

**WEIRTON AREA WATER BOARD
REGULAR SESSION- 2025 AGENDA**

October 16, 2025

A regular session of the Weirton Area Water Board was called to order at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 16, 2025, in Room 201 of the City Building, by James Shockley, Chairman.

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

WAWB Staff present were Butch Mastrantoni; Lori Veltri; Jasen Havens; Brian Kuntz; Chuck Tenaglio; Brent Reckner; and Dan Guida (phone).

Also attending were Chuck Kelly and Jesse Alden of Thrasher Engineering; Ben Erste and Carlo Fabian of the BHJ; and Craig Howell of the Weirton Daily Times.

MINUTES

Mr. Ash made a motion to approve the minutes of the September 11, 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. Mr. Ash made a motion to reimburse the General Fund for the shared expenses for the months of July, August, September, and October 2025 in the amount of \$3,826.00 each. Mr. Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Ash made a motion to reimburse the General Fund for the Smart Bill in the amount of \$3,256.92 for the month of September 2025. Mr. Paolo seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Ash made a motion to reimburse the General Fund for additional postage in the amount of \$283.33. Mr. Paolo seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Delinquent Report: Mr. Reckner gave the delinquent report. The shut-off date for the August 2025 bill run was October 1, 2025. The 30-day cycle ends on October 31, 2025. Total accounts to be collected or terminated on or after the October 1, 2025, shut-off date were 1,375. Of this number, 447 were more than one bill past due, 99 have paid in full, 32 made partial payments and still have an outstanding past due balance, 41 have been shut off, 87 received time extensions and will be collected in regular procedure should they fail to pay as agreed, 7 customers received pledges, and 3 customers are under multi-payment

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contracts. Eight hundred sixty-two single bills are past due. Mr. Ash commented that he knows the gas company can't shut customers off starting in October and November. He asked if the Water Department was the same way. Mr. Reckner said no. It could be shut off anytime. Mr. Mastrantoni replied that the only time we cannot shut it off is at the end of the business day on Friday because they can't get water reinitiated over the weekend. Mr. Reckner added that we also cannot shut it off the day before a holiday that we are off. Mr. Mastrantoni added that any shut-off has to occur so that the customer has the following business day to have the water turned back on. Mr. Shockley asked if the number of accounts to be collected was larger than last month. Mr. Reckner replied that it was about 150 higher. He said that is why the shut off list is increasing too.

Citizens' Comments and Communications: There were no citizens' comments or communications.

Utility Director Communications: Mr. Mastrantoni stated that he had no communications to report. He informed the Board that the annual report to the PSC for year ending 2025 was completed, turned in, accepted, and posted online. Due to the thick nature of the report, he will provide a copy to any Board member who is interested. He commented that everybody's attention was going to be what was our unaccounted-for water percentage. This year it was 14.28%. Mr. Guida added that they could go online and view the report as well.

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. Based on the current contract amount, we are 64.5% complete. He has Change Order #6 to present today regarding chemical feed equipment and raw water caisson cleaning in the well as a contractor time extension for their contract times. This will require a motion for approval by the Board. It includes a time extension of 113 days, which accounts for several equipment delays and material deliveries on site. The result of this change order is an increase to the contract in the amount of \$110,531.97. There is an adjustment to the contract amount. If you look at the contingency line item there are some additional costs that would be required as part of the project to maintain RPR services onsite. They have estimated that to keep their RPR onsite, it's \$125,000.00 to run them through the end of July. They are estimating about

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\$25,000.00 for additional engineering. With this change order it brings us down to \$658,000.00 in contingency. They are projecting with the additional RPR fees it will bring the contingency down to \$508,134.08. Overall, we are still in very good shape with the contingency on the project. We are 65% complete, and we have only spent 42% of our contingency. He plans to bring an amendment for the RPR fees next month following approval of this Change Order. The RPR fees are for time and materials, so he is estimating \$125,000.00. If it doesn't take that much, we are only billed for the time their employees are on site. Mr. Bragg made a motion to approve Change Order #6. Mr. Ash seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Alden also updated the Board on the Distribution System Upgrade Project. They have completed the PER for that. This is the same scope of work that they looked at last year when they submitted for the Army Corp grant that they did not receive. They are going through that process again to get in line for the next round of Army Corp funding. They have updated their report with the new numbers and coordinated with the project accountant. The accountant has uploaded the numbers to the IJDC. They are working with Mr. Erste to finalize the application.

The next project they are working on is the cast iron and galvanized line replacement project per the Public Service Commission recommendations. They had a project kick off meeting with staff on October 8. They are working on the background information and drafting the report narrative. They have developed a schedule. There is a response due to the PSC on October 23, and they have provided Jim Kelsch with relevant information for that response. They have a 30% PER review meeting scheduled in December, a 60% scheduled in February, a 90% scheduled in April, and a PER submission scheduled for June. There will be additional meetings in-between to coordinate the progress of that report. They have various action items that they are working on to move that forward. Mr. Paolo asked if there would be a review by the Board of the October 23 response. Mr. Ash commented that if it is going down to the PSC saying Weirton Area Water Board, he wants to see it before it goes. Mr. Mastrantoni said he would coordinate that with our attorney.

