

## Minutes of the Penacook/Boscawen Water Precinct

Location of Meeting: 9 Woodbury Lane  
Boscawen, N.H. 03303

Present at Meeting: Bruce Crawford, Commissioner  
Bill Murphy, Commissioner  
Nathan Young, Commissioner  
Lauren Hargrave, Clerk  
Cheryl Mitchell, Administrative Consultant  
Greg Smith, Wright-Pierce

The regular meeting of the Penacook/Boscawen Water Precinct was called to order at 9 Woodbury Lane, Boscawen, N.H. on January 12, 2022, at 5:30 p.m. by Commissioner Bruce Crawford, Chair.

### **Financial Update:**

Commissioners signed manifest and checks.

### **New Business:**

5:30 PM Greg Smith Wright-Pierce Well # 4: Greg Smith of Wright-Pierce presented a PowerPoint presentation to the Commissioners regarding a proposed Well #4 for the Precinct. Wright-Pierce normally works with water/waste water infrastructure and Greg Smith's primary job is with ground water wells and he has two women who are junior hydro-geos which collaborate with him. Greg explained that they did some riding around and boating in Boscawen and it gave them a good understanding of the geology. Greg showed a photo of the boat ramp down by the Merrimack County facility and explained that the water has high iron content. Currently the Precinct has all their wells on one site, which could potentially create a problem if an unexpected accident occurs. Therefore, Greg recommended looking into other sites as it will be the best option for the Precinct, noting the State likes to see this and like redundancy. Currently the State is pumping up funding regarding Manganese, which the Precinct has, so it puts the Precinct in an advantageous position for funding. Greg explained that the Precinct has some deep spots based on the Well data, 60-100 feet, which is more than enough to get a 1mgd Well or more. Additionally, if you are close to a river which provides recharge, that is an additional asset. Greg further explained that a lot of GIS mapping and data was pulled together looking for ice contact deposits. He explained that the existing mapping and Well data was also reviewed. A large focus was placed on

optimizing a connection to the current water system. Pipe line work runs one-million dollars a mile. Greg's team also reviewed a lot of different reports. Greg further explained his experience and that his goal is to get the Precinct what it desires at the most efficient cost. Greg went on to explain the sites which were identified for a new Well explaining that the hardest and next part of the project will be getting onto the sites by acquiring permission from the land site owners. Once permission is granted the team would be able to do some geo-physical type surveys which will provide a lot of information unadvisedly and relatively quickly. Greg noted that the most promising sites were on farmland and that there are ways where the farm can plant around the Well field, but they were not allowed to apply certain things around the protected radius of the Well, which is four hundred feet. Greg pointed out five favorable areas on a map to be looking at for a new Well site. The three sites which are the most favorable with a good yield potential and connected to the River, which means drought resistant, are owned by Crete. A brief discussion took place regarding potential locations, property owners, easements, and proximity to a road/street. Greg noted that all three Crete Family property locations have bio-solid spreading, mostly manure which is a non-issue, but soil samples should be obtained prior to drilling. In closing the recommendations were to start out with electrical redispo surveys using a straight survey line, approximately four hundred meters, which will be subcontracted out with a junior team member helping. The electrical redispo shoots low levels of electricity in the ground which a computer reads as points on a line in different combinations, contouring the diverse types of soil which will aid in the cost factors down the line and give a better idea of where to locate a Well. Further, Greg noted that a grant application was put together with the max numbers. Meeting with the property's owner/s will be imperative to discuss the process, location, etc. After the geo-physical is completed and the optimum location located from that survey, and before any drilling, the Precinct will need an option agreement which will take the involvement of an attorney. Commissioner Bill Murphy explained that the furthest Oxbow to the south is zoned industrial and that most can not be used as industrial as it is too low, but there are sections on the property which would be more valuable than others. The middle Oxbow is agricultural, and the upper Oxbow is agricultural with a conservation easement on it. A brief discussion was held regarding a conservation easement. Greg went on to explain that after option agreements are in place a small test Well drilling program going down to bedrock or till. He further explained the drilling method and procedure, noting that he utilizes a person from Maine who is savvier and more cost efficient than anyone in New Hampshire. Greg also reported that they did apply for a fifty-thousand-dollar grant for the Precinct. It came up quickly and the Precinct is not obligated to accept it if the approval goes through. If the money is not spent, then the Precinct would have to return the money. This grant program will come up again next year. There is also the ability to apply to State Revolving Fund (SRF) loan funding, which is low interest loans, guessing that the Precinct will fall under the middle category, would be around twenty percent. Another option is the ground water trust, which is difficult to obtain, and need would have to be shown, but it may be worth applying for. Additionally, there is potentially a lot more funding coming down the road. A brief discussion was held regarding water quality, Manganese, and chemicals for water treatment. Greg noted that Concord would be open working with the Precinct in developing the site, but the Precinct must get through

