

CENTRAL IOWA WATER WORKS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
Des Moines Water Works Board Room 2201 George Flagg Parkway

Des Moines, Iowa

October 9, 2024 1:00 pm

MINUTES

Present: Shawn Buckner (Ankeny), Caitlin Caldwell (DMWW), Don Clark (Ankeny), Kyle Danley (DMWW), Lainey Davison (CIWW), Randy Franzen (Polk City), Andy Fish (Warren Water), Matt Greiner (Johnston), Royce Hammitt (Xenia), Lyle Hammes (WDMWW), Amy Kahler (DMWW), Rudy Koester (Waukee), Matthew Jacob (UWU), Jeff May (Clive), Christina Murphy (WDMWW), Mitch Pinkerton (WDMWW), Bill Smith (CIWW), Lindsey Wanderscheid (DMWW), and Neil Weiss (UWU).

Item 1: The meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. by Kyle Danley.

Item 2: Introductions: Introductions were made by everyone present in the meeting. Kyle Danley welcomed Dorcelaine "Lainey" Davison, who was attending her first Central Iowa Water Works (CIWW) Technical Committee meeting. Lainey has been hired as CIWW's first full-time permanent employee and began her role as Executive Assistant on September 16. She will be working in the Engineering Department to get acclimated to her position and receive training with Des Moines Water Works (DMWW) staff.

Item 3: Minutes Approved for September 11, 2024: The minutes from the previous meeting were approved without objection.

Item 4: CIWW Executive Director Update: Andy Fish and Interim Executive Director Bill Smith provided an update on the recruitment process for the Central Iowa Water Works (CIWW) Executive Director position. Interviews were conducted in closed session on October 1 and October 2. A special board meeting will be scheduled in the coming weeks to confirm the selection of a candidate.

Item 5: A.C. Ward & Polk City/Grimes Tours: A brief reminder was mentioned about the remaining water treatment plant facility tours. The first will take place at the A.C. Ward plant on Tuesday, October 15, from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. at 1505 Railroad Ave, West Des Moines. The second will be a combined tour of both the Polk City and Grimes facilities on Wednesday, November 6, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m., starting in Polk City and concluding in Grimes.

Item 6: CIWW Water Treatment Study – HDR Presentation: Eric Berggren, Derek Gardels, Rob Baker, and Ashely Geesman with HDR gave a presentation to the Technical Committee. Eric from HDR presented an overview of the project, introducing key team members and outlining the process from its starting point to the present. The presentation focused on balancing cost, quality, and timeliness, with a data-driven approach to ensure that all communities are involved in the decision-making process. Eric highlighted the importance of comparing past studies to determine the best solution for addressing emerging contaminants while ensuring system resiliency.

Derek provided details on population and demand projections, explaining that the data was derived from several sources, including the 2020 Census, MPO data, 28E/28F Agreements, input from member

agencies, and hydraulic modeling. He noted that a 15% buffer was built into the projections for additional resiliency. Ashley followed with a review of cost estimates and water quality goals, explaining the use of Class 5 cost estimates and setting goals that exceed current requirements. Six key non-monetary criteria were also established, such as system resiliency, operational ease, and environmental stewardship.

Rob and Derek discussed the locations of existing and proposed water treatment plants, reviewing the challenges of water supply, particularly drought impacts on the Raccoon River. The team then compared Alternative 1 and Alternative 2, with Alternative 2 ranking higher due to its balance of cost, quality, and ability to address emerging and existing contaminants.

Derek presented hydraulic modeling for the distribution system, explaining core network improvements and costs, with early costs of \$407 million projected by 2030. Eric concluded by outlining next steps, including mapping, land acquisitions, and collaboration with the Department of Transportation on transmission routes. The team also discussed the possibility of using a Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) to save time on project delivery.

The board will review the final report and prepare to vote in November. HDR will present to the Central Iowa Water Works Board on November 20, and a four-page condensed summary will be distributed to the public. The Technical Committee will vote on a recommendation between Alternative 1 and Alternative 2 at their November 13 meeting. The presentation concluded with an invitation to direct any further questions to Lindsey Wanderscheid or Christina Murphy before the next Technical Committee meeting.

Below are the two alternatives that were evaluated for long-term water treatment and transmission solutions:

1. **Alternative 1:** Focuses on expanding the Grimes and McMullen Water Treatment Plants (WTP) and constructing a new Saylorville Water Treatment Plant (WTP) adjacent to the existing one.
2. **Alternative 2 (HDR Recommended Alternative):** Proposes the same Grimes WTP expansion but includes a new West WTP near Van Meter instead of expanding the McMullen WTP. This alternative also includes a two-phase expansion of the Saylorville WTP.

Key Considerations:

- Both alternatives address the need for additional treatment capacity and improved transmission and storage systems.
- The Des Moines River will continue to be a reliable water source, supplemented by storage facilities.
- Alternative 2 was favored due to its higher score in criteria such as end-use resiliency, ease of operations, and conveyance system simplicity. It also spreads the financial burden over a longer timeline, with phased construction of the Saylorville WTP.
- Environmental and operational factors were considered in the evaluation, with the West WTP offering a reliable groundwater treatment solution.

Cost Estimates:

- Alternative 1: \$1.25 billion
- Alternative 2 (Recommended): \$1.30 billion, with higher overall resiliency and better long-term operational benefits.

Alternative 2 was selected as the preferred option by HDR due to its overall higher score in non-monetary evaluations, particularly in resiliency and operational simplicity.

