

**UPPER BLACKSTONE CLEAN WATER
50 ROUTE 20, MILLBURY, MA 01527-2199
Board Meeting – Via Conference Call/Zoom
(929) 205 6099; Meeting ID: 857 9477 1587**

July 21, 2021

ITEM I - CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Labovites called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

Ms. Mailhot, through a roll call, recorded those in attendance and all are noted below:

Board Members

Matthew Labovites	Chairman
Philip Guerin	Vice Chairman
Robert Moylan	Member
Donald Manseau	Member
Michael Traynor	Member
Joseph Buckley	Member
Joanna Paquin	Member

Upper Blackstone Staff

Karla Sangrey	Engineer Director/Treasurer
Mark Johnson	Deputy Director
Michelle Palmer	Finance Manager
Elizabeth Mailhot	District Clerk

Guest

Doug Stevenson	Energy Options Consulting Group
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Ms. Sangrey said that Doug Stevenson was here to present on the Hampden Solar Project. Chairman Labovites suggested to begin the meeting with Item IV.

ITEM IV – ADMINISTRATION

Hampden Solar Project – Mr. Stevenson has been working with Upper Blackstone on solar projects since 2013. He gave an overview of our current solar projects explaining how the credits fill in lost income for Upper Blackstone. All of these projects are 20-year agreements. The current proposal includes a performance guarantee of 90% including \$8k up front. The agreement would be with a subsidiary owned by Ameresco. Member Traynor moved to approve BAI #1. Vice Chairman Guerin seconded, and through a roll call, a unanimous vote was made to approve a motion to authorize the Engineer Director/Treasurer to negotiate a 20-year agreement for an on-bill credit purchase agreement with Hampden Landfill Solar, LLC for a site at 18 Cross Road, Hampden, MA without further approval of the board.

ITEM II - APPROVAL OF MINUTES – June 30, 2021

Minutes – Member Moylan moved to approve the minutes of the meeting of June 30, 2021. Member Manseau seconded, and through a roll call, a unanimous vote of approval was obtained.

ITEM III – FINANCE

Warrants – Member Traynor moved to approve the following warrants. Member Buckley seconded, and through a roll call, a unanimous vote of approval was made.

Warrants	\$ 214,447.65	(07/07/2021)
	\$ 254,761.66	(07/12/2021)
	<u>\$ 7,168,287.83</u>	(07/19/2021)
TOTAL	\$ 7,637,497.14	

Breakdown of Cash – Maintaining on borrowed funds for cash flow until October.

Aging Report – Looks good - Ms. Sangrey will contact dentist offices in arrears.

Outside Revenue – End of FY20 closed near budget for outside revenues.

ITEM IV – ADMINISTRATION

COVID-19 Update – Upper Blackstone still requires unvaccinated employees and guests to wear masks. Nothing new to report from Worcester. Rutland staff have administered 2,000 vaccinations!

Integrated Planning Update – Expecting 6-month extension on AOC negotiations. A planning meeting is scheduled for tomorrow. EPA did recently issue a report to congress on Integrated Planning; Vice Chairman Guerin has not seen the report yet but does not expect the Worcester IP to be listed.

Route 20 – Nothing to report, project closed.

ITEM V – OPERATIONS

Effluent Summary Report – Very little precipitation in June - there were no wet weather discharge events and no exceedances.

NACWA Peak Performance Award 2020 - Upper Blackstone has received a Peak Performance Silver Award from NACWA for 2021. The announcement is on UB’s website, and we are thinking about potential PR and how to get the information out to the public. A memo to the Worcester City Manager was suggested.

Flow Summary – 2021 has had record rainfall. In the past few weeks there has been a huge amount of rainfall, greater than 6” which is ahead of average, with two wet weather events, and flows greater than 160 mgd.

Chemical Shortage – Between the excessive rainfall and the shortage of truck drivers on chemical deliveries, operations staff were scrambling for a bit. The engineering staff procured an extra storage tank for back up if needed. UB staff have done an extraordinary job with extra staffing, some creativity, and pulling together. Very proud of them.

ITEM VI – COMMUNICATIONS

MCWRS – A board meeting was held yesterday. For the August 11th Board meeting, there is a concern if they will have enough members present for a quorum. The next member chat is scheduled for August 19th. There will be four “zoom” webinars over the coming year with plans for an in-person Symposium. Vice Chairman Guerin has signed letters of support related to PFAS in biosolids, SRF funding on behalf of the coalition.

PFAS River Monitoring Update – Mickey Nowak sent a letter on biosolids to Canada. Vice Chairman Guerin expecting a report in paper on PFAS at WWTPs.

ITEM VII – PERSONNEL

Postings – Nothing new to report.

ITEM VIII – OTHER BUSINESS

Worcester Green Corps Presentation July 16 – Ms. Sangrey and one of Upper Blackstone’s lab technicians presented.

Insurance Update – All is good at this point. There is much to go through still. Haven’t signed on a cyber policy yet. There was an administrative server failure that was not cyber related. A good lesson on how to get back and recover documents. The SCADA network is all on fiber, as well as operations and maintenance. All staff documents are on the admin server.

An RFQ for a regional biosolids facility is currently available. This project is a joint effort with NBC and Springfield. An RFQ for design services for a stand-by solar project will go out before the August 18 meeting. Chairman Labovites requested to be cc’d on the RFQ.

Today’s meeting is dedicated to Winnie who passed earlier this week.



Glenn Haas, who worked decades at DEP passed away last week. Services are tomorrow in Weymouth. His obituary can be seen in the Boston Herald.

ITEM IX - DATE(s) NEXT MEETING(s)

8/18, 9/1, 9/22

ITEM X – ADJOURNMENT

At 2:21 p.m. Member Manseau motioned to adjourn the meeting. Member Traynor seconded, and through a roll call, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth A. Mailhot
District Clerk