PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMISSION

The regular meeting of the Commission was held in person and via Zoom videoconference on August 27, 2025.

PRESENT: Commissioners, Meinz, Tumpach, Danen, and Herrman.

EXCUSED: Commissioner Hasselblad

ALSO PRESENT: N. Qualls, B. Clausen, L. Sarau, J. Smudde, E. Tietyen, P. Wescott, G. Ashauer, R. Bach, C. Mueller, B. Oldenburg, S. Thieszen, B. Thompson, P. Smits, R. Brown, E. Houghton, T. Garrison, E. Collar, J. Becken, K. Verbeten, A. Butry, M. McGuire, R. Brown, T. Biese, G. DeGrave, C. Wiese, A. Henningsen – Nicolet National Bank, M. Walter – Brown County Port & Resource Recovery, C. Blan – Brown County Port & Resource Recovery J. Smies – Legal Counsel.

Commission Secretary Meinz called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1) Safety Moment.

N. Qualls gave a safety update on Back-to-School Safety.

2) Approval of minutes of Commission meetings held July 30, 2025.

Motion #25-066

It was moved by Herrman, and seconded by Danen, and the unanimous vote was to approve the July 30, 2025, meeting minutes as distributed.

3) Introduction of New Employees: Gregg DeGrave & Chris Wiese.

P. Smits introduced new employees Gregg DeGrave & Chris Wiese, who gave brief descriptions of their previous work history. Commissioners welcomed them to NEW Water, the brand of the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District.

4) Nicolet National Bank Update.

Adam Henningsen of Nicolet National Bank provided the Commissioners with information on NEW Water's Investment Portfolio and an Economic & Financial update.

5) Brown County Household Hazardous Waste Update.

K. Verbeten introduced Mark Walter of Brown County Port & Resource Recovery. M. Walter provided the Commission with an update which included:

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- Hazardous Material Recovery
- What We Do
- Unacceptable Materials
- HMR Program Summary 2020-2024
- What do we do with it all
- HMR Program Summary
- Questions

6) Request Commission approval for Jacobs Engineering LLC Adaptive Management consulting contract amendment.

E. Houghton stated that in March 2018, NEW Water selected Jacobs Engineering Group to assist with the development and implementation of the Adaptive Management Program (Program) located within the Ashwaubenon Creek and Dutchman Creek (ACDC) watershed of the Lower Fox River (LFR) Drainage Basin of the Lake Michigan Basin. Since the start of this contract and the inception of this Program, Jacobs and NEW Water have accomplished several significant tasks. The proposed amendment would allow the team of NEW Water, Outagamie County, and Jacobs Engineering to build upon work successfully completed due to their understanding of the unique watershed needs of the region and its partners, the specific Program operations, and how to integrate watershed implementation with digital tools to support multi-party collaboration. NEW Water carefully reviewed the level of effort and proposed amendment amount and found it appropriate.

Motion #25-067

It was moved by Danen, seconded by Herrman, and unanimously agreed to approve Jacobs Engineering Group to provide consulting services for execution of the Ashwaubenon Creek and Dutchman Creek Adaptive Management Program in the amount of \$1,609,540 and a 5% contingency of \$80,477 under the authority of the Executive Director for a total amount of \$1,690,017.

7) Request Commission approval to enter into an agreement with World Water Works, Inc. for Hydrocyclone Pilot Study equipment rental in the amount of \$99,000.

T. Biese stated that, as a result of the 2022 Facility Plan, NEW Water initiated the South Plant Mixing Enhancement Study, which is nearing completion in 2025. The current South Plant project has increased NEW Water's understanding of how low dissolved oxygen and mixed liquor recycle operational configurations can improve energy use and nutrient removal performance. Questions remain on the high variability of the sludge settling characteristics. The Hydrocyclone Pilot study is intended to focus primarily on process improvements associated with improving settleability and build on the South Plant Mixing Enhancement operational improvement efforts. Proving the effectiveness of this technology will provide critical data for guiding future capital design decisions at both the GBF and the DPF.

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Items numbers 7 & 8 were combined into one motion for approval.

