Address:
4601 Westown Pkwy, Suite 122
West Des Moines, IA 50266
email: info@ciww.gov

Minutes

Finance and Audit Committee
Central Iowa Water Works
April 16, 2026 @ 8:00 a.m.
Central Iowa Water Works
4601 Westown Parkway, Suite 122
West Des Moines, IA

ITEM 1. Call to Order

Chair Scott Brennan called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

ITEM 2. Roll Call

Scott Brennan, George Meinecke, John McCune, Susan Huppert, Tom Cope*, Carol*, Christina Murphy*, Tami Madsen, Dustin Delvaux, Matt Stoffel, Matt Probasco, Amy Kahler (entered at 8:06 a.m.)

ITEM 3. Approve Minutes for March 19, 2026

John McCune moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Susan Huppert. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

ITEM 4. Approve Minutes for March 25, 2026

John McCune moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Susan Huppert. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

ITEM 5. PFM Engagement Letter – Recommendation

Tami Madsen informed the committee that negotiations with PFM regarding Municipal Financial Advisor services had progressed successfully. She stated that Nyemaster had reviewed the proposed agreement and evaluated the conflict-of-interest disclosure. One final review of the engagement letter and conflict-of-interest documentation remains pending. Tami Madsen requested that the Finance and Audit Committee recommend Board approval of PFM as CIWW's Municipal Financial Advisor.

Susan Huppert recommended Board approval of PFM as CIWW's Municipal Financial Advisor; seconded by John McCune. The recommendation was approved by unanimous voice vote.

ITEM 6. West Plant HDR Modeling Contract – Recommendation

Tami Madsen informed the committee that the proposed hydraulic modeling contract is not available in the packet because it is currently under legal review. She explained that the project involves hydraulic modeling for the West Plant to ensure the facility is properly designed to deliver water into the regional system. Tami Madsen noted that when the item was previously presented to the Technical Committee, a fee estimate was not yet available. The Technical Committee determined that the work was necessary and directed staff to bring the fee proposal to the Finance and Audit Committee for consideration. She further stated that the Design Team was prepared to recommend a not-to-exceed amount for the project.

Christina Murphy provided additional background regarding the project and advised the committee that several technical questions still need to be addressed by the Design Team. She explained that the project is necessary to support the connection of the West Plant to the Core Network and to prepare for future system improvements involving surrounding communities, including Waukee. Christina Murphy stated that the proposed not-to-exceed amount for the project is $125,000.

Tami Madsen expressed support for the proposed not-to-exceed amount and advised that AE2S had reviewed the project scope and fee proposal and agreed that the amount was appropriate. She requested a recommendation from the committee to forward the contract to the Board with a not-to-exceed amount of $125,000.

John McCune moved to recommend approval to the Board; seconded by Susan Huppert. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

ITEM 7. Legislative Update

Tami Madsen provided an update regarding pending legislation related to the Iowa Public Agency Investment Trust (IPAIT). She informed the committee that Dentons disclosed a conflict of interest related to the legislation, resulting in CIWW engaging Logan Shine for additional legislative assistance. Tami Madsen noted that there are several confirmed opposing votes on the House side, making passage of the bill unlikely at this time.

Tom Cope provided additional background regarding the legislation and explained that IPAIT functions as a public investment trust. He stated that the proposed legislation, which is being supported by banking interests, would place a 25% cap on reserves that municipalities could invest through trusts such as IPAIT, with the intent of encouraging local government entities to deposit funds with local banking institutions. Tom Cope noted concerns that the proposal would reduce competition and could negatively impact taxpayers and ratepayers by limiting investment earnings available to municipalities.

Tami Madsen also informed the committee that she is continuing to explore opportunities to secure funding for nitrate-related projects including through congressionally directed funding requests. She explained that such funding would require support from a legislator willing to sponsor the request. Dentons has been engaging with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Secretary Naig, and the Iowa Farm Bureau regarding potential support opportunities. Tami Madsen also noted that funding opportunities may exist through the Bureau of Reclamation and other water quality programs, although many available programs are structured as loans rather than grants.

ITEM 8. March Financial Summary and March Expenditures

Dustin Delvaux informed the committee of the process and timeline associated with completing the monthly financial statements, noting that updated financials were not available for the current meeting. Due to challenges with having the monthly financial statements completed by the time of the packet distribution, Dustin Delvaux suggested that the most recent available financial statements be provided at future meetings when current-month financials are not yet finalized, and the committee expressed agreement with that approach.

ITEM 9. March Revenue and Usage Summary

Tami Madsen presented graphs of the March revenue and usage summary to the committee.

ITEM 10. Other Business

Tami Madsen reviewed the project progress reports to the committee and advised they will be added as a standing item to the agenda. She requested that the committee consider whether a project cost threshold or other criteria, such as State Revolving Fund (SRF) participation, should be established to determine when a project progress report would be beneficial. The purpose of these reports is to provide the representatives of the Member Agencies a summary they can present to their community since these are items that incur debt that is repaid over 20 to 30 years.

Tami Madsen informed the committee that, as CIWW continues development of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP), new practices are being implemented to improve consistency and transparency. These efforts include developing a classification system to communicate the anticipated accuracy of project cost estimates. She also noted that discussions at the Long-Range Planning Committee identified the need for a standardized naming convention for projects throughout the CIP.

Tom Cope exited the meeting at 8:46 a.m.

Susan Huppert informed the committee that nitrate concentrations had increased again, with the Infiltration Gallery measuring approximately 11 mg/L, which she noted is uncommon. She explained that the Gallery is typically used as a lower-nitrate blending source; however, the elevated nitrate concentrations currently limit its ability to serve that purpose. She also noted that Kyle Danley had recently introduced the term “filter effluent” during a Des Moines Water Works (DMWW) committee discussion and expressed interest in providing the same terminology update to the Finance and Audit Committee.

Chair Brennan suggested including the date and time of the next meeting at the bottom of future agendas.

ITEM 11. Adjourn

John McCune made a motion to adjourn; seconded by George Meinecke. Chair Brennan adjourned the meeting at 8:57 a.m.