

Central Plymouth County Water District Commission

Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Minutes of Monday September 12, 2022, Meeting

The meeting took place via Zoom video/teleconference due to current COVID-19 social distancing recommendations issued by Governor Charles Baker. Participants attending the meeting were Central Plymouth County Water District Commission Advisory Board members: Councilor Susan Nicastro (Brockton), Patrick Hill (Brockton), Jason Trepanier (East Bridgewater), Sheila Vaughn, Chairman (Kingston), Peter Veneto (Halifax), Don Howard (Hanson), Bill Boulter (Pembroke), and Justin Evans (Whitman).

Frank Basler, Plymouth County Administrator, attended the meeting and took minutes.

Chair Vaughn opened the meeting at 6:01 PM. Chair Vaughn asked for a motion on the minutes of February 7, 2022. Mr. Howard moved to accept the minutes of February 7, 2022. Mr. Evans seconded. Roll call vote: Councilor Susan Nicastro – yes, Patrick Hill – yes, Jason Trepanier – yes, Peter Veneto – no vote due to tech issues, Don Howard – yes, Bill Boulter - yes, Justin Evans – yes, and Chair Sheila Vaughn - yes. Motion passed 7 – 0 - 0.

Ms. Vaughn then asked for a nomination for the CPCWDC Commissioner seat. Commissioner Joanne Zygmunt has moved out of the District as of September 15, 2022 and submitted her resignation as per residency requirements. Ms. Laura Biechler has submitted a letter of interest in the position and lives in the City of Brockton. All stated Ms. Biechler has a great skill set and would be a good fit. Councilor Nicastro nominated Laura Biechler as CPCWDC Commissioner for the remainder of Ms. Zygmunt's term until February of 2024. Mr. Hill seconded. Roll call vote: Councilor Susan Nicastro – yes, Patrick Hill – yes, Jason Trepanier – yes, Peter Veneto – no vote due to tech issues, Don Howard – yes, Bill Boulter - yes, Justin Evans – yes, and Chair Sheila Vaughn - yes. Motion passed 7 – 0 - 0.

Chair Vaughn asked for any other updates from the committee or if there were input that the Advisory Board would like to send to the CPCWDC Commissioners. The Committee did not have additional comments.

The Committee decided the next meeting will be held in early 2023 to elect the next Commissioner or as needed.

Motion to adjourn at 6:30 PM by Mr. Howard and Mr. Boulter seconded. Roll call vote: Councilor Susan Nicastro – yes, Patrick Hill – yes, Jason Trepanier – yes, Peter Veneto – no vote due to tech issues, Don Howard – yes, Bill Boulter - yes, Justin Evans – yes, and Chair Sheila Vaughn - yes. Motion passed 7 – 0 - 0.

Respectfully submitted by,

Frank Basler, Plymouth County Administrator

Handouts: Laura Biechler resume

Laura Biechler was appointed Director of Financial Aid at Bridgewater State University in 2018. In August of 2021, Ms. Biechler assumed the role as Assistant Vice President of Student Financial Assistance and Enrollment Management. Laura is a graduate of Harvard University and has a Master of Liberal Arts in Extension Studies, concentrated in US Government Public Policy. In February 2020 Laura was honored to join the NASFAA Executive Roundtable: Leadership in the 21st Century in Washington D.C. to work with legislators on implementing the College Affordability Act and the alignment with the Dept of Labor. Laura also moderates and presents at EASFAA, MASFAA, and is a member of the MA Department of Education Financial Aid Advisory Committee.

For 18 years Laura's career in higher education has been tailored towards enrollment management, student services, financial operations, grant management, budgeting, and audit compliance. Her continued interest in the "business" of higher education and sincere concern surrounding youth that face a challenging global economic environment in the 21st century is the driving force behind her dedication to assisting youth in the city of Brockton and beyond to achieve their dreams as the next great generation.

Laura and her husband moved to Brockton in 2018. She is passionate about the Brockton community and collaborates with the Boys and Girls Club in Brockton to set the youth up for success after completing their high school education. Laura was appointed, first female board member on the Brockton Cable Access Network, and in addition, holds a seat on the Brockton Conservation Commission. Civic engagement drives Laura every day to help her neighbors and ensures that their voices are heard. In her spare time Laura is a warden for the city of Brockton election's polls and is an active member of the Brockton branch NAACP. Laura and her husband are fans of the MLS New England Revolution Soccer team and love spending time with friends and family.



Laura Biechler

- AVP of Student Financial Assistance and Enrollment Management at Bridgewater State University
- 18 Years in Financial Aid experience
- Financial Literacy Programing
- Dedicated to the youth in the city of Brockton
- NAACP Brockton Branch member
- NAACP ACT-SO Committee Member and mentor
- Brockton Conservation Commission
- BCA Board Member
- Brockton Boys & Girls Club Financial Aid Programing
- Election Warden in Brockton