WEIRTON AREA WATER BOARD **December 11, 2025**
REGULAR SESSION- 2025 AGENDA

A regular session of the Weirton Area Water Board was called to order at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 11, 2025, in Room 201 of the City Building, by James Shockley, Chairman.

Members in attendance were Ron Jones; Jim Shockley; Joseph Paolo; Rocky Bragg; and Anthony Rocchio, ex-officio member.

WAWB Staff present were Butch Mastrantoni; Lori Veltri; Jasen Havens; Brian Kuntz; Chuck Tenaglio; and Dan Guida.

Also attending were Jesse Alden and Chuck Kelly of Thrasher Engineering; Carlo Fabian of the BHJ; Charles Smith of the Weirton Sanitary Board; Nathan Mazur (phone); and Craig Howell of the Weirton Daily Times.

Mr. Shockley asked for a motion to amend the agenda to add Item #5 under New Business – Resolution #276 – To Purchase Chlorine Processing and Feed System Spare Parts. Mr. Bragg made a motion to add Item #5 to the agenda. Mr. Paolo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 13, 2025, Board meeting. Mr. Bragg seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORTS

Administrative Report – With no discussion from Board members regarding the Administrative Report, the report was approved as submitted.

Finance Report: Mr. Kuntz reviewed the finance report, which was included in the Board packet. He reported that the back page was an email from a guy about getting a collection service set up. He is going to get a hold of us and send us a contract and packet. This company covers collection expertise, collection letters, credit reporting, and estate filing all for the same percentage price. We will know more when we get the packet. Mr. Bragg made a motion to reimburse the General Fund for the shared expenses for the month of December 2025 in the amount of $3,826.00 each. Mr. Paolo seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Jones made a motion to reimburse the General Fund for the Smart Bill in the amount of $3,765.30 for the month of November 2025. Mr. Paolo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Delinquent Report: There was no Delinquent Report because Mr. Reckner was out in the field on a line break. Mr. Shockley asked how we are doing with collections since it is the holiday season. Mr. Mastrantoni commented that thus far we have no issues with an inordinately high number of collections. He said we would experience that downturn from mid-January to mid-February. Mr. Guida asked what is considered delinquent. Mr. Mastrantoni replied that bills are due upon receipt. Customers have 30 days to pay and then it becomes delinquent.

Citizens' Comments and Communications: Karen Mentzer was in attendance. It's December and the weather is cold, it's snowing, it's freezing. She wants to know if there is an SOP in place should we have another situation like we did this past winter. On top of that, she has been seeing all types of information and meetings being held by the state wanting citizens' input on how these PFAs have been affecting their lives. She comes to these meetings trying to get answers. She is trying to learn processes and exactly what's going into the water. She has filters at home. Is there any way to improve the filter system? Any way to get better water into their homes?

Mr. Bragg asked if he could make a request. The Water Department put out a notice about manganese. It's almost gone. He realizes that. It's worked its way out. Our average for the month is fine. He doesn't know if he missed the notification. There are a lot of people in the city that call him directly because of his experience in water treatment and working here all the years that he did. When it comes to water treatment things, if he could just get a text or an email ahead of time he would appreciate it. He knows it's out of the ordinary. Mr. Mastrantoni said he would get him the information. He stated the city water department did send a notice out, and he should have received one. Mr. Bragg replied that he does not have Facebook. Mr. Tenaglio said that if Mr. Bragg gives him his email address, he will add him to their Boil Order List.

Utility Director Communications: Mr. Mastrantoni stated that he is in receipt of a Notice of Retirement from Jeffrey Bertha, our Maintenance Foreman. He has been a real elemental employee for twelve years, keeping our maintenance issues addressed timely and on a consistent basis. We are sad to see him go. He forgot to include the letter in the packet, but Mr. Bertha's last day is January 2, 2026.

OLD BUSINESS

Update on the WTP Expansion Project – Jesse Alden reviewed a report from Thrasher

Engineering that he passed out. There will be a construction progress meeting today at 1:30 p.m. with the contractor, staff, EPA, BHJ, and Thrasher. He stated that Mr. Kelly continues to hold his weekly coordination meetings with staff and the contractor to ensure communication and coordination as the project continues along.

