

TRI TOWN BOARD  
of Water Commissioners  
Braintree, Holbrook, Randolph

MINUTES

Thursday, July 27, 2023  
Johnson Chamber - Braintree Town Hall

Present: Mayor Charles C. Kokoros, Chair, Town of Braintree, Bill Alexopoulos, Town of Randolph, Katherine Goldrick, Town of Holbrook.

In attendance: Helen Gordon, Lou Dutton, Crystal Huff, Lorraine See, Jim Arsenault, Brian Howard, Chris Dapson

Mayor Kokoros opened the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

Mayor Kokoros took roll call attendance – all Tri-Town Board of Water Commissioners member present: Mayor Charles Kokoros, William Alexopoulos, Katherine Goldrick

**Mayor Kokoros asks Commissioner Goldrick to introduce herself.**

Ms. Goldrick serves as the Chair of the Holbrook Select Board – she was elected in April 2023. She served on the Holbrook Board of Health as the Chair for 6 or 7 years. Ms. Goldrick is familiar with the Tri-Town process and was been watching from afar and happy to serve on the Commission.

Jim Arsenault introduced self as DPW Director for the Town of Braintree - he explains that he has been working as Project Manager for three towns.

Lorraine See introduced self as working in Braintree Finance Department

Lou Dutton introduced self as Supt of Braintree Water and Sewer

Crystal Huff introduced self as Braintree's Town Solicitor

Chris Dapson introduced self as project engineer with Environmental Partners

**Construction Update: Scope, schedule, and Budget**

Construction schedule was distributed to Commissioners.

Helen Gordon - Environmental Partners - Updated pictures shown of the complete site. Good progress is being made.

Construction looks to finish on time. Baseline schedule has been finalized and approved with Walsh and Environmental Partners.

Scheduled to be completed in 2025.

Budget Status: Overall Budget discussed in US Army Corp section of agenda.

**SRF Reimbursement update:** Reimbursement paperwork for drawn down #1 has been submitted to Mass DEP and to all communities. These need to be sign immediately. (Randolph and Braintree received – waiting on Holbrook). Working on getting contractor and design engineer signature for the final submission.

**US Army Corps Permit:**

Final project financial impact on the change to the Corp of Engineers permit.

Commissioners have report titled “**Costs Associated with New Army Corps Permit Conditions**”

June overall of estimate to be \$614,871.22. As of now ( July 2023) Costs including: PAL,EP, Change Order #1, PCO-02 – Tribal Overnight and PCO -O2 Costs incurred by Walsh are \$536,329.91. \$87,136 was the initial Tribal cost only ( previous change order – pre change of permit requirements).

A potential change order was presented from Walsh titled “**Potential Change Order PCO No.2 Negotiation with Walsh** ( for \$343,253.66 – vote needed.

Another potential change order to come – final number hasn’t arrived from PAL. Estimated \$20,000.

Commissioner Alexopoulos has requested all dollar amounts to be presented in a clearer form – format is confusing. Willing to take vote. Needs to see a summary table.

***Vote on Change Order #2***

***A vote to approve Change Order #2 for the Tri-Town Water Treatment Plant Project in the amount of \$343,253.66. Change Order # 2 covers the cost of the archaeological excavation and tribal oversight in accordance with the revised US Army Permit NAE – 2016-01052 Tri – Town Water District General Permit dated March 13, 2023.***

*MOTION: Mr. Alexopoulos*

*SECOND: by Ms. Goldrick*

*o No Discussion*

*Roll Call Vote:*

*Mayor Kokoros – Yes*

*Mr. Alexopoulos – Yes*

*Ms. Goldrick – Yes*

*Vote : Unanimous*

Helen Gordon commented that the balance of the contingency funds is \$4,465,741.79.

**MWRA DISCHARGE PERMIT:**

Ms. Gordon – waiting on go ahead on pilot that AECOM presented to MWRA. Site visit in May. Crystal Huff in attendance at the meeting. MWRA verbally committed that it appeared to be acceptable – but no official letter as of yet.

