



Water Pollution Control Authority

REGULAR MEETING

March 18, 2026

MINUTES

Members Present: Dan Parisi, Chairman, Shawn Koehler, Paul Gilbert, Tom Walker, Drew Gilbert

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Tom Modzelewski (WPCA Admin), Phil Kidney (WPCA Crew Chief), Marshall Gaston (Fuss & O'Neill)

Zoom Attendees: None

1. Call to Order

Chairman, Dan Parisi the meeting to order at 6:31 pm

2. Citizen's Forum (non-agenda items)

None

3. Approval of January 21, 2026, Public Hearing and Regular Meeting Minutes

MOVED (P. GILBERT), SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 21, 2026, PUBLIC HEARING AND REGULAR MEETING.

4. Old Business

1. **Development of parcel 046-003-0002**

Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) provided an update that he received a call to perform an inspection for the sanitary sewer connection. No permit had been pulled. He requested that they go pull the permit and call back for inspection.

2. **7 Hilltop Extension Easement**

No Update.

3. **79 Windermere Ave.**

Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) performed a camera inspection on the mainline to see if a lateral could be located. There is no stub, a road cut will have to be made.

4. **53 Wapping Wood Rd. Sewer Expansion**

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) mentioned again that the plan is to revert from the original proposal of a 55+ community to a public development of approximately 15 homes. The WPCA would own the force main to the manhole on Wapping Wood. A draft plan has been submitted and will be forwarded to F&O for review and comment. This project has not gone through Planning and Zoning for review yet.

5. 5 Elm St.

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) updated that F&O had made comments on the plans. The plans addressing the comments have not been received back from the contractor.

5. New Business

1. 37 Grand Blvd. Refund

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) presented that an overpayment was made on sewer tax for 37 Grand Blvd.

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE A REFUND IN THE AMOUNT OF \$539.81 FOR AN OVERPAYMENT ON SEWER TAX FOR 37 GRAND BLVD.

2. Demo/Rebuild Grinder Pump Policy

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) presented a draft of a possible new grinder pump policy. Currently the Town owns and maintains 106 grinder pumps at the lake. Many of the homes are being demolished or heavily remodeled in this area. The draft policy would allow the WPCA to relinquish ownership of the grinder pumps in these situations. The draft will be sent to legal for further review.

6. Administrative

1. Fuss & O'Neill project updates

i. Task 3C Vernon Pump Station Upgrade

While the project is closed there are still some billable items for construction administration. January and February included reviewing record drawings, reviewing details regarding the project manual and SWPPP development.

ii. Task 4E I&I Phase 5

Further investigation will start after April 1st, now that the water table is high. Marshall (F&O) and Tom M. (WPCA Admin) will schedule a call to review the project's status and determine next steps.

iii. Task 15 A

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) reviewed a quote from Gordian. He presented some potential cost-saving items such as providing traffic control and only including temporary paving. One recommendation from the Board was to close the road for construction as this project will be planned for when school is out for the summer. Tom M. to bring these changes to Gordian for a revised proposal. Then a decision will be made to either use Gordian through CRCOG EZ IQ or put the project out to bid. Tom M. was asked who the contractor Gordian uses for this type of project, which is Hemlock Construction, whom he confirmed has been working with Gordian for quite some time. Tom M. was also tasked with reaching out to local contractors for an estimated opinion of cost.

iv. Task 16 Data Transcription

This task is closed for Fuss & O'Neill but will continue to be discussed under "Other Administrative Topics" as the data continues to be organized.

v. Task 18

Marshall (F&O) sent the data for QA/CC in early February and has not received the data back. He did mention that the results appear to be in line with the last test. Tom M. (WPCA Admin) is looking into other options rather than dosing bioxide, as that can lead to other issues.

