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## Minutes of Meeting #162

**Feb 7, 2024**

The Maine Public Drinking Water Commission (DWC) held its 162 Meeting on Feb 7, 2024, via Zoom and in person meeting in Augusta.

### Present Were:

**Members:** Brian Tarbuck, Jeff LaCasse, Carol White, Matt Reynolds, Amy Lachance (DWP Director), and Jim Willis (Commission Clerk).

**Non-members:** David Welch, DWP, Maraquita Hollman, DWP, and Eric Gagnon

**Members Not Present Were:** Lee Worcester

**Time:** Carol called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

### A. RECURRING BUSINESS:

- Approval of Minutes, Meeting #161, November 1, 2023
  - Minutes from the November 1, 2023, meeting was approved with spelling correction.
- SFY 2023 AFM Fee Collection Status – D. Welch
  - David Welch from the Drinking Water Program (DWP) updated the Commission on the collection status of the Alternate Funding Mechanism (AFM). To date, the DWP collection rate is slightly above previous years.
  - David stated that we are placing systems who are three years or owe \$500 or more in enforcement to collect overdue AFM.
  - David also stated we are still working on online credit card payments for AFM.
- DWP Financial Report – D. Welch
  - David presented current financial information showing that spending is on target according to budget. David did state that we will have to look at increasing AFM fees in the future.
- DWP General Updates (DWSRF, Staffing, PFAS, Lead Testing in Schools)
  - Current staffing and hiring challenges were discussed.
  - Amy gave an update on PFAS, Lead sampling, and new regulations in the future.
  - Amy gave an update on DWSRF projects.

- Legislation and Rulemaking Update
  - Amy gave an update on PFAS rule making and Legislation.
  - Amy discussed we will need to put in writing requests to increase AFM fees in the future, as any fee increase needs to go through rule making. A motion was made to request in rulemaking to have base fee up to \$100.00 and up to \$1.00 per capita fee. Brian made the motion and Matt seconded the motion to have DWP request above rates added to rulemaking. Motion passed unanimously.
- Review Cadmus Report on Staffing at DWP
  - Amy discussed the results from the Cadmus Report regarding staffing levels needed at the DWP to complete the required work.
- 2023 Public Drinking Water Commission Annual Report
  - Amy and Carol will put together a draft copy and distribute it at the next meeting for discussion.
- DWC Membership Update
  - Discussion of current membership and vacant positions.
- Public Water System Items for Discussion-Public Comment
  - None

#### Meeting Dates for 2024

- May 1, 2024- Augusta/Zoom
- November 6, 2024- Augusta/Zoom