the test well drilling process first. Then there could be some sort of agreement which could be worked out with Concord. Commissioner Nathan Young pointed out that he believes the Precinct does not have a lot of interest in overdeveloping to back-feed Concord. If Concord had a safe yield and wanted to contract with Boscawen to supply water that would be considered instead of developing a new Well. Commissioner Bill Murphy questioned if there was exploration done down by the Contoocook River, specifically by the gravel pit, noting they did some processing and got actual stone out of the area. However, there is an issue with the current land owner, so getting permission may be an issue, but if it is a viable option, it may be worth looking at. A brief discussion took place regarding the surrounding property and development around that area. Commissioner Bill Murphy will reach out and have a conversation with Martha, Adam and Sarah Crete regarding the Well issue and the potential sites on the Crete Family property.

#### **Approval of minutes from last meeting:**

***Commissioner Bill Murphy made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting minute of December 22, 2021. Seconded by Commissioner Nathan Young. Passed Unanimously.***

#### **New Business Continued:**

1. Reminder to put in Bill-Alice Lane Credit: ***Commissioner Bill Murphy made a motion to approve a credit for Bill-Alice Lane in the amount of \$60.90. Seconded by Commissioner Nathan Young. Passed Unanimously.***

#### **Old Business:**

1. Webster Land Sale: Commissioner Bill Murphy noted that Mason Donovan hired Absolute Title for his part, Marea Santos hired an Attorney for her part, Coats hired Absolute Title, and nothing else has been heard. It appears to be on track.
2. PowerUp Service Contract: Commissioner Nathan Young noted that he needs to fill-in a few things and sign the annual contract and credit application to send to PowerUp. Once completed the Precinct will be good to go for the year, with the spring being the major and the fall being the minor visits. PowerUp will reach out to the Precinct in the spring for scheduling.
3. Dollar General Failed Back Flow Tests: Inspection and letter to be written still.
4. Winter Shut Offs: Still have questions for Pennichuck.
5. Annual Meeting, Reports and Deadlines: Commissioner Nathan Young will write up the annual write-up for the Precinct. The Annual meeting date is set for the day before Town meeting.
6. Well field issues: access pad well 2: On hold until spring.

7. Funding for Generators from EPA/ DES: Nothing to note currently.
8. Crete Farm Possible Leak. On hold until spring.

#### **New Business Continued:**

1. Virus Renewal for Precinct Computer: A brief discussion took place regarding renewal/updating the anti-virus for the Precinct computer. McAfee is on the computer but seems to have had expired. A quick review of the computer was made for an anti-virus. Commissioner Nathan Young will speak with his contact regarding a good free anti-virus and will email the information to Lauren Hargrave to install.
2. Questions on the 2022 Budget: Commissioner Bill Murphy noted that the land sale in revenue is clearly explained. A two percent rate increase would keep up with a little bit of inflation and is very reasonable. The base rate would remain the same at \$32. The Commissioners reviewed a document showing revenue/expense vs. budget for 2021 and an actual expense for 2019, 2020 and 2021 document, both provided by Cheryl Mitchel, for them to see how each line has trended over a three-year period. Special projects were hardly used, but if you look at the coming year the budget amount should be left the same because there will be an upcoming large repair down by Berkley's. Commissioner Bill Murphy will continue to review and update a proposed 2022 budget to bring forward during the budget meeting. Pennichuck's budgeted amount will need to be increased according to the Pennichuck contract. Cheryl Mitchel suggested changing the fuel expense to milage stipend. Propane should be increased due to fuel cost increases. The principle of the bonds still needs to be registered. No need to budget the meter bond interest. Budgeted 850,000 for expenses last year approximately 45,000 was towards the meter bonds, which are paid off. A brief discussion took place regarding PDIP interest being so low, at \$89 a month, so instead of the "two percent" it is actually "point zero two percent". A brief discussion took place regarding investment products for the Precinct which needs to be looked at and the interest earned from the Swing accounts.

#### **Long-Term Projects:**

1. CIP Update: Tabled
2. DES Asset Management Survey: Tabled

#### **Meeting Closed:**

***Motion to Close the Meeting by Commissioner Bruce Crawford. Seconded by Commissioner Nathan Young. Passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m. by Commissioner Bruce Crawford, Chair.***

**Next Meeting:**

The Next Regular Meeting Penacook/Boscawen Water Precinct, 9 Woodbury Lane, Boscawen, NH. on, Wednesday, January 26, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: Lauren Hargrave, Recording Clerk on January 18, 2022

Minutes approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ /s/ \_\_\_\_\_ on January 26, 2022

\_\_\_\_\_ /s/ \_\_\_\_\_ on January 26, 2022

\_\_\_\_\_ /s/ \_\_\_\_\_ on January 26, 2022