

GREEN BAY METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT PROCEEDINGS OF THE COMMISSION

The regular meeting of the Commission was held in person and via Zoom videoconference on August 26, 2026.

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

ALSO PRESENT: N. Qualls, J. Smudde, E. Tietyen, P. Wescott, B. Clausen, L. Sarau, B. Thompson, R. Bach, B. Brown, A. Butry, P. Smits, E. Houghton, G. Ashauer, J. Becken, C. Mueller, B. Oldenburg, T. Garrison, S. Thiesen, M. McGuire, E. Brewer, K. Verbeten, A. Henningson – Nicolet National Bank, Dr. V. Kretz – Saint Norbert 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 Back-to-School Safety.

2) Approval of minutes of the Commission meeting held July 29, 2026.

Motion #26-049

Commissioner Mainz requested minor edits to the minutes prior to publishing. It was moved by Danen, seconded by Antonneau, and unanimously agreed to approve the July 29, 2026, minutes as modified.

3) Nicolet Bank Investment Update.

Adam Henningson of Nicolet National Bank provided the Commissioners with information on NEW Water's Investment Portfolio and an Economic Update.

4) Employee Satisfaction Survey.

E. Tietyen introduced Dr. Valerie Kretz, who presented the NEW Water Employee Satisfaction Survey – 2026 Final Report, which included an overview of 2026 survey results as well as comparisons to the 2024 survey.

5) Request Commission approval for the FBI dome replacement, as an emergency maintenance repair, and approve the award of a purchase order to Industrial Furnace Company for the total amount of \$162,800.

P. Wescott provided an update on the condition and replacement needs of the Fluid Bed Incinerator (FBI) refractory dome. Deterioration, including cracking and movement, was noted during a 2022 inspection, with additional movement documented in 2025. In June 2026, a refractory shape partially failed, requiring an emergency repair by Industrial Furnace Company (IFCO). The repair work exposed additional cracking and deterioration, and IFCO identified the repair as an interim measure and recommended full dome replacement. Several tuyeres were also showing significant cracking, creating additional operational risk. Due to the FBI's critical role in biosolids processing, an unplanned failure could significantly impact operations, increase costs, and potentially affect regulatory compliance.

After consulting with legal counsel, staff determined that the dome replacement qualifies as an emergency maintenance repair. Staff recommended completing the full dome replacement during the scheduled September 2026 outage. Staff also recommended contracting with IFCO based on its experience with the FBI, completion of the June emergency repair, and familiarity with the dome's condition.

After discussing the request, Commissioners suggested building up a budget reserve annually to address future brick replacement expenses.

Motion #26-050

It was moved by Herrman, seconded by Antonneau, and unanimously agreed to for the FBI dome replacement, as an emergency maintenance repair, and approve the award of purchase order to Industrial Furnace Company in the amount of \$148,000 with a 10% contingency of \$14,800 under the authority of the Executive Director for a total amount of \$162,800.

6) Request Commission approval to enter into an agreement for Design and Bidding Related Services for the Interplant Force Main Air Release Vault Assessment and Rehabilitation with Strand Associates, Inc., not to exceed \$122,000.

S. Thieszen stated Field Services and Engineering staff are proposing a project to assess and rehabilitate the 18 air release valve (ARV) vaults serving the Interplant Force Mains. Constructed in 2010, the force mains and ARV vaults are critical to transferring wastewater and waste activated sludge from the De Pere Facility to the Green Bay Facility. Deterioration of existing coatings has resulted in corrosion of piping, valves, fittings, and other metal components. Strand Associates, Inc. will inspect four representative vaults, evaluate the condition of the structures and components, and develop a report with recommended rehabilitation options and estimated construction costs for all 18 vaults. The scope also includes preparing contract documents and providing bidding-related services for the recommended rehabilitation work.

Motion #26-051

It was moved by Antonneau, seconded by Danen, and unanimously agreed to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a contractual agreement with strand Associates, Inc. to provide design and bidding-related services for the Interplant Force Main Air Release Valve Vault Assessment and Rehabilitation project in the amount of \$111,000, and a 10% contingency for a total of \$122,000 to be administered under the authority of the Executive Director.

