

Minutes

Technical Committee
Central Iowa Water Works
April 8, 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 1:00 p.m.

ITEM 2. Introductions

Shawn Buckner (Ankeny), Jeff May (Clive), Kyle Danley (DMWW), Matt Greiner (Johnston), Matt Ahrens (Grimes), Wayne Schwartz (Norwalk), Randy Franzen (Polk City)*, Neill Weiss (UWU), Andy Fish (WWD), Rudy Koester (Waukee), Christina Murphy (WDMWW), Royce Hammitt (Xenia), Lindsey Wanderscheid (DMWW), Shane Kinsey (Johnston)*, Joe Ballard (Norwalk), Matthew Jacob (UWU), Matt Van Wyk (WWD)*, Tim Royer (Waukee), Lyle Hammes (WDMWW), Tami Madsen (CIWW), Dustin Delvaux (CIWW), Amy Kahler (DMWW), Daria Dilparic (WDMWW), Matt Stoffel (PFM)*, Dustin Schultz (AE2S)*, Shawn Gaddie (AE2S)*, Darrin Hager (HNTB)

ITEM 3. Approve Minutes for March 11, 2026 – Approval

Royce Hammitt moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Neil Weiss. The committee approved minutes for March 11, 2026, Technical Committee meeting by unanimous voice vote.

ITEM 4. Water Shortage Plan – Update

Tami Madsen informed the committee that CIWW is in the process of updating its website to meet ADA compliance requirements. Upon completion, CIWW will develop clear communications related to the Water Usage Plan, including dedicated webpages. She noted that draft graphics have been created to support lawn watering education and Water Usage Plan messaging.

Ms. Madsen also reported that the Water Usage Best Practices Committee endorsed signing a letter of support for an Iowa State University research grant focused on developing sod that requires less water and is more drought-resistant.

CIWW continues to collaborate with several partners on its water use campaign, including Polk County Conservation, Iowa State University, the Iowa Professional Lawn Care Association, and leaders within the sod industry.

ITEM 5. 2026 CIWW Source Water Protection Plan – Update

Christina Murphy presented the 2026 CIWW Source Water Protection Plan. She stated that the plan is intended to balance regional growth with source water protection, emphasize proactive planning, and support a collaborative, partnership-based approach. She noted that the effort was initiated following concerns raised when a chemical-related company located near a potential future water source, prompting additional interest in source water protection from the City of West Des Moines.

Ms. Murphy outlined the seven steps of source water protection planning: organizing a source water team; identifying source water areas; inventorying wells and potential contaminant sources; assessing and ranking those sources; developing an action plan; constructing or updating an emergency response plan; and submitting and implementing the Source Water Protection Plan. She explained that West Des Moines Water Works has initiated this process locally, including development of maps identifying protection areas and buffer zones, as well as an inventory of existing potential contaminant sources. She also reviewed key risks to water quality and the proposed protection strategies.

Next steps include review of the draft plan by the CIWW Technical Committee, submission to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for approval, formal receipt and filing by the CIWW Board, and coordination with City of West Des Moines staff regarding the process for implementing overlay protections.

Ms. Murphy noted there may be future discussions to expand source water protection planning to additional potential drinking water sources.

ITEM 6. A.C. Ward Water Quality Challenges – Presentation

Lyle Hammes reported that he was requested by the West Des Moines Water Works Board to present on water quality challenges and, following that presentation, was subsequently asked to provide the same information to the CIWW Technical Committee.

Mr. Hammes outlined four primary water quality challenges: total dissolved solids (TDS), sulfates, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), and fluoride. TDS primarily impacts aesthetic qualities such as taste, color, and odor, and may contribute to mineral buildup in

pipes. He explained that the lime softening process removes some hardness-causing minerals, but not all dissolved solids.

Mr. Hammes stated that sulfate also presents aesthetic concerns, including taste and odor, and may cause gastrointestinal effects at elevated levels in some individuals. He noted that sulfate can accelerate corrosion in plumbing systems.

He further explained that PFAS, commonly referred to as “forever chemicals,” are highly persistent in the environment and have been detected in alluvial wells in the West Des Moines area, creating a need to identify PFAS-free water sources.

Mr. Hammes noted that WDMWW manages these challenges by blending water from deep and shallow wells to meet all applicable health and safety standards. He added that WDMWW is considering conducting a comprehensive water quality study and may pursue PFAS-related loan forgiveness or settlement funding to address these concerns.

Christina Murphy added that PFAS contamination has resulted in the elimination of new alluvial wells as a viable source option.

Mr. Hammes reported that a request for proposals (RFP) for the study has been drafted, with the goal of receiving results by the end of the year.

ITEM 7. West Plant – Update

Christina Murphy informed the committee that Tami Madsen has been coordinating with property owners to conduct well testing. She noted that some verbal approvals have been received, and staff are awaiting completion of the necessary documentation. Ms. Murphy also reported that the West Plant Design Team held a workshop on membrane treatment technologies in the prior week and plans to conduct site visits to membrane treatment facilities in the future.

