

**RYE WATER DISTRICT
MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, September 4, 2024 – 8:30 a.m.
Water District Office – 60 Sagamore Rd.**

Commissioners Present:

**Scott Marion, Chair
Rosalie Lopresto, Vice-Chair
Tom Mack**

Others Present:

**Arik Jones, Superintendent
Dyana Ledger, Business Manager
Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce
Brian Goetz – *(left meeting at 9:50 am)***

I. Call to Order

Chair Marion called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

II. Approval of Minutes

- August 7th

**Motion by Rosalie Lopresto to approve the minutes of August 7, 2024, as presented.
Seconded by Tom Mack. All in favor.**

III. Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3 II, (I) Legal

At 8:45 a.m., Rosalie Lopresto made a motion to go into Non-Public Session per RSA 91A:3, II (I) Legal. Seconded by Tom Mack

Roll Call: Rosalie Lopresto – Aye; Tom Mack – Aye; Scott Marion – Aye

The Commission came out of non-public session at 9:49 a.m.

IV. Superintendent Report for August

Superintendent Arik Jones gave his report and reviewed pumping data for the month of August.

- Rye supplied water pumped about 17.2 million gallons in August, which is about 3 million gallons more than last year. However, July of this year the total was just over 21 million gallons, so the usage is significantly down for August in comparison to the month of July. July usage was higher than three of the past years. August has been lower than two other years. The yearly totals show that usage is down overall for 2024.
- The operators have installed about 200 new meters and are still working on installs.
- The computer technician has been working on updating all staff emails. New computer equipment has been ordered for the new administrator.

Motion by Rosalie Lopresto to accept the Superintendent's Report for August. Seconded by Tom Mack. All in favor.

V. Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce

Chris Berg, Wright-Pierce, gave an update to the Commission in regard to ongoing projects. He spoke about the availability of a strategic planning grant in the amount of \$30,000., which is a matching grant. The application is due in November if the District would like to put a project forward. He and Superintendent Jones will be meeting with Blue Leaf to discuss the logistics of the proposed piloting for the central treatment plant.

There was discussion about the piloting program. The Commission agreed to hold off on signing the contract with Wright-Pierce for the piloting until the new RWD Administrator, Brian Goetz, has a chance to review the proposal and give his thoughts. There was also some discussion about the treatment of iron and manganese and solutions that are successful.

The Commission discussed moving forward with the water quality testing at the Brown property and timing for doing the work. The Commission agreed to move forward by the first part of October. Chair Marion will reach out to the RCC Chair to give an update. Superintendent Jones will contact Maher Services to inquire about availability and coordinate a date to start the work. If they are not readily available, he will reach out to some other well drillers. The first step would be to cut and clear the brush on the site to have access to the testing location.

Mr. Berg noted that the Lead Service Line Inventory loan application has been submitted to NH DES. This loan has a seventy-one percent principal forgiveness. A warrant article will need to be drafted for the 2025 District Meeting. The Lead Service Line Inventory project will be wrapped up in the next couple of weeks to submit the inventory to DES to comply with the October 15th deadline. There is some notification that will need to take place with property owners who have unknown services.

The Asset Management report is ready for review and will be sent to the Commissioners' email.

VI. Business:

a. Utility Billing Software

Business Manager Dyana Ledger reported that the District's current billing software is being upgraded by gWorks Utility Billing. GWorks recently purchased UBMax Softline Data, which is the District's current billing system. UBMax will no longer be available to its current customers after 2024, as gWorks is phasing out the programming. The Water District is not being charged the initial onboarding fee for the upgrade; however, the District will see an increase in upcoming budgets for yearly licensing costs. The Business Manager will be working closely with gWorks to be sure the transition is as seamless as possible.

b. PFAS Settlements

Business Manager Ledger reported that all correspondence received regarding any pending PFAS court settlements have been forwarded to Attorney Keriann Roman. Attorney Roman will keep the Commissioners updated as new information on each case becomes available.

VII. Other Business

None

Adjournment

Motion by Rosalie Lopresto to adjourn at 11:20 p.m. Seconded by Tom Mack. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Dyana F Ledger