

Dighton Water District
192 Williams Street
North Dighton, MA 02764

Patrick Menges

Bethany Collins

Edward Swartz

Trustees

The following meeting was neither audio taped nor video recorded.

Regular Meeting
Board of Trustees of
Dighton Water District Resources, Exploration, Acquisition, and Development Trust
“The Water Resources Trustees”
Thursday, 19 September 2013, 9:00 o’clock A.M.
District Headquarters

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Dighton Water District Water resources Exploration, Acquisition, and Development Trust [“Water Resources Trustees”] for September was called to order in the conference room of Water District Headquarters by Chairman Patrick Menges on Thursday, 19 September 2013, at 9 o’clock A.M., with Trustee Bethany Collins present and Trustee (and Clerk of Board) Edward Swartz absent.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag, the Chairman requested a delay until October, of the approval of the minutes of the Trustees’ regular monthly meeting of 15 August 2013. On a motion of trustee Bethany Collins, the delay was unanimously voted.

The Chairman announced that he knew of no correspondence for the Trustees’ attention.

The Chairman reported the Financial Condition of the Trust as consisting of a still unfunded budget. He noted that the Trust would soon be facing a liability of \$850.00 to Attorney Fredericks to pay the Internal Revenue Service Tax Exempt Status Application Fee.

On a motion of Trustee Bethany Collins, seconded by Trustee Patrick Menges, it was unanimously voted by the Trustees present, to ask that a special Dighton Water District meeting be asked to transfer \$850.00 from free cash to enable the Trust to obtain its vital tax exempt status from the federal Internal Revenue Service.

Under Old Business, it was noted that the Trust's organizational legalities were attended to in August (articles of organization and by laws amended as necessary to satisfy the Internal Revenue Service's requirements to qualify the Trust for tax exemption, as advised by Attorney Fredericks.

The Trustees again postponed a report by Mr. Swartz on an approach to Mr. Gilbert Lopes for possible Trust acquisition of the Wellington Acres, LLC. Pond as a future District water resource.

It was agreed that the Trustees will meet on Thursday, 24 September 2013, at 9:00 o'clock A.M., at the 42 Summer Street home of Trustee Collins, thence to tour three potential water resource acquisition sites, being riparian land along the Three Mile River for a possible future well field; and surface water sources, Muddy Cove Pond (and dam), and Wellington Acres, LLC., Pond.

Mr. Donald French, maintenance engineer, former keeper of Imperial Chemical Industries, Ltd., (finally "Zeneca") Dighton water resources, now retired, visited the board, to give information to the trustees about the two (2) now capped artesian wells that had once been drilled at Zeneca, off of Main and Elm Streets and their potential for possible revival for future use.

Mr. French stated that Zeneca had required quantities of water for cooling of its chemical vats. The company formerly had a two (2") inch main supplied by the Town of Somerset. It then had a six (6") inch main supplied by the Dighton Water District (1950). In 1955, the reservoir (Muddy Cove Brook west of Elm Street dam) was built. It had copioeces water but the water temperatures of seventy (70°) degrees in the summertime had been too warm for water supposed to be useable to cool chemical processing vats.

Therefore, Mr. French recalled, Zeneca (Predecessor Arnold Hoffman Co.) sank an artesian well on company land south of the public library on the east side of Elm Street near the chain link fence where the Dighton Water District pit meter was. It had a ten (10") inch submersible pump and yielded 100 gallons per minute. Later, a second well, between the company's main office and the Public Library, just south of the E-W library site boundary, was sunk, yielding even better volume than the first, but the second well was not used-Zeneca ceased operation in 2004-2005. These wells were capped, but though there are no present plans to do so, they could be revived (by sistering new wells next to old).

The well water from these wells were high in iron oxide but the wells themselves were fine-the iron could be removed if the public were to use this water.

Mr. French stated that there are state records of the withdrawals and water quality is actually "Sally Richmond Brook" until it comes up to the dam on the west side of Elm Street), that these records may be in corporate headquarters in Wilmington, Delaware, and that Richard Scott of Lakeville, head engineer of Zeneca, used to hand deliver these reports. Mr. French said that it is possible that these statistics are also in the archives of the public library.

The Trustees thanked Mr. French for his information and accepted his invitation to have him take us on a tour of the gated former mill site to view the now capped wells at a mutually convenient future date.

The trustees were told that the Water District is expecting soon to have Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection authorization to take by eminent domain Linsey Family Trust property on Williams Street for protection of the purity of the Water District's Walker Street wells.

The Water Resources Trust will provide its data and acquisition target information to Ralph Wilmer for the forthcoming (new) Dighton Master Plan.

The next meeting of the Water Resources board of Trustees will be on Thursday, 17 October 2013, at 9:00 A.M., it was announced.

There were no acknowledgments except thanks to Donald French for his great report on the former Zeneca wells. There was no public input.

On a motion of Trustee Collins, seconded by Trustee Menges, the board voted to adjourn without day, at 10:26 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick W. Menges
Chairman of the Trustees