- 8) Request Commission approval to enter into an agreement with Black & Veatch to provide applied research and support services for the implementation of Hydrocyclone Pilot Study in the amount of \$96,000.
 - T. Biese stated that Black & Veatch worked with NEW Water during facility planning to develop the recommended improvements required to implement the South Plant Mixing Enhancement Study and the proposed Hydrocyclone Pilot Study. The Black & Veatch team has stayed closely engaged during the operation and optimization of the South Plant Mixing Enhancement Study. At the request of staff, Black & Veatch has submitted an agreement to provide significant services in support of the Hydrocyclone Pilot Study. Due to their detailed knowledge of the project, they are uniquely positioned to provide these services. Staff have reviewed the agreement, scope, and related costs and determined them to be appropriate for the required work.

Motion #25-068

It was moved by Herrman, seconded by Danen, and unanimously agreed to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contractual agreement with World Water Works, Inc. to rent an inDENSE hydrocyclone skid for a total of 12 months in the amount of \$86,000, and a contingency of two extra months rental rate of \$13,000 for a total amount of \$99,000. It was also unanimously agreed in this motion to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contractual agreement with Black & Veatch to provide consulting services for applied research support during the implementation of the Hydrocyclone Pilot Study in the amount of \$87,030 and a contingency of \$8,970 to be administered under the authority of the Executive Director for a total amount of \$96,000.

- Request Commission approval of the restructured organizational chart for the Engineering Services Department and approval to hire an Engineering Services Manager.
 - L. Sarau stated that NEW Water staff is requesting approval to restructure the Engineering Services Department by replacing the current Project Manager position with an Engineering Services Manager position. The Engineering Department is essential to the ongoing operation, reliability, and growth of NEW Water's wastewater treatment and conveyance infrastructure. With the organization implementing a substantial capital improvement program, demand for projects has grown significantly. This position would be similar to the Project Manager position, but with added supervisory responsibilities, and would not add to the current headcount.

Motion #25-069

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It was moved by Herrman, seconded by Danen, and unanimously agreed to update the organizational chart for the Engineering Services Department and authorize proceeding with the hiring process for an Engineering Services Manager.

10) Sewer plan approvals:

Motion #25-070

It was moved by Herrman, and seconded by Tumpach, and agreed to approve the Village of Suamico, Village of Bellevue, Village of Luxemburg, and Village of Hobart sewer plans.

- 11) Convene in closed session under State Statute 19.85(1)(c) for the purpose of considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body as jurisdiction or exercise responsibility, under State Statute 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session and State Statute 19.85 (1) (g) for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel for the Commission who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the Commission with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved:
 - a) Potential litigation resulting from environmental testing by a significant industrial user.
 - b) Potential transfer of certain interceptor segments pursuant to Section 5.05 of the Sewer Use Ordinance to a municipality.
 - c) Employment of a public employee.

Motion #25-071

It was moved by Herrman, seconded by Danen, and unanimously agreed to convene in closed session under State Statute 19.85(1)(e) for the purpose of deliberating or negotiating the purchase of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business, whenever competitive or bargaining reasons require a closed session and State Statute 19.85(1)(g) for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel for the Commission who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the Commission with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.

12) Reconvene in open session.

Motion #25-072

It was moved by Herrman, seconded by Meinz, and unanimously agreed to reconvene in open session.

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13) Update of projects:

a) East River Interceptor Renewal Project.

M. McGuire stated that the contractors have continued working on submittals, shop drawings, and preparing and ordering materials for the project. Contractors continue delivering materials and fusing pipes for the temporary conveyance system that is planned to be completed by the end of August.

b) Downtown Interceptor Renewal Project.

M. McGuire stated that the contractors have continued working on submittals, shop drawings, and preparing and ordering materials for the project. Contractors have begun cleaning the East Fox River Interceptor, which is scheduled for completion by the end of August.

c) GBF North Plant Clarifier Rehabilitation Project.