7) Request Commission approval to enter into an agreement with Donohue & Associates to provide facility planning services for the Southeast Service Area Project for a total amount of \$178,665.

M. McGuire stated staff reviewed a proposed facility planning effort to evaluate future wastewater service needs in the southeast portion of NEW Water's service area, including areas of anticipated growth in and around De Pere, Ledgeview, Rockland, Greenleaf, and Wrightstown. Increased interest from existing and potential customers, along with Brown County's planned CTH EB-to-CTH GV connection, is expected to support future development in the area. Staff recommends contracting with Donohue & Associates based on its familiarity with NEW Water's interceptor system and related projects. The scope includes reviewing existing records and flow data, coordinating with existing and potential customers, projecting future flows using a sewer model, and evaluating options for future interceptor sewer sizing and alignment.

Motion #26-052

It was moved by Antonneau, seconded by Danen, and unanimously approved to enter into an agreement with Donohue & Associates to provide engineering services for the Southeast Service Area Facility Plan in the amount of \$162,365 and a contingency of \$16,300 to be administered under the authority of the Executive Director for a total amount of \$178,665.

8) Sewer Plan Approvals.

- a) Village of Pulaski, Project #32250020, GBMSD Request #2026-25.

Motion #26-053

It was moved by Danen, seconded by Antonneau, and unanimously agreed to approve the Village of Pulaski plan for the proposed sewers to serve land located within the NEW Water service area. This approval is subject to favorable recommendations from Brown County Planning and final approval by the WDNR.

- 9) **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:**
- a) **Potential litigation resulting from environmental testing by a significant industrial user.**
 - b) **Potential litigation resulting from notice of claim for damages to residential property.**

Motion #26-054

It was moved by Danen, seconded by Antonneau, 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.

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

Motion #26-055

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

- 11) **Update of projects:**

a) Downtown Interceptor Renewal Project.

M. McGuire stated that the contractor completed installation of the 48-inch pipe segment and began reconnecting intermediate connections. Forms were also started to encase the exposed pipe at the S. Adams Street access pit prior to backfilling. Significant progress was made at the Main Street Access Pit in preparation for installation of the 60-inch slipline pipe. During the next reporting period, the contractor will complete final adjustments and reconnect existing laterals in the 48-inch segment, grout the annular space between the new and existing pipes, and pour concrete around the exposed pipe at S. Adams Street before backfilling the access pit.

b) Green Bay Facility North Plant Clarifier Rehabilitation Project.

B. Brown Stated Work on Final Clarifier (FC) 2 and Primary Clarifier (PC) 1 was completed, and both units were returned to service following successful 7-day compliance testing. FC #1, FC #7, and PC #2 have also been recently completed and require only minor corrections, while FC #3, FC #5, FC #6, and PC #3 require more substantial corrective work. FC #4, FC #8, and PC #4

remain out of service and under construction. FC #8 is expected to be completed with compliance testing beginning in early September. FC #4 and PC #4 are projected to be completed near the end of November. Remaining corrective work will be scheduled as resources permit, with most work anticipated to be complete by year-end. Critical repairs to the two South Plant clarifiers will be evaluated for potential inclusion as a contract change order.

c) De Pere Facility Pumping and Headworks Project.

B. Brown reported concrete work continued on the grit tank and channel structure. The Process Return Pump Station structure was installed and backfilled, and the grit buildings were prepared for equipment installation. MCC and controls planning, submittal review, and project document execution continued. Next steps include completing structural work, advancing piping, equipment and electrical installation, progressing Pump Station roofing and bar screen preparation, and beginning preparation for LPP5 pump replacement.

12) 2027 Budget Workshop.