Mr. Alden gave an update on the Distribution System Upgrade Project. They have completed the engineering report and submitted the IJDC application. They have not heard anything back on the US Army Corp grant application. He is not sure when they will make announcements on that.

Mr. Alden also provided an update on the Cast Iron and Galvanized Line Replacement Project. This is part of the Public Service Commission recommendations and order. They have been working on this since September. They held a meeting yesterday with Water Board staff to go over the progress of the report preparation. They are still working on compiling some background information and drafting the report narrative. They went over the 30% PER Review yesterday. They are still in the process of finalizing the inventory and the zones throughout the city. They have broken the project into ten different zones, and they are working out the details in each of those areas to nail down a scope. At the 60% PER Review that they are proposing to hold in February, they should have the scope of all that they are proposing to do. Mr. Alden stated that probably at the February Water Board meeting he will bring the map that they've got. Right now it is in draft format, and they are working through it with staff. Once they have a nice map to present, he will bring it in, and he will discuss the scope of the project, and the Board will be able to see it on paper at that point. Mr. Paolo asked once it was submitted, what is the lead time between the contract and actual digging? Mr. Alden replied that what they are submitting to the Infrastructure Council is a planning document to put them in line for funding. Once they get through the planning process, then they have to do the design of the project. Ballpark, that is a year potentially to design the job. Then they have to bid the project out. Then they award the contracts. We are a couple years out before any dirt is turned. As part of the preliminary engineering report, a schedule would be developed for acquiring funding for the project, bidding the project, and getting it to construction. They will have a better understanding of what that looks like as they get closer to the June time frame. Mr. Mastrantoni added that Council should be advised by the schedule that if they can do anything to establish discussions with elected officials at the state and federal level to start putting us on the radar screen for funding considerations regarding grants now is the time to do that.

He also reported on the PFAS Treatment Plant Upgrade Project. They have a draft PER prepared for that. They need to sit down with staff and establish a submission date to the

Infrastructure Council. Mr. Guida asked what kind of timetable we were looking at for that. Mr. Alden replied that within the next few months they need to get it submitted to IJDC. It needs to be reviewed with Mr. Mastrantoni and his staff. Then they need to get together with the project accountant and have him prepare the cash flow statement or Rule 42 for the project, which is required to be submitted as part of the IJDC submission.

Mr. Fabian presented Draw #18 for the project in the amount of $1,962,011.97 consisting of payments to The Thrasher Group for $57,140.08, Triton Construction for $1,897,904.58, and BHJ-MPC for $6,967.31. Mr. Bragg made a motion to approve the payment of Draw #18. Mr. Paolo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Approve 2026 Holiday/Pay Calendar –** Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the 2026 Holiday/Pay Calendar. Mr. Paolo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **Approve 2026 Board Meeting Calendar –** Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the 2026 Board Meeting Calendar. Mr. Bragg seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **Approve 2026 Health, Dental, Vision Plans –** Nathan Mazur participated by phone to answer any questions from the Board. Mr. Mastrantoni reported that the city experienced a pretty significant increase. Mr. Mazur has worked very diligently to get the most coverage for as low a premium as he possibly could. This year the Water Board is looking at a 20.4% increase. Mr. Mazur commented that they explored every option. Rates for life and vision didn't change, rates for dental changed a little, and rates for medical changed a lot. Mr. Jones made a motion to approve the 2026 Health, Dental, Vision plans. Mr. Paolo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Next Meeting Date –** January 15, 2026

5. **Resolution #276 - To Purchase Chlorine Processing and Feed System Spare Parts** Mr. Paolo made a motion to approve Resolution #276. Mr. Jones seconded. The motion passed with Mr. Bragg abstaining.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the December 11, 2025, Regular Session of the Weirton Area Water Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:47 p.m. The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Bragg and seconded by Mr. Jones. The next Regular Session of the Weirton Area Water Board was set for January 15, 2026.

James Shockley, Chairman

Acting in the absence of James Shockley