
Minutes

Technical Committee
Central Iowa Water Works
January 14, 2026
Des Moines Water Works Board Room
2201 George Flagg Parkway
Des Moines, Iowa
1:00 p.m.

ITEM 1: Call to Order

Chair Kyle Danley called the meeting to order at 1:01p.m.

ITEM 2: Introductions

Present: Don Clark (Ankeny), Jeff May (Clive), Kyle Danley (DMWW), Matt Greiner (Johnston), Andy Fish (Warren Water District), Rudy Koester (Waukee), Christina Murphy (WDMWW), Royce Hammitt (Xenia), Randy Franzen (Polk City), Matthew Jacob (UWU), Joseph Ballard (Norwalk), Shawn Buckner (Ankeny), Lindsey Wanderscheid (DMWW), Matt Van Wyk (Warren Water District), Tim Royer (Waukee), Lyle Hammes (WDMWW), Dr. John Lawrence (Iowa State University), Dr. Matt Helmers (Iowa State University), Daria Dilparic (WDMWW), Tami Madsen (CIWW), Dustin Delvaux (CIWW), Melissa Walker (DMWW), Afton Holt (CornerPost), Jamie Buel (En Q Strategies)

ITEM 3: Approve Minutes for December 10, 2025 – Approval

The committee approved minutes for December 10, 2025, technical committee meeting by unanimous voice vote.

ITEM 4: Iowa State University Water Quality Forecast – Presentation

Dr. John Lawrence and Dr. Matt Helmers presented findings from their research on nitrate-N levels in the Raccoon River.

ITEM 5: Elect Officers – Nominations

The officer terms for the Technical Committee expired on December 31, 2025. Rudy Koester nominated Kyle Danley to serve as Chair of the CIWW Technical Committee and Andy Fish as Vice Chair; the motion was seconded by Matt Greiner. The nominations were approved by

unanimous voice vote. The Chair and Vice Chair will serve two-year terms.

ITEM 6: Water Allocation – Update

Tami Madsen provided an update on the capacity water allocation process. Meetings with each member agency are underway and a final meeting of the allocation small group will be scheduled before the February Technical Committee meeting. If further plant expansion is considered, the 28E assigns the responsibility of planning for water treatment facilities and timelines for potential construction to the Long-Range Planning committee.

ITEM 7: After-Action Review – Update

Tami Madsen met with a small group of Technical Committee volunteers to address the recommendations made throughout the AAR process. Several items were referred to the communications group, technical information regarding prohibited activities under Stage III was requested from DMWW, and governance-related recommendations were referred to the Board of Trustees.

ITEM 8: West Plant – Update

Christina Murphy informed the committee that a series of bi-weekly update meetings has been established and that the design team will be sent calendar invitations. An RFP is being developed to identify the costs, design constraints, and schedule for the equipment needed for the plant.

A spring tour schedule is being developed to visit similarly situated plants in order to understand different technologies and learn what has and has not been successful. Others will be given the opportunity to participate.

The design committee will need to evaluate pumping and distribution considerations and provide recommendations to the Technical Committee on how to proceed with connecting the West Plant to the core network.

Permission has been granted by the adjacent property-owner to perform additional geological exploration in the area of the primary wellfield.

ITEM 9: Grimes Plant Expansion – Update

Tami Madsen informed the committee that the Board approved the task orders for Black & Veatch and AE2S, which have now been fully executed. A schedule for standing design committee meetings is being developed and a preliminary water permit application is being drafted.

She advised that the leads for the other CIWW SRF-funded projects are developing a unified reporting process to ensure information provided to the board committees is consistent.

ITEM 10: Saylorville Plant – Update

- Well Drilling for Phase 2 ESA – Recommendation

Lindsey Wanderscheid advised that Traut is performing soil borings and test wells. The topographic survey was delayed due to the holidays and weather but has now resumed. Wigen received notice of award for the membranes, and an agreement is being finalized.