Lyle Hammes stated that additional system modeling is needed to support the West Plant project. He explained that Strand Associates requires further information on how new transmission infrastructure from the West Plant will integrate with the existing distribution system. A draft proposal has been received from HDR, which previously completed system modeling, to perform updated modeling that will provide the necessary system analysis. Mr. Hammes requested that the CIWW Technical Committee recommend that the CIWW Board of Trustees award the modeling contract to HDR, with the fee and related items to be reviewed and approved by the CIWW Finance and Audit Committee.

Wayne Schwartz moved to make the recommendation, seconded by Andy Fish. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

ITEM 8. Grimes Plant Expansion – Update*

Tami Madsen reported that a progress meeting with the Grimes Design Team was held on

March 9, 2026. She noted that work has commenced on the water quality stability evaluation and the high-recovery reverse osmosis (RO) system evaluation. The team is also continuing its analysis of the transmission connections between Urbandale and Grimes and Johnston and Grimes.

ITEM 9. Saylorville Plant – Update

Lindsey Wanderscheid reported that drilling and testing activities are underway and that samples have been submitted for analysis. She noted that the 30% design drawings have been completed and reviewed. The team is currently coordinating with Wigen Water Technologies on mechanical and electrical submittals related to reverse osmosis (RO) and ultrafiltration (UF) membrane procurement. She also stated that discussions with property owners regarding vertical wells are ongoing.

Ms. Wanderscheid reported that the Hickman Feeder Main project is currently under construction and is scheduled for completion by the end of November.

ITEM 10. Projects Updates – Discussion

Polk City

Randy Franzen reported that Polk City has two CIP projects. Fiber and hardware have been ordered for one project, and staff are in the process of soliciting bids for Wells 4 and 5.

Grimes

Matt Ahrens advised of no updates.

West Des Moines Water Works

Daria Dilparic provided updates on behalf of West Des Moines Water Works. She reported that High Service Pump No. 3 was completed this month, and work is now shifting to High Service Pump No. 5. Repairs at the A.C. Ward Facility have reached the 90% design/specification review stage, with bidding anticipated in June. She also noted that test well drilling and pumping for the alluvial wells have indicated promising source water quantities.

Des Moines Water Works

Lindsey Wanderscheid provided updates for Des Moines Water Works. She reported that the replacement of the chain in Treatment Basin No. 2 is underway as part of a three-year contract to rechain one basin per year, with this being the second basin completed. She noted that well rehabilitation work has been completed and has resulted in improved well performance. Additionally, the 2026 SCADA Backbone Improvements project, which will separate IT and OT systems, is budgeted for 2026. The engineer's estimate for the project was \$1.59 million; however, a single bid was received in the amount of \$2.32 million.

Following discussions with the bidder, the cost was determined to be reasonable, and staff plan to recommend award to Edge.

ITEM 11. Operations Updates – Information

West Des Moines Water Works

Lyle Hammes reported that a couple of wells are currently out of service for rehabilitation and that work is underway on the High Service Pump pressure reducing valve rebuild.

Des Moines Water Works

Kyle Danley provided operational updates for Des Moines Water Works. At the Fleur Drive Water Treatment Plant, he reported minor flood preparedness activities, installation of a new gallery nitrate analyzer, an emergency salt delivery for the nitrate removal facility, and the arrival of a new generator control panel.

At the McMullen Water Treatment Plant, approximately 2 MGD of water from Maffitt Reservoir is being used to blend down nitrate levels. He also noted that the Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) system is undergoing replacement of a recirculation pump and that an air compressor is being replaced. At the Saylorville Water Treatment Plant, new ultrafiltration (UF) membranes have been installed in Unit No. 3.

Mr. Danley further reported that nitrate concentrations in the Raccoon River have increased to 17.46 mg/L, exceeding levels observed during the same period last year. He noted that nitrate levels in the Des Moines River have also risen significantly within the past 24 hours. Due to elevated nitrate concentrations in both rivers, DMWW has suspended ASR injections.

ITEM 12. CIWW Update

No update.

ITEM 13. Pumpage and Revenue Summary – Information

Kyle Danley showed the committee the updated pumpage and revenue summary.

ITEM 14. Closed Session

Kyle Danley stated that the committee would like to enter a closed session to discuss the purchase or sale of particular real estate only where premature disclosure could be reasonably expected to increase the price the governmental body would have to pay for the property, as permitted by Iowa Code § 21.5(1)(j).

Shawn Buckner moved to enter the closed session; seconded by Neil Weiss. The committee approved the motion by unanimous roll call vote.

Shane Kinsey, Shawn Gaddie, Dustin Schultz and Darrin Hager exited the meeting.

The Technical Committee entered closed session at 2:18 p.m.

The Technical Committee exited closed session at 2:26 p.m. Chair Danley advised that no action was taken as a result of the closed session.

Dustin Schultz and Shawn Gaddie rejoined the meeting.

ITEM 15. Other Business

Matt Greiner requested that the capacity allocation small group reconvene. Neil Weiss expressed a preference that the small group not reconvene.

Mr. Greiner stated that he would like additional information regarding the outcomes of the Board workshop, as well as further clarification on the projections and data provided by AE2S. He also noted that some communities did not submit both high and low demand projections, which he believes may have placed those communities at a disadvantage.

ITEM 16. Adjourn

Christina Murphy moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Rudy Koester. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Chair Danley adjourned the meeting at 2:37 p.m.