

**Minutes of the Town of Dover BOH Water Resources Study Committee**  
**June 17, 2020**

**Members participating remotely:** Professor Gerald Clarke, Chairman; Carol Lisbon, Greg Kahoun, Ron Myrick, Justine Kent-Uritam

1. Meeting was called to order at 8:04 am.
2. Carol Chirico has resigned given her involvement as Chair of the Planning Board.
3. Professor Clarke asked members of the WRSC for their thoughts on the recent public meeting (via zoom) of the Hydrology Report presentation to the town:
  - Ron thought the report was positive and a strong tool to use going forward, providing information on water conditions in the town.
  - Justine remarked that the report is the beginning of a 5 year collection of data and supported the recommendations on water conservation whether on a pws or private well.
  - Greg noted that the report was comprehensive and would be helpful in determining drought cycles going forward.
  - Carol L. commented that Kirsten did a great job with the report and presentation. The recommendations were perhaps not specific enough and the committee should put together a strategic and practical plan.
4. A motion was made by Gerald to authorize the expenditure of the remaining balance of \$6900 to undertake the next round of measurements. The motion was seconded by Greg and approved unanimously.
5. Gerald informed the committee that there are funds in the BOH operating budget for FY21 that may be used to cover the costs of additional readings. Ron noted that the transducers are measuring continuously and recommended that professionals be used to write the reports and do monthly maintenance checks.
6. A motion to authorize the expenditure of funds for the purpose of maintaining and recording measurements from the monitoring wells was made by Justine and seconded by Carol. The motion was approved unanimously.
7. It was stated that the level of precipitation and consumption has impacts on the future of water availability in town. Since two thirds of the town use private wells, it is impossible to know how much water is actually used. Conservation would be voluntary and not measurable.
8. Justine commented that Ipswich was successful in instituting restrictions. Water meters can be installed on private wells, irrigation systems can be curtailed or modified once the public comes to understand that water is a limited resource.

9. Gerald stated that there is a state regulation that new irrigation systems must have interrupting devices and not operate when the soil does not require it.
10. It was learned that the MWRA Operating Procedure 10 precludes Dover's application for membership as the town can access Elm Bank for water.
11. Ron stated that monitoring the groundwater will give the town data to help make informed decisions realizing that some areas of town might be more susceptible to lack of water than others.
12. A discussion ensued regarding Colonial Water and the boil water order with 84 town residents participating via zoom.
13. An explanation of E. Coli bacteria was given as well as possible symptoms of illness resulting from ingesting contaminated water. Suspected illnesses related to drinking the water will be forwarded to the public health nurse.
14. It was uncertain when the boil order would be lifted. This was the second occurrence within a twelve month period, indicating that the EPA, on the federal level, would be involved with the DEP to find a resolution to this water crisis.
15. There was a suggestion that UVC be used to properly sanitize the Colonial Water system as it is now used by many public water systems as safe and highly effective.
16. Colonial Water had delivered a tanker of fresh water to the town garage for its customers but was waiting approval from the DEP to dispense. Customers will need to bring their own containers.
17. The Board of Health could not recommend using dishwashers even on the sanitizing cycle as it is unknown how hot the water gets and if it actually kills the bacteria.
18. Ron stated that it is highly unlikely that the contamination in Colonial Water's wells could contaminate a private drilled well even if the wells are in the same vicinity.
19. The meeting adjourned at 10:12 am.

Karen R. Hayett