

MAHARAHSTRA WATER RESOURCES REGULATORY AUTHORITY

**Minutes of 01/2022 Authority Meeting
19th January 2022, Time 2:00 p.m.**

The Following Members attended the meeting:-

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|------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| i. | Shri. Sanjay Kulkarni | Member (WRE) |
| ii. | Mrs. Shwetali Thakare | Member (Economics) |
| iii. | Dr. Adv. Sadhana Mahashabde | Member (Law) |

Other Officers:-

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|------|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| i. | Dr. Ramnath Sonawane | Secretary |
| ii. | Shri. Rohan Sodal | Dy. Director |
| iii. | Shri. Dilip Patole | Asst. Director |
| iv. | Shri. Arunkumar Kalkhair | Administrative Officer |
| v. | Shri. Vishwadeep Karanjikar | Asst. Director |
| vi. | Shri. Prabhakar Khire | Expert |

Dr. Sadhana Mahashabde, Member (Law) proposed and Smt. Shwetali Thakare Member (Eco) seconded that Shri. Sanjay Kulkarni Member (WRE) to chair the meeting in accordance with the provisions of section 9 (2) of MWRRRA Act, 2005 read with regulation 9 (5) of MWRRRA (Conduct of Business) Regulations 2013. The Secretary welcomed all the members present in the meeting.

With the permission of the chair, the meeting commenced to take up the following agenda items which were discussed and deliberated.

ITEM NO. 1

To confirm the minutes of the previous 04/21 Authority meeting held on 18/11/2021.

The minutes of 04/21 Authority meeting were confirmed unanimously.

ITEM NO. 2

GR/Notification for the information of the Authority:-

- महाराष्ट्र शासन वित्त विभाग शासन निर्णय क्र. अंनियो-२०१९/प्र.क्र.२६६/सेवा-४.दि. १९/०८/२०१९.
- महाराष्ट्र शासन जलसंपदा विभाग शासन निर्णय क्र. मजनिप्रा/२०१७/६२९/प्र.क्र.१४५/जसं/(आस्था) दि. १०/१२/२०२१.
- महाराष्ट्र शासन जलसंपदा विभाग शासन निर्णय क्र. बिसिंआ-२०१९/प्र.क्र.१५३/सिंव्य (धोरण) दि. ३०/१२/२०२१.
- अधिसूचना महाराष्ट्र शासन राजपत्र – पाणीपुरवठा व स्वच्छता विभाग दि. २४ डिसेंबर २०२१.

The members present perused the contents of the above mentioned Government Resolutions.

ITEM NO. 3.1

मजनिप्रा सदस्य डॉ. शिवाजी सांगळे यांचे वेतन निश्चित करताना पूर्वीच्या पदावरील वेतन संरक्षित करणे तसेच Notional Increment देणे याबाबतचे जलसंपदा विभागाचे पत्र क्र.मजनिप्रा-२०२१/१४०/(प्र.क्र.३५/२१)जसं(आस्था) दि. ०६ डिसेंबर २०२१ माहितीसाठी व उचित निर्णयासाठी.

The members present perused the contents of the above mentioned letter.

ITEM No.3.2

मजनिप्रा सदस्य (अर्थव्यवस्था) श्रीमती. श्वेताली अभिजीत ठाकरे यांना शासकीय निवासस्थान भाडे तत्वावर उलपब्ध करून देण्याबाबत. जलसंपदा विभागाचे पत्र क्र. मजनिप्रा-२०२१/(प्र.क्र.४४/२१)जसं(आस्था) दि. ०८ डिसेंबर २०२१ माहितीसाठी व उचित निर्णयासाठी.

