomes available. The hope is to have comments from NH DES within the next few days regarding the preliminary pump tests. DES has not indicated there are any issues with the plan, so the intention is to proceed based on the initial discussion with them.

Mr. Berg noted that the two projects being submitted for the NH Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund are on track. He confirmed that he is available to make the presentation at the public hearing for the warrant articles to fund the projects. The Garland Road pumphouse design may be ready to go out to bid in July, if the project is approved at the annual meeting.

He commented that he will work with Superintendent Jones to come up with a list of projects to be added to the SRF list. He will send a list of those projects to the Commissioners.

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

The Commissioners reviewed the Superintendent's monthly report, pumping chart, and data for the month of May.

Superintendent Arik Jones reported:

- There has been an increase in water usage, which higher than it has been over the past five years, due to the 'Stay at Home' orders and the recent dry weather. The time for the average pumping has doubled from 7 to 8 hours per day to 14 to 17 hours per day. The duration of time the tanks are at the start level jeopardizes fire protection capacity. Adjustments have been made at the booster station to help resolve the problem and will be closely monitored over the next few weeks.
- Most of the pipe has been laid for the Route 1A project. The work for the creek crossing will be completed within the next two weeks.
- Tank inspections have been completed for the tanks on Washington Road and Breakfast Hill by Underwater Solutions. A report from them should be received within the next couple of weeks. Early reports indicate that there may be some significant interior ice damage to the tank at Breakfast Hill, which will need to be addressed in the near future.
- Monthly samples will be taken next week.
- The District should start to think about some type of communication with the residents in regards to the recent high usage of water and encouraging water conservation by all users.

There was discussion about ways to communicate with the residents about water usage. Superintendent Jones will speak with the Police Chief about using the electronic message board. A message will also be put on the District's sandwich board signs and on the Rye Water District website. Information will also be sent to the selectmen's secretary at the Town to post on the Town's website and Facebook page.

**Motion by Tom Clifford to accept the Superintendent's report for the month of May.**

**Seconded by Ralph Hickson.**

**Roll Call: Ralph Hickson – Yes; Tom Clifford – Yes; Art Ditto – Yes**

**Motion passed.**

#### **V. Cash Flow Reports & Budget Review**

The Commissioners reviewed the cash flow report and reviewed the budget expenditures for the month of May. They also reviewed the first quarter billing return and year-to-date expenditures, as compared to 2019. There were no issues or concerns noted at this time.

**Motion by Ralph Hickson to accept the cash flow reports. Seconded by Tom Clifford.**

**Roll Call: Ralph Hickson – Yes; Tom Clifford – Yes; Art Ditto – Yes**

**Motion passed.**

**VI. Treasurer's Reports**

*\*Tabled*

**VII. Old Business**

**a. Annual Meeting Update & Public Hearing**

The public hearing for the warrant articles regarding the Garland Road pump house rehab and the Wallis Road main replacement will be held via Zoom on June 10<sup>th</sup>. Public notices of the meeting have been posted in the newspaper.

The annual meeting is tentatively scheduled for June 27<sup>th</sup> pending future orders by the Governor with regards to group gatherings. The District is currently searching for an outside location to hold the meeting, as the junior high school is closed to outside activities and is not an option at this time. The District will be following CDC Guidelines for social distancing and no contact for the meeting. The annual meeting will be noticed on the Rye Water District website, as well as the Town's, and will be posted at the Town Hall and Library.

**VIII. New Business**

**a. Water Usage Notice**

*\*Addressed above*

**IX. Correspondence**

*\*None*

**X. Town Planning and Zoning Minutes**

*\*No areas of concern for the Water District were noted in the Town planning or zoning minutes.*

**XI. Other Business**

*\*None*

**Adjournment**

**Motion by Ralph Hickson to adjourn at 10:03 a.m. Seconded by Tom Clifford.**

**Roll Call: Tom Clifford – Yes; Ralph Hickson – Yes; Art Ditto – Yes**

**Motion passed.**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Dyana Ledger