

Water District No. 1 Of Midland County
Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes
Date: Jan. 21, 2026

Board Members Present:

Jennifer Clever, Jerome
Steve Dunkle, Edenville
Brett Fales, Lincoln
Rita Goul, Hope
Carl Hamann, Sanford
Doug Kruger, Lee
Meredith, Lincoln
Art Peters, Edenville
Dave Rothman, Hope

Staff Present:

Rowan Everleigh
Nate French

Drafted: 1/22/2026

Approved: ~~7/18/2026~~ 2026

401
B.F.

Public:

Dennis Goul
Tom Booth
Ralph Rood

Board Members Absent:

Steve Rice, Jerome
Bonnie Whaley, Sanford

MEETING LOCATION: Jerome Township Hall

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

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG AND ROLL CALL: Pledge performed. Ten members were in attendance, a quorum.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Rothman began this process by asking for nominations for the office of Chair. Fales volunteered to serve as Chair, seconded by Hamann. There were no other nominations. Fales was elected by unanimous voice vote. Hamann volunteered to serve as Vice-Chair. There were no other nominations. Hamann was elected by unanimous voice vote. Rothman nominated Clever as Treasurer, seconded by Goul. There were no other nominations. Clever was elected by unanimous voice vote. Hamann nominated Rothman for Secretary, seconded by Clever. There were no other nominations. Clever was elected by Unanimous voice vote.

MINUTES: Moved by Hamann, second by Pitt, to approve the minutes of the December 17, 2025 meeting. Motion approved by voice vote.

OPERATIONAL BILLS: Moved by Clever, second by Goul, to approve payment of bills totaling \$93,478.65, checks 14375-14385, 14393-14402, 14404, 14406-14408, with 14405 voided, plus 10 EFTs. Motion approved by roll call vote, 10/0. Motion by Clever, approved by Goul, to approve payment of local unit fees totaling \$64,800, checks 1569-1572. Motion approved by roll call vote, 10/0. Moved by Clever, second by Rothman, checks 14386-14392, 14403, 11 direct deposits and 8 EFTs. Motion approved by roll call vote, 10/0.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

STAFF REPORTS: Everleigh reported that shutoffs will begin Jan. 22. Everleigh recommended limiting shutoffs this time to accounts over \$125 in arrears, to minimize shutoff activity during bitter cold weather expected beginning Jan. 22. This will limit the number of accounts liable to be shut-off to no more than 37 accounts. Moved by Rothman, second by Hamann, to approve the recommendation. Motion approved by roll call vote, 10/0. Everleigh advised that customers liked the billing cycle calendars issued in 2025 and would like the same in 2026. Everleigh said she would publish the calendar on the WD1 website and direct people there to print a copy and make printed copies available to people who come to the office. Admin staff has been working on taxes. The next step is proofreading the taxes and then uploading them. BS&A payments go into effect Jan. 29. French reported the field staff is mostly working indoors and updating the GIS app.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee: Hamann reported no executive meeting took place. The job descriptions need to be finished. HR will finish the review and report at a future meeting. Still need a policy for multiple water connections to multiple dwellings on a single parcel.

Operations and maintenance: Hamann advised the board of a water line issue on Olson Road on Lee Township. A home with no current water line connection was being sold by Mr. Ralph Rood and, with Mr. Rood's consent, the prospective buyer, Mr. Tom Booth, excavated the curb box to begin installing a service line to the house. The site had been staked out following a Miss Dig call, with the water line staked out by WD1. Mr. Booth, operating the excavator, hit the buried curb box, causing a leak which was capped off late that day by a WD1 tech. Mr. Booth claimed the curb box had not been staked out. Mr. Booth chose not to finish the water connection that evening. The next day, the excavation hole was substantially flooded when the WD1 tech returned. Mr. Booth claimed he barely touched the curb box with a shovel, and the cap installed the previous day blew off. Hamann advised that when a property owner performs work on the water system and a problem appears within 1 year, the property owner is liable for the cost of repairs. The total cost of the 2 days' work was \$5,355; the majority spent on Day 2. Mr. Booth offered to pay for the Day 1 work (~\$1,100) but objected to paying the entire bill due to his claims that the stake-out and capping work were not property done. Mr. Booth offered no evidence beyond his and Mr. Rood's statements. Hamann recommended applying the WDP1 policy. After much discussion, this matter was tabled until a future meeting.

French reported that the Price Rd office building should be repainted and larger rain gutters installed along the roof edge, plus the parking lot may need repaving (originally paved in 2012). French was asked to obtain cost estimates. French also reported that the Edenville water tower is due for its 5-year inspection (approx. cost \$5,000) and the Lee tower needs exterior repainting. Nelson will inspect the Lee tower condition (\$12,680). Moved by Peters, second by Hamann, to approve \$5,000 for the Edenville tower inspection. Motion approved by roll call vote, 10/0. Moved by Hamann, second by

Peters, to approve \$12, 680 for Nelson engineering support. Motion approved by roll call vote, 10/0. French reported that the District needs a software package to manage tickets with the Miss Dog website. The software adds a layer to the ARC GIS software maps with images of the site staked out. The software has a \$795 startup cost plus an annual subscription cost of \$1,800. Moved by Hamann, second by Dunkle, to approve acquiring the software. Motion approved by roll call vote, 10/0.

Business and Finance: Clever advised that the committee met 1/20/2026 and reviewed staff, bills, payroll and Revenue & Expenditure reports. The investments in Michigan CLASS are currently yielding 3.8296%. Rothman advised he would meet with staff on Friday, Jan. 23 to discuss the funded accounts and checking account balance.

Policy: Whaley absent, no report.

Human Resources: Pitt- committee will meet and have job reports for the Board at the February meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: None

OTHER ITEMS: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: A member of the public in attendance had a question about the Price Road office painting project, answered by staff.

ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 7:59 PM.

H. David Rothman