The Members present perused the contents of the above mentioned letter. The Secretary brought it to the notice of the Hon' Members that, the reply received from Water Resource Department is inconsistent with the provisions of Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (Conditions of Service of Chairperson and Members) Rules, 2006. Moreover, it is not at all possible to provide the accommodation as per the entitlement of Hon' Members within the stipulated limit of house rent allowance (HRA) being paid to the Member. The Members of MWRRA are being paid HRA of Rs. 50,679/-, whereas the actual expenditure for acquiring an accommodation as per the entitlements would be around 1.25 to 1.50 lakh per month, that is to say Rs. 15 to 18 lakhs per annum. It would be prudent to bring this fact to the notice of Hon' Secretary, Water Resources Department and request the Department to take up the matter with General Administration Department or to provide the accommodation from its pool as per the entitlement of Hon' Member or to issue directions to the Authority under section 23 of the MWRRA Act, 2005 and provide adequate grants through its budget to meet the actual expenditure incurred on providing accommodation to Chairman or Members of the Authority.

Resolution No. 112

It is resolved that, the Secretary is directed to resubmit a proposal for allotment of accommodation to Member (Eco) as per entitlement or request the Water Resources Department to issue directions to the Authority under section 23 of the MWRRA Act, 2005 and provide adequate grants through its budget to meet the actual expenditure incurred on providing accommodation to Chairman or Members of the Authority.

ITEM No. 4

Action Taken Report – Regarding Resolution No. 111 Authority Meeting 4/21 held on 18th November 2021.

The secretary submitted that, the Draft Bulk Water Tariff Criteria as approved by the Authority was shared with the Focus Group Members for their comments/suggestions and accordingly, the Draft Bulk Water Tariff Criteria has been revised.

ITEM No. 5

मजनिप्रामध्ये कंत्राटी तत्वावर कार्यरत असलेल्या अधिकारी/कर्मचा-यांच्या नियुक्तीच्या नविनिकरणास / मुदतवाढीस प्राधिकरणाची मान्यता घेणेबाबत.

The secretary submitted that, the proposal for renewal of appointment of five officers/employees was circulated and approved by all three Members. The same proposal is submitted for perusal of the Authority.

Resolution No. 113

It is resolved that, in view of the necessity of the services of the five officers/employees, the Authority hereby approves the proposal submitted by the Secretary for renewal of the services of five officers/employees for a period of 2 years i.e. from 01/01/2022 to 31/12/2023.

ITEM No.6

To consider and approve the Annual Reports of MWRRA for the year 2018-19 and 2019-20.

The Secretary submitted that the drafts in English of Annual Reports of MWRRA for the year 2018-19 and 2019-20 as contemplated under section 20 of the MWRRA Act. The Members have perused the contents. He further submitted that once the drafts in English are approved it would be translated in Marathi and forwarded to the Water Resources Department (WRD), Govt. of Maharashtra.

Resolution No. 114

It is resolved that, the Annual Reports of the Authority for year 2018-19 and 2019-20 are hereby approved and

It is further resolved that, the Secretary is directed to get these reports translated in Marathi and forward the reports the State Government.

ITEM No. 7

To consider and approve the Revised Bulk Water Tariff Criteria and Draft Tariff proposal for the control period 1st July 2020 to 30 June 2023.

The Secretary submitted that, the Revised Draft Bulk Water Tariff Criteria have been approved by Hon' Members and based on the Revised Draft Bulk Water Tariff Criteria draft Tariff Proposal has been prepared and submitted for approval of the Authority. The members deliberated upon the Draft Tariff Proposal Hon' Member (Eco) stated that, the water use considered for Domestic and Agriculture purpose appears to be on higher side as compared to quantities mentioned in the Irrigation Status Reports 2019-20 published by the Water Resources Department. The Chairperson (Member WRE) elaborated the concept of hydrological cycle and suggested that, while considering water availability in the reservoirs, the hydrological cycle of 15 years as per the data available through Irrigation Status Reports available in public domain would be more realistic as compared to the average arrived from the data of a shorter duration of 3 to 4 years. Therefore, it would be prudent to rely upon the average arrived on the basis of 15 years data. Member (Eco) in principles accepted this explanation and after a detailed

deliberation the Draft Tariff Proposal was approved with some corrections, which have been duly incorporated in the said draft.

The Members also suggested that, the Draft Tariff Proposal also contains the details of Draft Proposal submitted by Water Resources Department vide its letter dated 5th October, 2021. This data need not be hosted on the website of MWRRA.

