

Commissioner Meeting Minutes
July 15, 2026

Meeting called to order at 4:00 pm.

All Board members present

The Board reviewed and signed Warrants

Mr. Bursch made a motion to approve the minutes of June 24, 2026. Mr. Emkey, second, all in favor.

Lou Saracco with Tighe & Bond sat with the Board to review options to move forward. Mr. Emkey felt regardless of treatment options that a transmission main from the Keatings well to the Lancaster wells would be needed. The rest of the Board felt the residents had expressed concern about spending money before the regulations were set. As of now the District would need to become compliant with all regulations by 2029 unless an extension is approved to extend that by two years to 2031. After discussion the Board all agreed to wait for regulations to be set.

The District is still trying a different method of blending the wells to see if the PFAS and manganese levels will go down. The Supt will continue to monitor as the Lancaster Ave wells reach low quantity levels.

At the last meeting Mr. Emkey spoke about the Water District's easement at the Hickory Hills well. He felt the easement stated the District could request a variance for the Woodland's Condo association to leave their kayak rack in the Zone I area. Mr. Woodward did not agree, he felt the easement stated it needed to be related to the water supply to request that. The Clerk spoke with legal counsel, and they were providing a draft response to the Woodland's regarding the rack. The Board agreed they would have an executive session at the next meeting to discuss this issue.

The Clerk received a public records request for the past two years credit card statements. Most of this information is in storage and she asked the Board if she could charge the resident a fee associated with providing this information due to the time it would take her to fulfill this request. The Board all agreed that she could.

The Clerk asked the Board if they would like to put a post on Facebook stating if residents have questions or concerns, they should contact the District directly. The Clerk stated that the Citizens for Water group recently posted telling the residents that the water was safe and the manganese levels have gone down. They did this without consulting the District, so they are putting false information out there to the public. The Board suggested that they work on getting something together that might help the public understand how the Water District is mandated to test and comply with all MassDEP regulations.

The Commissioner's meeting schedule was discussed. The Board felt it was best to move the next meeting out another week. Mr. Bursch made a motion to change the regular scheduled meeting for July 22nd to July 29th with an executive session to follow. Mr. Emkey second, all in favor.

The Supt asked the Board about the potential well site on Goodrich St. Since the Town changed their zoning protection, that site is no longer protected. He asked the Board if he could reach out to the landowner and inquire about purchasing that area. The Board agreed it would be worth looking into and protecting any future well sites.

Mr. Emkey followed up with his question to the Supt at the last meeting about what would constitute restrictions being placed on the sale of water. The Supt felt that would happen would the demand for water could not be met.

Public Comment

Dave Rogers, 82 Highland St told the Clerk when providing public records requests to make sure that any personal information, like the credit card numbers are blacked out.

Meeting adjourned 5:30 p.m.

Minutes by Christina Schwinger