

**GREEN BAY METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT
PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMISSION**

The regular meeting of the Commission was held in person and via Zoom
videoconference on May 27, 2026.

PRESENT: Commissioners Mainz, Antonneau, Danen, Tumpach, and Herrman.

ALSO PRESENT: N. Qualls, J. Smudde, E. Tietzen, P. Wescott, B. Clausen, L. Sarau, R. Bach, B. Brown, B. Oldenburg, S. Thiesen, P. Smits, E. Houghton, G. Ashauer, J. Becken, C. Mueller, M. McGuire, M. Pelishek, S. Georgel, T. Garrison, E. Brewer, B. Young, K. Verbeten, S. Bartlett, H. Lepak – CLA, A. Drewieski – CLA, and J. Smies – Legal Counsel

Commission President Mainz called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

1) Safety Moment.

N. Qualls gave a safety update on electrical safety.

2) Approval of minutes of the Commission meeting held April 22, 2026.

Motion #26-025

It was moved by Danen, seconded by Antonneau, and unanimously agreed to approve the April 22, 2026, minutes as distributed.

3) 2025 Financial Audit.

C. Mueller introduced Amber Drewieske from CliftonLarsonAllen, who gave a presentation on the 2025 Audit for NEW Water, the brand of the Green Bay Metropolitan Sewerage District, which included:

- Introductions
- Required Communications & Summary of Audit Results
- Financial Statements
- Single Audit
- Comments/Observations & Upcoming GASB Standards

4) Request Commission approval of resolutions for the acceptance of the 2025 Compliance Maintenance Annual Reports for the Green Bay and De Pere Facilities.

K. Verbeten detailed the Compliance Maintenance Annual Reports for both the Green Bay and De Pere Facilities, along with their corresponding scores. In 2025, both facilities achieved a grade point average of 4.0, placing NEW Water's response in the voluntary (good) range with no action required.

Motion #26-026

It was moved by Antonneau, seconded by Danen, and unanimously agreed to approve the resolutions accepting the 2025 Compliance Maintenance Annual Reports for the Green Bay and De Pere Facilities. (Resolutions #2026-003 & 2026-004 are kept at NEW Water offices)

5) Request Commission approval to enter into an agreement with Aqualis to provide interceptor cleaning and televising in the amount of \$136,200.

L. Sarau stated that NEW Water annually cleans and televises portions of its interceptor system to assess pipe condition, support asset management planning, and meet the requirements of its Capacity Management Operation and Maintenance (CMOM) Program. Televising provides valuable information on the condition of interceptors, helps identify deterioration trends over time, and supports future capital improvement planning. For 2026, staff proposes televising approximately 95,500 feet of interceptor and cleaning approximately 52,500 feet. Although unit costs for interceptor cleaning and televising have increased over the past three years due to strong market demand for sewer inspection services, these activities remain critical to maintaining the reliability and long-term performance of the collection system.

Motion #26-027

It was moved by Antonneau, seconded by Danen, and unanimously agreed to enter into an agreement with Aqualis to provide interceptor cleaning and televising services in the amount of \$129,727.90 with a 5% contingency of \$6,472.10 administered under the authority of the Executive Director, for a total amount of \$136,200.

6) Sewer Plan Approvals.

- a) City of Green Bay, Project #8746, GBMSD Request #2026-17.
- b) Village of Bellevue, Project #6640-06-01, GBMSD Request #2023-18.

Motion #26-028

It was moved by Antonneau, seconded by Danen, and unanimously agreed to approve the City of Green Bay and Village of Bellevue plans for the proposed sewers to serve the land located within the NEW Water service area. These approvals are subject to favorable recommendations from Brown County Planning and final approval of the WDNR.

- 7) **Convene in closed session under 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 and 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 has jurisdiction or exercise responsibility:**
- a) **Consultation with auditors regarding employee evaluation.**
 - b) **Potential litigation resulting from environmental testing by a significant industrial user.**
 - c) **Discrimination complaint filed by former employee.**

Motion #26-029

It was moved by Antonneau, seconded by Herrman, and unanimously agreed to convene in closed session under 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 and 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 has jurisdiction or exercise responsibility.

- 8) **Reconvene in open session.**

Motion #26-030

It was moved by Danen, seconded by Antonneau, and unanimously agreed to reconvene in open session.

- 9) **Update of projects:**

a) Downtown Interceptor Renewal Project.

M. McGuire stated that the contractor received all 42-inch slip-line pipe shipments and completed installation of the pipe within the East Fox River Interceptor. Excavation at the Main Street access pit progressed to the top of the vault structure. The contractor is scheduled to complete final adjustments, reconnect the existing laterals along the 42-inch segment, install fiberglass manhole inserts, and grout the annular space between the new and existing pipes. Preparations for 60-inch slip-lining activities at the Main Street access pit are also scheduled to begin.

b) Green Bay Facility Thickening Improvements Project.

T. Biese stated that the contractor completed the installation of equipment control wiring for Gravity Belt Thickener (GBT) #4 and associated equipment. The equipment manufacturer was on-site to complete setup and testing, and progress continues integrating equipment controls and monitoring into NEW Water's centralized control system. Work is scheduled to continue control system integration, construction, and commissioning activities for GBT #4 and supporting equipment. Project planning and scheduling efforts will also begin with work associated with GBT #3.

c) De Pere Facility Pumping and Headworks Project.

