

CAMBRIDGE WATER BOARD

**MEETING MINUTES**

March 8, 2022

*Due to COVID-19, this meeting is available virtually on Zoom. This meeting is being recorded.*

This meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m. at 250 Fresh Pond Parkway, in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Those in attendance via *Zoom* were:

**Cambridge Water Board (CWB):** Mike McNeley, James Burruss and Kathleen Kelly  
**Cambridge Water Department (CWD):** Tim Puopolo, Dave Kaplan, Jamie O'Connell, Krystyna McInally, Fred Centanni, Julie Greenwood-Torelli and Mark Gallagher

**A. MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 8, 2022, MEETING**

Mr. McNeley moved, and Mr. Burruss seconded the motion to approve the February 8, 2022, minutes as written. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

**B. MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

2021 Fresh Pond Reservation Ranger Annual Report: Ranger Tim Puopolo touched on the following Fresh Pond Reservation outreach and education categories:

- Informal Outreach
- Educational Outreach
- Virtual Outreach
- Spotlight Program/Monarch Butterfly Program

Mr. Centanni will email Ranger Tim's presentation to board members who were not present at this meeting. A link to this presentation can be found at:

<https://www.cambridgema.gov/-/media/Files/waterdepartment/waterboardminutes/2021rangerreport.pdf>

*Questions/Comments:* Mr. Kaplan thanked Ranger Tim for the presentation and said it's important for board members to see the open space management side of the work we do. Mr. McNeley especially liked the YouTube content and asked about future upcoming episodes. Ranger Tim said he plans to make a show about raccoons and deer. Ranger Tim's YouTube videos are available at YouTube/Fresh Pond Reservation.

The Monarch Butterfly Release Program will happen again this year. We are waiting cautiously to hear if our biggest public event of the year, Fresh Pond Day, will go on. The event is coordinated by the City Manager's office and is typically held the first weekend in June. Planning for us typically begins in January. If we hear, we will let the board know. A mini-Fresh Pond Day (in-house version) would be an option if Fresh Pond Day isn't held this year.

*Drought /Water Conservation Update:* We are in a good place with 3.5" above average precipitation for this calendar year (22). Reservoirs continue to be full.

Key Topics: Drought/Water Conservation Update, PFAS6 Update, COVID-19 Update,  
Fresh Pond Reservation Annual Report

*Covid-19 Update:* Currently staffing is at 50%. Beginning March 14, 2022, we will be back to 100% staffing in the building and beginning March 28<sup>th</sup> masks will no longer be required to be worn in municipal buildings.

*PFAS6 Update:* We continue to be in full compliance with the Mass DEP PFAS Regulations. February tested at 11.7 ppt. Working hard with CDM and expect the Granular Activated Carbon (GAC) Media replacement project to be bid out within the next few weeks.

*Questions/Comments:* It was asked if we will have data (from the installed and operating new filters) to review at the May waterboard meeting. Mr. Centanni said if the bid schedule works out according to plan, we should be starting the filter media replacement by the beginning of June.

## **C. OPERATIONS**

### **Transmission and Distribution:**

*Questions/Comments:* No Comments

### **Watershed:**

*Questions/Comments:* It was noted there was not too much change from last month's report. Continue managing Stony Brook elevation at lower level (test run) to see if we can make headway on reducing the area that invasive Milfoil and Water Chestnuts occupy.

### **Water Operations:**

*Questions/Comments:* Congratulations to the lab - recipients of the CDC 2020 Fluoridation Award. (The award arrived this week.)

### **Engineering:**

*Questions/Comments:* No Comments

### **Business/Billing:**

*Questions/Comments:* Billing is up 6% from last year.

## **D. ACTION ITEMS**

None

## **E. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE AND ITEMS OF INTEREST**

*Questions/Comments:* None

## **F. NEW BUSINESS**

## **G. NEXT MEETING DATES/AGENDA – Meetings via Zoom**

- April 12, 2022: Approved/Distribution Update
- May 10, 2022: Approved/PFAS/GAC Filter Media Update
- June 14, 2022: TBA/FY23 Budget

Ms. Kelly moved, and Mr. McNeley seconded the motion to adjourn the Zoom meeting at 5:50 pm. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.