7. Fuss & O'Neill Billing

January:

MOVED (P. GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE 279954 FOR WORK FROM, DECEMBER 27,2025, THROUGH JANUARY 23, 2026, FOR TASK 3C IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,023.50

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (P. GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE 279955 FOR WORK FROM, DECEMBER 27,2025, THROUGH JANUARY 23, 2026, FOR TASK 17 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$488.00

MOVED (P. GILBERT) SECONDED (KOEHLER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE 279956 FOR WORK FROM, DECEMBER 27,2025, THROUGH JANUARY 23, 2026, FOR TASK 18 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$8,919.05

February:

MOVED (P. GILBERT) SECONDED (D. GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE 281218 FOR WORK FROM JANUARY 24,2026, THROUGH FEBRUARY 20, 2026, FOR TASK 3C IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,302.25

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (P. GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE 281220 FOR WORK FROM JANUARY 24,2026, THROUGH FEBRUARY 20, 2026, FOR TASK 17 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$244.00

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (WALKER) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE INVOICE 281219 FOR WORK FROM JANUARY 24,2026, THROUGH FEBRUARY 20, 2026, FOR TASK 18 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$545.25

8. Other Administrative Topics

1. Budget

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) presented the end-of-month report and collection rate, as well as the draft budget for fiscal year 2026-27. The current draft would hold Crystal Lake sewer fees flat, and there would only be a small increase for Hockanum users. Paul (Member) suggested that the capital line item for Hockanum sewer extension be reduced by \$100,000.00 and the I&I line be funded by \$100,000.00 to be able to continue making repairs. Tom M. also updated that Waterworth is still working on a rate study and hopes to have more information for the next meeting. While a new rate structure will not be feasible to initiate for 2026-27, the intent is to present it at the annual public hearing for user fees and begin the new billing structure in 2027-28. Tom M. has asked the Board to review the budget further and note any revisions for the next meeting.

2. User Insurance Updates

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) disclosed that the mailings have gone out. There have been many calls received regarding the program and making sure the mailing is legitimate. There have been positive responses from a few Residents who are excited that there is an option for coverage on their infrastructure.

3. Generator Quotes/Valve Pit Repairs

Tom M. (WPCA Admin) presented an updated proposal for the High School pump station generator. \$100,000.00 was budgeted for this project. The proposal is for \$85,503.00 leaving funding for the Town electrician to work with Eversource on the change of power coming into the pump station.

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (D. GILBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE PROPOSAL FROM KINSLEY AND THROUGH SOURCEWELL FOR A TOTAL OF \$88,503.00 FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE HIGH SCHOOL PUMP STATION GENERATOR.

Tom M. also presented 3 quotes for valve replacement at the Crystal Lake pump station. The Board has asked Tom M. to have Savy & Sons revise their proposal for the work to be more in line with the 2 other proposals and for all to review for best pricing.

4. Data Transcription

No updates.

5. Rate Study

Tom M. stated that Waterworth had been provided with the consumption information they needed to continue the rate study. Waterworth is having some trouble tying the consumption reports to the Towns billing reports. More information was provided and Tom M. plans to have more information for the next meeting.

a) Capital Reserve Policy and Rate Stabilization Policy

Tom M. reviewed a draft of a proposed capital reserve policy and rate stabilization policy. He has asked the Board to review for discussion again in the upcoming months.

6. Vernon April Invoice

Tom M. disclosed that the Vernon billing was received in the amount of \$505,275.20 and has been submitted for processing and payment. He also disclosed that this was our second billing since we are now being billed off flow through the pump station and compared last year's billings to these years. There are savings now that we are more accurately being billed.

9. Design, Construction & Maintenance Reports

1. Pump Station Updates

Phil (WPCA Crew Chief) provided an update that run times are up at all pump stations due to the groundwater level being higher.

He also made the Board aware of power loss at Vernon Pump Station Durning Monday's (2/16) storm. He responded at midnight to find that anything on 110 volts had no power. The transformer in the station blew, and Phil had to run the station in hand through the night. A temporary fix is in place, and the station is running properly. It appears that the issue was a manufacturing defect. This is a warranty item.

Lastly, Phil disclosed that the fitting that was repaired in the manhole across the street from the Public Works office last year had failed. He was shipped the incorrect parts he needed for the repair but was able to source a fernco that would work. The repair had been made.

2. Overtime Report

Phil reported:

- 1.25 hours of overtime for the completion of the manhole repair.

- 30 Minutes for a grinder pump.
- 3 hours for a grinder pump emergency after hours.
- 6 Hours for the after-hours loss of power at the Vernon Pump Station.

3. Other

None.

10. Misc. Communications

None.

Adjournment

MOVED (KOEHLER) SECONDED (P. GLIBERT) AND PASSED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADJOURN THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE WATER POLLUTION CONTROL AUTHORITY AT 8:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted:



Carolyn Kidney, Administrative Assistant II, DPW