THE MATTABASSETT DISTRICT **Memorandum**

Date:	December 1, 2025	Subject:	Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting Minutes **Friday, November 7, 2025**
To:	Board of Directors	From:	Ad-Hoc Committee and Arthur G. Simonian, Executive Director

AGS

Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting Minutes
November 7, 2025
2:00 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

The Ad-Hoc Committee met on Friday, November 7, 2025, at The Mattabassett District offices at 245 Main Street, Cromwell, Connecticut.

Board Chairman, John Dunham (remote), Executive Director, Arthur Simonian, Attorney Edward T. Lynch (remote), Board Member, Daniel Salerno, Board Member, Liam Mitchell, District Engineer, Michelle Ryan, Liz Gonzalez. Also from the Town of Berlin, Mayor, Mark Kaczynski, Water Control Manager, Ray Jarema, Town Manager, Ryan Curley, and Berlin & Southington State Representative, Donna Veach were present.

The Ad Hoc Committee met to discuss infiltration/inflow, and wet-weather flows, as they impact both the Town of Berlin and the Mattabassett District and additional other items as follows:

1. **KFD, WFD payments to BWCC Invoice 2024-BWCC:**

   - According to Berlin, KFD owes $571,000.00 in unpaid sewer bills to BWCC. KFD disputes charges due to accuracy of flow data utilizing the new Baxter Ave meter vs. the previous meter.
   - As a result of non-payment, the Town of Berlin is considering pursuing formal collection of unpaid sewer bills.

2. **Middletown Rd Pump Station and Berlin Sewer Pump Station:**

   - The Middletown Rd pump station and the Berlin Pump Station are both in need of upgrades. The cost for the Berlin Pump Station upgrade is estimated at $9.4 million.
   - Kensington's and Worthington's cost-sharing, based on 1970's agreements, are estimated to be $11 to $12 million for Kensington Fire District, and $7 million to $8 million for Worthington Fire District

- It was noted that deferred maintenance of the stations increases operational risk.

3. I/I Progress by Water Districts (BWCC):

- BWCC indicated that I&I is still present across their Sewer Districts
- The Districts are not sharing any information related to improvement projects and I&I studies with BWCC.
- It was noted that not reducing I/I is increasing operational costs for the Town.

4. Town wide study status-update from BWCC:

- The Town-wide study is evaluating the capital needs for each Fire and Water District. It will evaluate its long-term financial sustainability as well as possible consolidation of Districts

5. Status of Mattabassett's DEEP NPDES Discharge Permit Renewal

- The Committee was given a spreadsheet, listing wet-weather storm events over the last 3-years, and the portion of Berlin's allocated flow exceedance for each event. Mattabassett informed members of the meeting they are considering surcharges as a way incentivize member communities in the future to control their I/I. No decision has been made by the Mattabassett District at this time.

- An explanation was given related to the average and peak plant flow capacities and partial treatment during wet-weather events, and how this impacts the District's discharge permit.

- The Committee discussed it would be physically impossible to expand the secondary treatment system due to space and floodplain restrictions and that reducing I/I would be the most feasible alternative to controlling wet weather flows.

6. a. Legislation and process for dissolving of KFD/WFD:
b. KFD, WFD, I/I progress:
c. Mattabassett support information on high flows:

- BWCC discussed the consideration, by the Town of Berlin, to dissolve the Fire and Water Districts and consolidating the sewers under BWCC. This would require legislative action and local referenda.

- It was discussed that nation-wide small utilities are struggling with aging infrastructure and that consolidation and regionalization would be economically feasible, particularly in light of recent PFAS/Lead regulations and staffing shortages.

- It was noted that I&I remains a major factor driving permit non-compliance and cost escalation.

7. Open Discussion and Broader Concerns

- Kensington Fire District is considering selling water to Worthington Fire District. They submitted a CTDEEP diversion permit for this approval.

- BWCC raised several concerns with the water diversion, particularly regarding fire protection and hydraulic pressure.

Meeting adjourned at 3:17 p.m.