

**MOUNTAIN LAKES DISTRICT
COMMISSIONERS MEETING via Zoom Video Conferencing
March 8, 2021
*UNAPPROVED***

Call to Order: Chair Bob Long called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. He read a statement that the Board was authorized to meet electronically due to the declared state of emergency (COVID-19), that the meeting had been properly noticed and information given to the public on how to join the meeting via Zoom Video Conferencing, and that all votes would be by roll call, in accordance with the provisions of the Governor's emergency order.

Roll Call: Bob Long (with Dottie Long); Mike Roberts (alone); and Mark Johanson (alone).

Public Present: Patricia Brady, Laraine King, Ken King, Mike Bonanno, Dottie Long, Brian Loutrel, Tom Mangels, Robert Roudebush, Chris Cox, Karen Cox, Bill Clark, Ken Huard, Dave Gilbertson, Laura Gilbertson, and Vinny Sorrentino were present via Zoom along with District Administrator Kristi Garofalo and Water/Maintenance Manager Don Drew.

Approval of Minutes:

- **Feb. 8, 2021:** Mark Johanson moved to approve; Mike Roberts seconded. Roll Call Vote: Bob Long-Aye, Mike Roberts-Aye, Mark Johanson-Aye; motion passed.
- **Feb. 8, 2021 Budget Hearing:** Mike Roberts moved to approve; Mark Johanson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Bob Long-Aye, Mike Roberts-Aye, Mark Johanson-Aye; motion passed.
- **Feb. 10, 2021 Special Meeting:** Mike Roberts moved to approve; Mark Johanson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Bob Long-Aye, Mike Roberts-Aye, Mark Johanson-Aye; motion passed.

District Business:

- **Manifests:** Mark Johanson moved to approve manifests from Feb. 9 to Mar. 8, 2021; and Mike Roberts seconded. Roll Call Vote: Bob Long-Aye, Mike Roberts-Aye, Mark Johanson-Aye; motion passed.
- **Financials and Water Bill Report:** The Commissioners reviewed the financial reports and the water bill collection report showing \$194,482.69 in water payments received since April 1, 2020.
- **Woodsville Water & Light Rate Increase:** Bob Long said they recently received notification of a 5% rate increase from WWL raising the cost of water purchased from them to \$7.71 per 1,000 gallons. He said notice was not given as outlined in the contract and the new WWL management may not be aware of the need to give 90 days' notice before the end of the contract term. After discussion, the Commissioners agreed ***Bob Long will contact WWL management and also draft a letter to them regarding the rate increase and MLD's desire to re-write the 2001 contract to update it.***

COVID-19 Response:

- **District Personnel, District Meetings, and Recreational Areas:** The Commissioners agreed to continue all closures and procedures as they are currently with reconsideration at the next meeting.
- **Annual Meeting Dates/Procedures:** Due to COVID-19 pandemic, the District annual meeting will be held in three parts and Bob Long shared a condensed version of the meeting plan as detailed in the recent letter that went out on March 5 to all MLD registered voters. He shared the dates as: Information Meeting on Thursday, March 18 at 6:00pm via Zoom; the Annual Meeting on Saturday, March 20 at 10:30am via Zoom; and Voting Day on Saturday, March 27 from 11:00am to 7:00pm at the Lodge. He also noted Zoom info for the meetings can be found on the District website, in the DMAIL, and through the MLD Facebook page.

Maintenance/Water Update: Don Drew said he took time off in February for personal projects, but was available for meetings, deliveries and special projects. Maintenance highlights: Rec items ordered – picnic tables, umbrellas, pool lounge chairs – have been received and will be ready for the season, the pool house renovation work is moving forward, and work on setup and construction of items for annual meeting voting is ongoing. Water Department highlights: average water usage is about 25,000 gallons per day; one incident of cloudy water was resolved by flushing a water main; the state required Emergency Action Plan update is being reviewed by the Commissioners and will be completed and submitted by the end of the month; and the monthly water tests came back with a favorable “absent” result.

Water Committee Update: Patricia Brady reported the Sub-Committee met to prepare for the annual meeting and they issued their final report. After discussion, Mark Johanson made a motion to accept the Sub-Committee’s final report and associated documentation for use in answering questions at the annual meeting; Mike Roberts seconded. Roll Call Vote: Bob Long-Aye, Mike Roberts-Aye, Mark Johanson-Aye; motion passed. The Commissioners discussed appointing Water Committee and other MLD Committee members and agreed all current members of District Committees will be appointed for a three-year period at the next Commissioners meeting.

Planning Board Update: Mike Bonanno said the terms for Don Dubrulle and himself expire in March 2021 and said the Board voted to recommend to the Commissioners that both be re-appointed for another three-year term. Mike Roberts moved to re-appoint Don Dubrulle and Mike Bonanno to the Planning Board for a three-year term; Mark Johanson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Bob Long-Aye, Mike Roberts-Aye, Mark Johanson-Aye; motion passed. Mike Bonanno passed along the Board’s recommendation to the Commissioners that in future tax sales the auctioneer be required to pay the temporary sign fee for each sign they put up with the amount to be refunded when signs are removed after the sale. After discussion, Mark Johanson made a motion to charge the temporary sign fee of \$5 for each auction sign per the MLD zoning ordinance and refund the fees when signs are removed. Mike Roberts seconded. Roll Call Vote: Bob Long-Nay, Mike Roberts-Aye, Mark Johanson-Aye; motion passed 2-1. **Bob Long will contact the Town about the requirement to remove signs.** Mike Bonanno also noted a couple of recent applications were denied because of required setbacks and will be applying to the ZBA for variances.

Recreation Committee Update: Dottie Long said the next Rec Committee sponsored activity is planned to be the Pancake Breakfast in May and sales of MLD logo clothing are going very well.

Action Items Review:

- **Bob Long:** *Completed language changes to the draft Annual Meeting voters’ letter and added Zoom info; obtained registered voter mailing labels from the Supervisors of the Checklist.*

Old Business: NONE

New Business:

- **2021 Person of the Year:** The Commissioners agreed **Kristi Garofalo will order the award for the 2021 Person of the Year** and the recipient will be announced at the MLD Annual Meeting on March 20 (Zoom).

Bob Long moved to adjourn; Mike Roberts seconded. Roll Call Vote: Bob Long-Aye, Mike Roberts-Aye, Mark Johanson-Aye; motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristi Garofalo