One more project that has been in the works is the PFAS Treatment Upgrade project. They met on this awhile back, and they have developed a draft preliminary engineering report. He and Mr. Mastrantoni were talking. They are going to schedule another review meeting and set a schedule to work toward getting that completed and submitted to the Infrastructure Council. There are a lot of things that need to happen before that report can be submitted. They will set up a schedule and get some action items out to the group so they can make sure they are on track.

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Mr. Erste presented Draw #16 for the project in the amount of \$1,732,968.62 consisting of payments to The Thrasher Group for \$63,362.76, Triton Construction for \$1,668,334.88, and BHJ-MPC for \$1,270.98. Mr. Paolo made a motion to approve the payment of Draw #16. Mr. Bragg seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Resolution #272 – To Authorize the Utilities Director to Secure Case Power and Equipment to Provide Labor/Parts to Repair Our Case 580 Super M Backhoe not to Exceed \$12,260.67 to be Taken from R & R** – Mr. Havens reported that we have two backhoes. This one was inoperable. It had some brake issues. In order to expedite it, they already had the work done because they needed the second backhoe. This is just the Board authorizing it. Mr. Bragg made a motion to approve Resolution #272. Mr. Jones seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Ash commented that the amount did not exceed the limit that they gave Mr. Mastrantoni the approval for and he understands why he wanted to do it, but it could have just been put in his report that he had to spend it. He is already approved up to \$15,000.00. Mr. Mastrantoni replied that he understands and appreciates what he is saying and he thanks him for the trust, but he is going to continue to bring these items here so they have a hard record that those transactions were made so no one ten months down the road takes something wrong. They are just catching the paperwork up to what they knew they needed to do.
- 2. Resolution #273 – To Authorize the Utilities Director to Secure Citco Water for Purchase of 10 American B62 Fire Hydrants not to Exceed \$35,000.00 to be Taken from R & R** – Mr. Ash made a motion to approve Resolution #273. Mr. Jones seconded. The motion passed with Mr. Bragg abstaining because he is employed by Citco.
- 3. Resolution #274 – To Authorize the Utilities Director to Secure the James White Construction Company to Reestablish the Interconnection of the 8” and 12” Water Mains on Pennsylvania Ave. at the Oakland Ave. and Karen Way Intersection not to Exceed \$68,510.00 to be Taken from #234 Account** – Mr. Ash made a motion to approve Resolution #274. Mr. Bragg seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- 4. Resolution #275 – To Approve the Contract Between the WAWB and Weirton Medical Center/WVU Medicine to Cover Old Logo and Place New Weirton**

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Medical Center/WVU Logo on the East End Water Tank – Mr. Shockley and Mr. Paolo had to step out due to a conflict of interest because both are members of the Boards of Directors of Weirton Medical Center. Mr. Ash continued in the Chairman's place. Mr. Jones made a motion to approve Resolution #275. Mr. Bragg seconded. The motion was unanimously passed by the remaining Board members. Mr. Ash asked if we would be painting this tank before the logo was put on. Mr. Mastrantoni said no. We are about 8 – 10 years out on the paint cycle for this tank. Mr. Guida added that if we were going to paint the tank in the very near future, they would just wait and put the logo up at that time. They will put the logo up at their expense. In 8 – 10 years, we will have to go up there and sandblast it and remove it. He wanted to address that in the lease that if they want to put it back up, it is at their expense. They will still be under contract, so even if they don't want to put it back up, they will pay us money until the lease expires. Mr. Ash asked how long the lease is for. Mr. Guida replied it is for a five-year primary term, and they have two five-year extensions so it could go fifteen years. Mr. Guida also added that the rent on the previous contract was about half the amount of this one. The reason it's \$1,250.00 is they owed us an arrearage. The deal we arranged with Weirton Medical Center is rather than pay us the arrearage, we would just increase the monthly rent and get it back that way. What's nice about it is they will catch up and pay us the arrearage in the first term, and we will get the benefit of the inflated monthly rent. It will not go back down to the lower monthly rent after the arrearage is paid.

5. Next Meeting Date – November 13, 2025

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

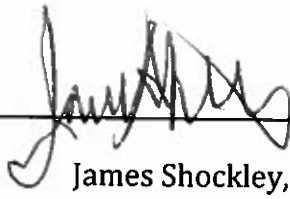
- 1. Second PFAS Settlement Check** – Mr. Shockley asked what we did with the first check. Mr. Kuntz replied that we put it in the General Fund. He said we put the second one in Special Projects, and we are just letting it sit there.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business before the October 16, 2025, Regular Session of the Weirton Area Water Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:49 p.m. The motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Bragg and seconded by Mr. Paolo. The next Regular Session of the Weirton Area Water Board was set for November 13, 2025.

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James Shockley, Chairman