

**WINNIPESAUKEE RIVER BASIN PROGRAM**  
**SPECIAL ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**May 11, 2016 – Belmont Corner Meeting House**

**Members Present:** The meeting was called to order by Brian Sullivan (Franklin), Chair, at 1:10 pm. Eugene Forbes (DES), Sharon McMillin (DES), Ray Korber (Bay District), Jeanne Beaudin (Belmont), Peter Nourse (Gilford), Paul Moynihan (Laconia), Steve Dolloff (Meredith), and Charlie Smith (Sanbornton) were present at that time.

**Replacement Fund Assessments:**

Paul indicated that Laconia is still in favor of sticking with past allocation practices for now. He spoke to Laconia Town Manager Scott Meyers who, like him, asked why past practices did not appear to be in keeping with the statute. Charlie said that Sanbornton is also in favor of retaining the shared allocation model. Jeanne said Belmont is also still in favor of that model. Peter said Gilford is in favor, and that he appreciates the support of the communities since the non-allocated allocation model would significantly impact Gilford.

Steve expressed his continuing concern about the data. He said that Meredith will abstain because the following information has not yet been provided to Meredith Town Manager Phil Warren: (1) what data was used in the calculation of the percentages in the Replacement Fund; (2) show how Meredith has overused the fund; and (3) show, if there is a change, how the fund would look in 5 years. He also said that Phil was displeased with not having receiving this information prior to the meeting today. Brian expressed an interest in meeting with Phil to discuss the matter. He is not sure how far back the billing data that Phil Warren has requested could go. Brian said that Franklin is still in favor of sticking with past practices for now, and Franklin is also potentially in favor of a change in the legislation because a lot of questions have been raised with regard to ownership and allocations. Ray said that Bay District is still in favor of the shared model and noted that Meredith will not experience a deficit under either of the allocation models handed out last week.

Eugene explained that while it is DES' goal to follow the Advisory Board's recommendation for the FY16 billing cycle, the DES Commissioner asked him to seek an opinion from the NH Attorney General's office before sending out the bills. Eugene has already initiated that inquiry and will make sure that the Board's recommendation is made known to the Attorney General's office. Brian asked how far back the billing data goes. Eugene explained that there is a limit as to how far back billing data could go and Sharon indicated that the accounting analysis presented spanned 1987 to 2015.

Sharon handed out two updated allocation tables she just received that morning from the DES accounting group. The first was entitled *WRBP Replacement Fund Non-Allocated Billing Summary for FY16*. The second was entitled *WRBP Replacement Fund Bill Shared Allocation Billing Summary for FY16*. Sharon explained that the accounting staff was still working on the WRBP Replacement Fund Assessment for FY16 and had found that some modifications were necessary from the information provided at the previous meeting. Hence, the revised handouts provided today which take into account encumbrances, balance forwards, etc. According to the updated individual allocation model handed, all communities but Meredith and Gilford now have enough fund balance and so would not be receiving a bill under the non-allocated, individual allocation model. Gilford would be invoiced about \$78K instead

of the \$95K in last week's individual allocation model, and Meredith would be invoiced roughly \$500 instead of \$5K. The shared allocation model amounts also were changed as indicated on the new handout. Jeanne asked if the Attorney General decides that the individual allocation model best reflects the statute, if the updated individual allocation model that was handed out today is the one that DES would be using for FY16 billing purposes. If the AG's office concurs on the need for using this individual allocation model, this would be the allocation for the amounts assessed each year to bring the fund balance for each community to the base 5% value level, although additional amounts would be assessed when expenditures occurred in the future. She also explained that because the Replacement Fund is revalued every 5 years, the total 5% replacement value could change.

Ray motioned, seconded by Jeanne, to support and recommend that the billing under the Replacement Fund be in accordance with past practices for all disbursements made to date. There were six in favor and 1 (Meredith) abstention. The motion passed.

**Other Business:**

Meetings

The next AB meetings will be held at the Corner Meeting House in Belmont on June 16<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.

The minutes were prepared by Pro-Temp Staffing.