Resolution No.115

It is resolved that, the Revised Draft Bulk Water Tariff Criteria and Draft Tariff Proposal for the control period 1st July 2020 to 30 June 2023 are hereby approved and;

It is further resolved that, the Secretary is directed to host the Revised Draft Bulk Water Tariff Criteria and Draft Tariff proposal for the control period 1st July 2020 to 30 June 2023 on the website of MWRRA and to issue a public notice in two state level Marathi and one English Newspapers for ascertaining the views of the beneficiary public in accordance with the provisions of Section 11 (d) of the Act read with the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (Fixing Criteria for and issuance of tariff orders for Bulk Water) Guidelines, 2019.

ITEM No. 8

To consider and approve Draft Rules prepared under Section 30 of the MWRRA Act 2005 as per the suggestions of Water Resources Department (WRD) vide letter No. मजनिप्रा-२०२१/२५३/(प्र.क्र.७३/२१)/जसं(आस्था) दि. २८ डिसेंबर २०२१ and मजनिप्रा-२०२०/२९/(प्र.क्र.१७/२०)/जसं(आस्था) दि. २१ डिसेंबर २०२१.

- i. Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (Appointment of Special Invitees) Rules, 2022.
- ii. Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (Accounts, Audit and Reports) Rules 2022.
- iii.

The members have gone through the Drafts of Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (Appointment of Special Invitees) Rules, 2022 and Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (Accounts, Audit and Reports) Rules 2022. The Hon' Members suggested certain changes in the drafts provided.

Resolution No. 116

It is resolved that, the drafts rules with corrections suggested by the Members, the Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (Appointment of Special Invitees) Rules, 2022 and Maharashtra Water Resources Regulatory Authority (Accounts, Audit and Reports) Rules 2022 are hereby approved and

It is further resolved that, the Secretary is directed to forward these draft rules to the Secretary, Water Resources Department with request to the Secretary WRD to obtain the approval of the Government has contemplated under section 30 of the Act.

ITEM No. 9

Any other subject with the approval / permission of the chairperson.

9.1. The secretary requested the Chairperson to allow him to table following Government Resolution/Correspondence for adoption so as to enable the Authority to appoint consultant/architect to carry out Maintenance and Repairs works of the Authority premises.

- a) महाराष्ट्र शासन सार्वजनिक बांधकाम विभाग शासन निर्णय क्र. खाक्षेस-२०१८/प्र.क्र७७/रस्ते-९ दि. २५ जानेवारी २०१९.
- b) महाराष्ट्र शासन सार्वजनिक बांधकाम विभाग शासन निर्णय क्र. खाक्षेस-२०१८/प्र.क्र७७/रस्ते-९अ दि. ०१ जानेवारी २०१९.
- c) महाराष्ट्र शासन सार्वजनिक बांधकाम विभाग शासन निर्णय क्र. सीएटी २०१७/प्र.क्र८/इमा-२ दि. २० मे २०२१.

The Authority has gone through the contents of Government of Resolution and decided to adopt these Government Resolutions. However, Hon' Chairperson suggested that, Maintenance, Repairs and such kind of other work should be executed through, Executive Engineer, Public Works Department (Presidency Division), Mumbai Government of Maharashtra or Superintended Engineer, Thane Irrigation Circle.

9.2. Hon' Member (Eco) proposed that, the Authority should obtain the membership of International Water Association (IWA) with a view to keep the Authority its Members, Officers and Employees updated about events, conferences, conclave, bulletins and other publication with regard to the International best practices in water sector.

Resolution No. 117

It is resolved that, the Government Resolution mentioned at 9.1 are hereby adopted.

It is further resolved that, the secretary is directed to contact Executive Engineer, Public Works Department or Superintended Engineer, Thane Irrigation Circle for executing the proposed maintenance and repairs works of MWRRA premises.

It is further resolved that, the secretary is directed to register MWRRA as member with International Water Association (IWA) and the Secretary is authorized to pay requisite fees to IWA.

VOTE OF THANKS:

The meeting was concluded with vote of thanks to the Chair and the Members present.

Date: 19/01/2022

Place: Mumbai

Sd/-
(Shri. Sanjay Kulkarni)
Hon. Member (WRE)
(Chairperson of the Meeting)