

# WEST MILFORD MUNICIPAL UTILITY AUTHORITY

WHAT'S GOING ON! Issue No. 10

April 2, 2014 – DIRECTOR OF FIELD OPERATIONS

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The Commissioners of the West Milford Municipal Utility Authority are proud to announce the hiring of Mr. Terence McHugh as Director of Field Operations.

Qualifications: Mr. McHugh brings to the MUA a wealth of experience in the areas of water and waste water system operations. Mr. McHugh's education includes attendance at Sussex County VoTech, Rutgers College of Engineering, County College of Morris, and Hunterdon Poly Tech., with courses in study in Water and Wastewater Operations. He has owned and operated a company, maintaining both water and waste water treatment systems in New Jersey as a licensed operator or project manager. He is proficient in preparing operation and maintenance manuals, implementing preventive maintenance programs, system design, system troubleshooting, training/mentoring operators and assisting in system optimization of treatment facilities. His overall experience and knowledge offers a comprehensive management approach, in addition to his ability to update operations.

Mr. McHugh holds an N-4 Industrial Waste water Treatment License, S-3 Sewage Treatment, C-2 Wastewater Collection and VSWS Licenses. Among his many affiliations, he is a member of the Water Environment Federation and holds any number of honors and awards including the 2013 NJEA Service Award.

## How it came to be:

It was brought to this Board's attention by the Administrator that the creation of the position of director of Field Operations was previously approved by Resolution in early 2011. The intention was to supplement the existing staff by providing supervision of construction, operation and maintenance personnel, to develop a capital improvement plan, and to develop strategies and solutions for MUA operations issues. In October, 2011, the DEP requested that the MUA hire a manager with experience relating to owning, managing and/or operating a water system. In April of 2012, this Board studied the financial statements for the MUA dating back to the 1990's. It was determined that the MUA could save money in engineering expenses by supplementing internal management of the MUA systems. In reviewing the operations of the MUA, the Commissioners agreed with the DEP that the MUA would benefit from internal operations management. The Director of Field Operations position was created to address administrative duties with regard to DEP permitting and supervisory duties required for day to day facility operations and responding to emergencies. Handling these duties together with the day to day operation of the MUA is a daunting task. The addition of an employee devoted to systems operations creates efficiencies and provides specialized oversight in the field. Once the Commissioners concluded that the new position was necessary, the concern then became how to pay for it.

## How we paid for it:

The Commissioners reviewed every aspect of the MUA budget and implemented cost savings procedures. Savings were generated by tightening controls and negotiating savings in services such as telemetry, electricity and operations. Through these efforts, the MUA was able to fund the temporary, part-time position and the Commissioners are confident we have achieved maximum value for the dollar by hiring Mr. McHugh.

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