Item 7: Cost Allocation Presentation from PFM: Matthew Stoffel of PFM Financial Advisors presented the proposed 2025 rates for Central Iowa Water Works (CIWW). The presentation covered essential topics such as historic water requirements, maximum day utilization, and the allocation of costs based on both base and extra capacity needs.

The presentation began with a detailed analysis of the five-year average water demand and maximum day utilization for each CIWW member agency. It then addressed the capacity allocations for each member, particularly emphasizing the impact of the upcoming 10 million gallon per day (MGD) Saylorville Expansion. This expansion will significantly influence future capacity and the distribution of costs among the members.

For the 2025 budget, costs were divided with 58.34% allocated to base costs and 41.66% to extra capacity needs. Both fixed and variable costs were distributed across CIWW members, with the total projected budget amounting to \$67.5 million. A 10-year forecast was done in 2023 and is currently being updated with the information from HDR. He used the 10-year forecast from last year to articulate how the 2025 proposed rates are below the projected 2025 rates that were included in the 10-year forecast at this time last year.

Expansion costs were highlighted as a significant aspect of the budget, with each member's share based on their capacity allocation. Expansions will be funded using the 91/9 model and therefore each entity will need to determine how much capacity they need to determine their share of the costs, filling out a Schedule IV-10 for each project, similar to how the SWTP expansion was done.

The presentation concluded with a timeline for next steps, including a resolution to adopt the rates in October 2024 and a public hearing for the 2025 budget scheduled for November. The board was asked to review the proposed rates and consider the implications for future capital projects and operational costs.

Item 8: Update on DNR Jordan Modeling: Christina Murphy gave an update to the group that the Iowa DNR is looking closely to the Jordan aquifer to determine if any additional regulations are needed on the use of this aquifer. A new Jordan model, expected to be completed by the end of the year, which is crucial for ensuring sustainable water use in the region.

Item 9: Proposed West Des Moines Roadway Through CIWW Property: Kyle Danley shared that West Des Moines is conducting a desktop study regarding a proposed roadway that may pass through CIWW property, specifically near the Maffitt Water Treatment Plant (MWTP). The study is still in the early stages, and the city is going through a federal process for the project. As part of this, they will create a website where the public can submit comments and concerns, particularly related to potential water supply impacts. No public meetings have been scheduled yet, but the website will be a central place for updates and feedback regarding the study.

Item 10: Saylorville 10MGD Expansion Update: Lindsey Wanderscheid provided an update on the Saylorville 10 MGD expansion, noting progress with the pump testing of well sites. Testing at site 4 has been completed, and preliminary water analysis looks okay, with final results expected soon. The testing at site 7, which is anticipated to happen this week, is already showing better-than-expected results. Drilling at sites 5 and 6 are scheduled to begin next week, with all work projected to be completed by the end of November.

Item 11: Grimes Projects Discussion: Kevin Hensley provided an update on their underground storage tank project, which is expected to be completed by the end of November. Grimes, in collaboration with McClure Engineering, has conducted a study to switch from chloramine to free chlorine for water disinfection. This transition is scheduled to occur before their new storage tank becomes operational in November.

Kevin also talked to the group about an issue concerning their south deep well. He brought up the issue to the group considering that the wells will transfer over to Central Iowa Water Works per the 28E/28F. The riser pipe in that well has previously been replaced, but the same problem has occurred again. Northway Well and Pump Company provided a quote for steel column pipe replacement at \$35,000. This is the same type of material as the existing one that only lasted a short period. WDMWW recommends installing a stainless-steel column pipe with cable tie system that will offer better durability and flexibility for future removal and maintenance. The cost of this is \$250,000.

Although there is urgency with the well out of service and the estimated 6-8 week repair timeline, a motion was made to order the stainless steel pipe and complete the repair work after January 1, 2025, to accommodate budget planning. The motion was made by West Des Moines and seconded by Xenia (Royce Hammitt), recommending that the Central Iowa Water Works board approve the \$250,000 cost for the stainless-steel cable tie system repair. The final repair is scheduled for 2025, allowing CIWW to incorporate the expense into their capital budget. All communities present voted in favor of this recommendation.

Item 12: Polk City Projects Discussion: Randy Franzen reported that there was no new information to present at this time.

Item 13: West Des Moines Water Works Projects Discussion: Lyle Hammes presented a map showing the proposed layouts for three alluvial wells near Blue Heron Lake. Two options are being considered in close proximity to existing wells already in production. This project had previously been on hold but is now being restarted. West Des Moines Water Works (WDMWW) is evaluating these options as a potential step to kickstart the project. Although construction is not expected to begin until 2026, this project is viewed as important for future water infrastructure.

Item 14: Des Moines Water Works Projects Discussion: Lindsey Wanderscheid shared that they will be awarding the 2024 Well Rehabilitation Project at the upcoming Des Moines Water Works (DMWW) board meeting. The bids for the project are due on October 22, and the engineer's estimate for the work is \$1.8 million. The project involves rehabilitating one well per year over the next three years, with two wells at the Maffitt Water Treatment Plant (wells 1 and 4) and one at the Saylorville Water Treatment Plant (well 2). This phased approach will help ensure long-term water infrastructure improvements across both treatment facilities.

Item 15: Other business: There was no additional business to discuss.

Item 16: Meeting adjured by mutual agreement at 3:10 p.m.