

**Water District No. 1 Of Midland County
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes**

Date:

Board Members Present:

Jenny Clever, Jerome
Steve Dunkel , Edenville
Brett Fales, Lincoln
Rita Goul, Hope
Carl Hamann, Sanford
Art Peters, Edenville
Heidi Pitt, Lee
Steve Rice, Jerome
Dave Rothman, Hope
Bonnie Whaley, Sanford
Kevin Wray, Lincoln

Staff Present:

Rowan Everleigh
Nate French

Drafted: 7/16/2025

Approved: 8/10/25

Handwritten signatures: HOF and KLN

Public:

Kim Hauser

Board Members Absent:

Doug Kruger, Lee

MEETING LOCATION: Jerome Township Hall

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by Wray

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG AND ROLL CALL: Performed. Eleven Board members were present, a quorum.

MINUTES: Moved by Rothman, second by Goul to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2025 meeting. Motion approved by voice vote.

OPERATIONAL BILLS: Moved by Rothman, second by Goul, to approve payment of bills totaling \$96,684.75, checks 14222-14232, 14238 and 3 EFTs. Motion approved by roll call vote, 11/0. Moved by Rothman, second by Goul, to approve payment of WD#2 Local Unit fees totaling \$64,600, checks 1552-1555. Motion approved by roll call vote, 11/0. Moved by Rothman, second by Fales, to approve payroll totaling \$58,102.59, checks 14212-14221 and 14233-14239, 11 direct deposits and 8 EFTs. Motion approved by roll call vote, 11/0.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

STAFF REPORTS: Everleigh- 634 accounts received shutoff notices and 100 accounts remain in shutoff status, with shutoffs beginning tomorrow, July 17. New computers have been received and will be installed July 20-21, except for the OPTO computer which must wait for French to be in town. A lost water situation on Huckleberry was discussed. Wray moved to approve lost water to the property, motion seconded by Fales. Motion approved by voice vote.

French reported he will be out of the office next week. Staff is operating valves and flushing hydrants. 4 taps were installed. A leak at a summer cottage was shut off. The County Road Commission wants a bulk water filling station at their M-30/Price Road site.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee: Wray- no report

Operations and maintenance: Fales- The second round of water sampling for lead and copper tests is about to start. French proposes a study of meter replacements, given the expected 20-year lifetime of water meters. Knowing the likely numbers of water meter replacements in future years allows for planning for the expenses. The Price Road office A/C system is performing poorly. The Michigan EGLE agency is investigating the Whispering Pines trailer park due to concerns about the park's internal water distribution system.

Business and Finance: Rothman- Reported that the committee met July 15 and provided minutes of the meeting. French demonstrated the rate-setting workbook provided by Michigan Rural Water Assoc. Nate has been entering data in the workbook, leading up to proposed new rates for water consumption and readiness-to-serve charges. Rothman proposed that a workshop for the B&F committee would be helpful and French confirmed that Rural Water was willing to send someone to help us.

Rothman advised that City of Midland had raised their bulk water rate from \$2.59 to \$2.64 per thousand gallons, a 1.9% increase. It appears that the City will implement significantly higher rates for the next few years and WD1 should be poised to follow suit with charges to our customers, but the only increase to factor into rates this year would be the 1.9% increase.

Michigan CLASS is currently paying 4.36% interest on deposits.

Policy: Whaley- no report

Human Resources: Pitt- no report

NEW BUSINESS: WD#1 has continuing problems with the Post Office delivering our bills. Wray suggested a mailing explaining how we bill, who is responsible for delivering the bills and our policy on customer responsibility for knowing when they should be receiving bills. The mailing would include alternatives for paying water bills. Rothman will work with Everleigh to write the mailing.

OTHER ITEMS: none

PUBLIC COMMENT: none

ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 7:26 PM.