Mr. Alexopoulos asked if this is for residuals. Confirmed by Ms. Gordon that this is fir residual disposal.

Ms. Gordon continued that a small unit will replicate the treatment process and produce sludge to test. Sludge will be tested. The challenge is the PFAS. Measure the PFAS on a consistent basis and THEN MWRA will decide on the permit. If no permit is given, AECOM will have to move ahead with the lagoon design. Ms. Gordon is contacting the MWRA on a regular basis to get them to accept this.

Mr. Dutton received sign off from the MWRA on the updated permit. He has not signed off on it. Has update of pilot study, has EPA 1633 – new testing. Ms. Huff asked for it to be forwarded to herself and Ms. Gordon. Mr. Dutton received letter last week..

Ms. Gordon will present AECOM scope and budget at next meeting.

**APPOINTMENT FOR HOLBROOK BOARD REPRESENTATIVE:**

Ms. Gordon stated that the intermunicipal agreement was that the seats for the board would be rolling. Everyone would not change out at same time. Agreement is 3-year seat for Braintree, 2- year seat for Randolph, 1-year seat for Holbrook – that was up in June. A vote is needed.

Ms. Goldrick states that Holbrook is without a Town Administrator at the moment. She states that she will serve in the role.

**Motion to appointment Katie Goldrick as the Holbrook Tri-Town representative for the next three years.**

*MOTION: Mr. Alexopoulos*

*SECOND: Mayor Kokoros*

*o No Discussion*

*Roll Call Vote:*

*Mayor Kokoros – Yes*

*Mr. Alexopoulos – Yes*

*Ms. Goldrick – Yes*

*Vote : Unanimous*

Board members had brief discussion on former Tri-Town board members.

Mr. Alexopoulos asks about the DEP letter about removing equipment on the Randolph side of site. Letter stated that no one should be walking around the property. Ms. Gordon recommends updating the Water Shed Management Plan. Assets Management grant is available for \$150,000 that may be able to put toward this plan. Applications are due August 11<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Gordon stated that the application could be put together and submitted on Randolph's behalf. Mr. Alexopoulos asks what the purpose is. Ms. Gordon responds that the purpose is to get a grant up to \$150,000 to do the Water Shed Management Plan. Ms. Gordon explains, The Water Shed Management Plan would look at all potential liability impacts to the water supply and come up with recommendations on improvements, which could include adding fences, posting new signs and creating a public notice process to remind people that this is a water supply. There definitely needs to be more management from that perspective.

Mr. Alexopoulos states that Randolph has a councilor who wants to use the area. Ms. Gordon states that it is not a recreational site. It is a water supply and it should be protected from potential containments and terrorism. Mayor Kokoros asks if they should memorialize it in a letter from Tri-Town and focus on items that DEP stating until study is done. Letter may state that based on notice from DEP items need to be removed and no one is allowed to use area as a recreational area. Use wording from DEP. Ms. Gordon adds that a construction site will in the area. This is a Joint Water Board issue. Ms. Gordon and former Randolph DPW Director and Randolph Chief of Police walked the area and discussed that area should be isolated and again more police presence. Mr. Alexopoulos states that a formal letter would be helpful. Ms. Gordon asks Chris to form letter.

Mayor Kokoros states that Tri-Town will have to get own counsel. KP Law sent information. Could look at other companies as well. Ms. Huff has doing a lot of the legal stuff, be Tri Town needs separate counsel.

Mayor Kokoros stated that Braintree has had complaints about speeding trucks on King Hill Road. Mr. Arsenault states that a sensor device was installed by Braintree Police and speed is being monitored. Action will be taken as needed.

**FUTURE MEETING DATES:**

Wednesday, August 23rd at 10 a.m.

**Motion to adjourn**

*MOTION: Mr. Alexopoulos*

*SECOND: Mayor Kokoros*

o *No Discussion*

*Roll Call Vote:*

*Mayor Kokoros – Yes*

*Mr. Alexopoulos – Yes*

*Ms. Goldrick – Yes*

*Vote : Unanimous*

*Respectfully Submitted,  
Kate N. Naughton  
Recording Secretary*