N. Qualls reviewed the 2027 Draft Budget as follows:

- 2026 Budget Update
- Flows and Loads
- 2027 Proposed Expenses
- 2027 O&M Expenses
- 2027 O&M Expense Distribution
- 2027 Salaries and Benefits
- 2027 Contracted Services
- 2027 Major Capital Projects
- 2027 Annual Capital
- Proposed Long-Term Capital Project
- Capital Projects for 2028-2031
- 2027 Revenue
- Municipal Rate Comparison
- 2027 Draft Budget Summary
- Next Steps

13) July 2026 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, administrative and information technology, and plant maintenance. Year to date, operating expenses were favorable to budget due to fewer expenditures than budgeted in plant maintenance, contracted services, and salaries and benefits.

14) July 2026 Operations Report.

Effluent Quality: P. Wescott stated on July 8, 2026, heavy rainfall increased influent flow from approximately 9 MGD to nearly 30 MGD within one hour, requiring a controlled partial bypass of the UV disinfection system after available storage capacity was exhausted. Treatment remained within permit limits with no process upsets or overflows. The WDNR was notified of the partial bypass of the disinfection system and confirmed the event reporting was adequate, with approval of the unscheduled bypass anticipated. The Green Bay Facility was minimally impacted.

Both facilities were in full compliance with all effluent limits for the month of July.

Compliance Inspection: P. Wescott reported that on July 14, 2026, the WDNR completed No Exposure Certification inspections at both facilities. No issues were identified at De Pere; two housekeeping items were identified at Green Bay, and staff promptly corrected both. On July 22, WDNR confirmed that the items had been addressed and closed the inspection.

WDNR also conducted a WPDES inspection through a virtual review on July 8 and an on-site inspection on July 28. The review covered treatment processes, records, monitoring, and facility operations. No findings were reported, and the final inspection report is expected within three months.

Air Quality: P. Wescott stated that the Green Bay Facility was in compliance with air quality limits for the month of July.

Resource Recovery: For the month, the solids processing facility generated 1,466 MWH of electricity. A total of 140,347 CCF of biogas was recovered, representing just over 99% of the total volume produced. The remaining volume was sent through the waste gas flare. NEW Water received 646,171 gallons of high-strength waste.

P. Wescott stated NEW Water began participating in MISO capacity and energy markets on June 1, 2026, receiving monthly capacity payments for making onsite generation available during high-demand or emergency conditions. The first payment, covering June participation, is expected to be approximately \$35,000.

On July 15, MISO dispatched NEW Water's generators at both the Green Bay and De Pere facilities for approximately 90 minutes, resulting in additional compensation, estimated at \$4,000.

15) Executive Director's Report:

a) September Commission Meeting.

The September Commission Meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 23, 2026.

b) Agreements Signed by the Executive Director.

The Commission received a summary of agreements signed by the Executive Director.

c) Executive Director Expense Summary.

The Commission received a summary of expenses made by the Executive Director.

d) NACWA Utility Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting.

N. Qualls stated that he attended the NACWA 2026 Utility Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting, July 14–17 in Cleveland, Ohio. Key topics included utility priorities, organizational culture, stakeholder engagement, and community trust.

e) Recognition for NEW Water's Commission President Emeritus, Kathryn Hasselblad-Pascale.

N. Qualls stated that Commission President Emeritus, Kathryn Hasselblad-Pascale, was honored at the 2026 Women of Influence Event with a "Trailblazer Award" by Insight Publications. The magazine published a story highlighting her role with NEW Water.

f) Water Infrastructure Roundtable.

NEW Water participated in a Water Roundtable on July 27 at the Green Bay Water Utility with elected officials, water partners, and area leaders. The discussion focused on shared challenges and the importance of partnerships in protecting area waterways.

g) Harmful Algal Blooms Presentation.

N. Qualls reported that in August, Sarah Bartlett presented on NEW Water's Harmful Algal Blooms Projects and new education/outreach campaign at the Great Lakes Commission meeting and Lake Michigan Day meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting
adjourned at 10:49 a.m.

GREEN BAY METROPOLITAN SEWERAGE DISTRICT

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. J. Dean", is written over a solid black horizontal line.

Secretary