

Board of Water Commissioners

2022 Annual Report

The Board elected , Robert Frederico, Chairman of the Board. Appointed were Wendy Graves as Treasurer and Mary Bassett as District Counsel.

1. The Board is pleased to report that the transition of the organization from a Manager role to the split roles of Business Manager and Water Superintendent has gone smoothly. These two new roles will define the direction of the District and its continued success in supplying affordable water to the District community.
2. The Board thanks the Town of Grafton Select Board and Town Administrator Evan Brassard for the contribution of \$500,000 dollars of Federal ARPA funds to replace an aging waterline on Route 30 near Tufts. The District and Tufts will each contribute an additional \$250,000 each towards the project. This project will ultimately provide better fire protection and water quality to the area.
3. The Board has been very concerned with the EPA's and State's testing requirements for PFAS chemicals. These chemicals are being tested in the "parts per trillion" and if found over the maximum contaminant levels will require very expensive treatment. Treatment could cost between 4-8 million dollars per well. At the present time testing has shown our wells to be below the levels required for treatment.
4. The Board has reviewed the Solar Credits that have accrued since the solar farm on Follette street was installed ten years ago. At present the District has a surplus credit. The Board decided not to sell those credits at this time, but to hold onto them for future electrical consumption demands.
5. 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.
6. The Board is pleased to announce that the painting of the interior and exterior, and safety upgrades to the Pigeon Hill Steel water tank came under budget by almost \$250,000 dollars. The timing of the work contributed to the low price as well as the bidder had done the tank painting 20 years ago and was familiar with the project scope.
7. 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 the fund requirements.
8. 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.

Robert Frederico, Chair
Michael Corda, Commissioner
Ken Grew, Commissioner