HDR performed a desktop analysis to identify potential contamination concerns and advised that additional test wells and borings are necessary. The engineer's estimate to perform this work was \$210,000. DMWW requested a recommendation to approve Traut's bid of \$222,746.

The recommendation passed by unanimous roll call vote.

ITEM 11: Projects Updates – Discussion

- West Des Moines Water Works

Lyle Hammes informed the committee that initial discussions have begun regarding installation of a mixer in the 98th Street Tower. The cost of this project will be covered by a dedicated fund established by WDMWW prior to the creation of CIWW. High Service Pump No. 3 continues to have unresolved vibration issues, with the only mitigation to date being programming a jump frequency. The preliminary report for the A.C. Ward Facility Repairs has been finalized.

Daria Dilparic provided an update on the Alluvial Wells. The contractor completed soil explorations and identified three locations favorable for wells, with the next step being the construction of test wells. The Source Water Protection Plan group met on Monday and submitted recommendations to Tetra Tech. The group will meet again next week to review future land use documents and expects both efforts to be completed by the end of February.

- Des Moines Water Works

Lindsey Wanderscheid informed the committee that the MWTP Exterior Paint Improvements, FWTP Chemical Building Elevator, and Tuttle Street Feeder Main Joint Seal projects all received bids below their estimated costs and will be presented to the DMWW Board in January for approval. An RFQ was put out for the FWTP Carbon Dioxide Expansion project and Black and Veatch was selected. Approval to enter into an agreement will also be brought to the Board for approval in January.

A grant application has been submitted for the FWTP Flood Improvements – Levee Realignment which, if approved, would reduce the cost that CIWW would need to pay to complete the project.

ITEM 12: Operations Updates – Information

- West Des Moines Water Works

Lyle Hammes reminded the committee that select filters and an aerator were taken offline for the winter. He also noted that demand in December 2025 was up 10% compared to December 2024.

- Des Moines Water Works

Kyle Danley informed the committee that DMWW began operating the Nitrate Removal Facility on January 6, 2026. Unseasonably warm temperatures have presented challenges, including ice breakup on the Raccoon River, which damages the Crystal Lake Recharge Pump and increases turbidity in the rivers. Additionally, high winds caused roof damage at the SWTP.

ITEM 13: Pumpage and Revenue Summary – Information

The system-wide pumpage and revenue data was not available by the time of the technical committee meeting.

Kyle Danley presented a graph showing overall water production at DMWW-operated facilities for 2025. Despite the activation of the water shortage plan, 2025 marked the fifth-highest production on record for DMWW.

Lyle Hammes reported that WDMWW experienced a similar year.

ITEM 14: Other Business

Kyle Danley reported that nitrate concentrations on the Raccoon River continue to rise, now exceeding 15 mg/L, while levels on the Des Moines River remain variable and currently over 11.3 mg/L. Four nitrate treatment vessels are currently in operation. Repairs to the Des Moines River intake are still delayed as a result of the high nitrate concentrations on the Raccoon River. Production has been reduced at MWTP due to high nitrate concentrations in the wells and DMWW will likely need to start withdrawing from Maffitt Reservoir soon to lower finished concentrations and increase production.

Tami Madsen is focusing on strengthening communication. At the end of every Technical Committee meeting there will be two questions: 1) is there anything talked about today that CIWW needs to share with the member agencies or post on social media; 2) is there something more critical or pressing that the members of the Technical Committee need to brief their agencies about? She will create a document at the closing of each committee meeting to define these deliverables.

Tami Madsen informed the committee that she is emailing out updates to all member agency communications staff. After further discussion, she will include the members of the Technical Committee on those emails over the next month and receive feedback in February on whether or not to continue.

A brief update was given on the avian influenza outbreak and the ongoing clean-up efforts at the Maffitt Reservoir and the CIWW gravel pit in Johnston.

The committee discussed having a virtual option for the Technical Committee meeting. Tami Madsen is going to gather more information about logistics and report back to the committee.

ITEM 15: Adjourn

Chair Danley adjourned the meeting at 2:44p.m.