B. Brown stated that at the time of this meeting, PC 3, FC 1, and FC 5 were nearing completion, and any repairs would be addressed when time allowed in the project schedule. Demo work has started on FC 3, and FC 7, and demo work on PC2 is scheduled to begin right after the holidays. The goal is to have those three clarifiers completed by the end of 2025.

14) 2026 Budget Workshop.

- B. Clausen reviewed the 2026 Draft Budget as followed:
- 2025 Budget Update (through July)
- Proposed 2026 Budget
- Flows and Loads
- 2026 Proposed Expenses
- 2026 O&M Expenses
- 2026 O&M Expense Distribution
- 2026 Salaries & Benefits
- 2026 Contracted Services
- 2026 Major Capital Projects
- 2026 Annual Capital
- Proposed Long-term Capital Projects
- Capital Projects for 2027-2023
- 2026 Revenue
- Municipal Rate Comparison
- 2026 DRAFT Budget Summary

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Next Steps

A draft 2026 Budget was also provided.

15) Environmental, Health, and Safety Update.

- A. Butry provided the Commission with a Health, Safety, and Security update that included:
- 2024 Safety Statistics
- Safety Improvement Projects
- Digester #1 Shutdown and Inspection
- Electrical Safety Program Development
- HAZWOPER Training Development
- Hosted Summer 2024 Multi-Agency Training

K. Verbeten provided the Commission with an Environmental Compliance Update that included:

- 2024 NEW Water Current Permits
- 2024 Environmental Reporting
- 2024 Stack Testing Summary
- Additional Focus Areas in 2024
- Major Regulatory Inspections
- New for 2025 EHS Scorecard
- Task Tracking
- Grading System
- Questions/Comments

16) July 2025 Financials.

C. Mueller reported that July's operating revenues were favorable to budget. Year to date, total operating revenues were favorable to budget.

July's operating expenses were favorable to budget due to fewer expenditures than budgeted in contracted services, and administrative and information technology. Year-to-date, operating expenses have been favorable to budget, primarily due to lower expenditures than budgeted for contracted services, plant maintenance, and salaries and benefits.

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17) July 2025 Operations Report.

P. Wescott reported that both facilities were in full compliance with all effluent limits in the month of July. The Green Bay Facility was in compliance with air quality limits for the month of July.

For the month, the solids processing facility generated 1,469 MWH of electricity. Total bio-gas volume recovered was 171,329 CCF. This was 97% of the total volume produced. The remaining volume was sent through the waste gas flare. NEW Water received 637,354 gallons of high-strength waste.

18) Executive Director's Report:

a) September Commission Meeting.

The next meeting will be held on September 24, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. via a hybrid meeting.

b) Agreements Signed by the Executive Director.

A document summarizing the agreements that have been approved since the last period was provided to Commission for review.

c) Executive Director Expense Summary.

A document summarizing the Executive Director's expenses from January 2025 through July 2025 was provided to Commission for review.

d) STEAM Superheroes Camp.

NEW Water hosted its 10th annual camp with the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Green Bay, to educate area youth on science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematics

e) Sunset on the Farm.

NEW Water once again participated in Sunset on the Farm hosted by the Fox Demonstration Farms Network. Ben Young and Erin Houghton had a table in the Conservation Tent with an interactive EnvrioScape as well as handouts on the NEW Watershed Program and NEW Water educational materials.

f) Downtown Interceptors Renewal Project & Outreach Continue.

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This project is renewing critical infrastructure that has been in place since the 1930s and is necessary to ensure continuous service. Outreach continues with partners and the community, including media coverage. A link was provided that you could follow to sign up for project updates.

g) NEW Water hosted Rep. David Steffen.

NEW Water hosted Wisconsin Rep. David Steffen (R-Howard) on Aug. 4th for an overview and tour.

h) NACWA Utility Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting.

N. Qualls stated that he attended the NACWA 2025 Summer Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting held from July 22 through 25 in Colorado Springs, Colorado. In addition to highly informative Committee meetings, the main topics of the meeting included the adoption of a systems thinking approach, updates from the EPA regarding federal funding and Office of Water priorities, governance best practices, navigating construction project uncertainty, as well as investing in utility staff.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

GREEN BAY METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT

Secretary