

Board of Water Commissioners

2023 Annual Report

The Board elected Michael Corda as chairman of the Board. Appointed were Wendy Graves as Treasurer and Marry Bassett as District counsel.

During the past year the Commissioners worked on many projects as well as the general management of the operations of the District.

1. The Board met with the Select Board and went before Town meeting to receive approval to use a portion of Town land off of Powerline Drive for the purpose of constructing a PFAS and Iron and manganese treatment facility. Town meeting approved the use of the land for that purpose and authorized the Select Board to negotiate a lease agreement between the two parties.
2. The Board acquired the services of Scanlon & Associates to perform a financial audit of the District finances and procedures. This audit is completed annually consistent with sound financial practice and in conformance with state and federal requirements. This year's audit showed no deficiencies.
3. The Board has continued to review and manage the "Other Post Employee Benefits" trust fund. The OPEB trust committee continues to manage the "Trust Fund" and has realized a positive return on the investment. At the present time the District has funded a significant portion of fund requirements.
4. The Board met with customers who were present at the August Commissioners meeting to address dirty water complaints caused by the Trinity Ave well needing to be used. It was explained that the water was safe to use and that as soon as the East Street well was back online it would be shut off. The cause was investigated and determined that an Iron and Manganese plant would need to be built.
5. The Board received approval of 23 million dollars from the State Revolving Fund Loan to build PFAS treatment plants at the Worcester street and East street wells.
6. The Board approved an increase in the connection fees starting on December 1, 2023. The reason for the increase is to offset the costs of the construction costs of over 35 million for PFAS treatment, which has been mandated by the EPA.
7. The Board wishes to thank the staff of the Water District for operating the water system and maintaining it in great condition and continuing to provide safe dependable water to our customers.