T. Biese reported that the construction of the new grit removal tanks continued with ongoing concrete placement. The contractor also made progress on installing the exterior equipment access panel at Grit Building 2 to support the removal of existing grit-washing equipment and the installation of the new system. Conduit installation for power and control wiring to the new equipment continued, while the project team maintained its review of submittals, RFIs, shutdown requests, change orders, payment applications, and other project documentation.

Work is expected to continue with the construction of the grit removal tanks and the installation of conduit for power and control wiring. The contractor is also expected to begin installation of the new submersible pump station, which will return plant drain flow to the treatment process.

10) Aquatic Monitoring Program Updates.

S. Bartlett presented an Aquatic Monitoring Program Update to the Commission, which included:

- 40th Year of Water Quality Monitoring
- NEW Water Sample Locations
- Total Phosphorus Annual Mean and how it compares to previous years
- Total Suspended Solids Annual Mean and how it compares to previous years
- Great Lakes Observing System Grant

11) April 2026 Financials.

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

April's operating expenses were unfavorable to budget due to more expenditures than budgeted in contracted services, power, and administrative and information

technology. Year to date, operating expenses were favorable to budget due to fewer expenditures than budgeted in plant maintenance, salaries and benefits, and solid waste disposal.

12) April 2026 Operations Report.

P. Wescott reported that the De Pere Facility was in full compliance with all effluent limits for the month of April.

For the month, the solids processing facility generated 1,432 MWH of electricity. A total of 221,232 CCF of biogas was recovered, representing almost 88% of the total volume produced. The remaining volume was sent through the waste gas flare. NEW Water received 991,939 gallons of high-strength waste.

Wescott also reported that from April 12th through the 15th, the region experienced between 4 - 6+ inches of rainfall combined with saturated ground conditions and snowmelt, resulting in significant inflow and infiltration and record flows at both the Green Bay and De Pere Facilities. On April 14, the Green Bay Facility treated 134.9 MGD, exceeding its maximum daily design capacity of 96.6 MGD, while the De Pere Facility treated 36.4 MGD compared to its 26.1 MGD design capacity. During this event, the GBF recorded historical peak hour, peak day, and peak month flow conditions. NEW Water maintained full treatment operations throughout the event with no bypasses of raw or partially treated wastewater. Staff implemented numerous operational measures to maximize treatment capacity and manage flows, including utilizing available treatment infrastructure, adjusting process operations, and coordinating with industrial users to reduce flows.

The Green Bay Facility exceeded the weekly Total Suspended Solids (TSS) limit, reporting 27.2 mg/L compared to the permit limit of 27.0 mg/L. All other permit limits at both facilities were met.

The event highlighted the importance of reliable pumping infrastructure, operational preparedness, and continued efforts to reduce inflow and infiltration throughout the regional collection system. Staff is conducting follow-up evaluations related to operational response, training, construction sequencing, and future capital planning.

Commission President Mienz commended NEW Water staff on its operational readiness, expertise, and commitment.

13) Executive Director's Report:

a) June Commission Meeting.

The next meeting will be held on June 24, 2026, at 8:30 a.m. via a hybrid meeting. This meeting will be held in the Building 310 Conference Room.

b) WPDES Permit Modification.

N. Qualls stated that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WDNR) issued public notice of the modified WPDES permit for NEW Water on May 5, 2026, initiating a 30-day public comment period. The modification follows WDNR approval of the Dissipative Cooling Study, which demonstrated that thermal impacts are adequately dissipated in the receiving water and supported removal of thermal limits from the permit. Assuming no significant comments are received, the modified permit is expected to become effective June 1, 2026.

c) National Funding for Clean Water.

N. Qualls stated that the National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) is leading efforts to oppose proposed federal budget cuts that would reduce Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs by over 90 percent. NEW Water is joining other utilities nationwide in advocating for continued SRF funding and is preparing a letter to federal elected officials in support of the program.

d) NACWA Utility Leadership Conference.

N. Qualls reminded Commissioners that if they are interested in attending the NACWA Utility Leadership Conference, please reach out to Roni Bach.

e) Wisconsin Wastewater Professional Appreciation Day.

N. Qualls stated that NEW Water celebrated staff in recognition of Wisconsin's Wastewater Professionals Appreciation Day.

f) Strategic Plan Research and Update.

N. Qualls stated that work is continuing on the 2027–2029 Strategic Plan, with CORE Leadership presenting results from their research phase and staff meeting with them in May to begin drafting the plan's pillars and priorities. It was agreed to align the new Strategic Plan cycle with the fiscal year, beginning in January 2027. Management is developing supporting objectives focused on the first 18 months of the plan. A draft framework will be presented to the Commission in June for input and brought forward for approval at a future meeting.

g) Conservation Partners Spring Roundtable.

N. Qualls stated that Sarah Bartlett, Tricia Garrison, and Angela Kowalzek presented at the Green Bay Conservation Partners Spring Roundtable on April 29, 2026.

h) Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing.

N. Qualls stated that NEW Water completed Whole Effluent Toxicity (WET) Testing at the De Pere and Green Bay Facilities from May 3rd to the 8th, as required by our WPDES permit. Test organisms were exposed to varying effluent concentrations to evaluate acute survival and chronic growth responses. Results showed normal survival and growth across all tests, and both facilities passed with effluent quality in compliance.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

GREEN BAY METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "D. Qualls", is written over a horizontal line.

Secretary