
Minutes

Technical Committee
Central Iowa Water Works
June 10, 2026 @ 1:00 p.m.
Des Moines Water Works Board Room
2201 George Flagg Parkway
Des Moines, Iowa

ITEM 1. Call to Order

Chair Kyle Danley called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

ITEM 2. Introductions

Don Clark (Ankeny), Jeff May (Clive), Kyle Danley (DMWW), Matt Greiner (Johnston), Matt Ahrens (Grimes), Neil Weiss (UWU), Andy Fish (WWD), Tim Royer (Waukee), Lyle Hammes (WDMWW), Royce Hammitt (Xenia), Shawn Buckner (Ankeny), Lindsey Wanderscheid (DMWW), Matthew Jacob (UWU), Christina Murphy (WDMWW)*, Dustin Delvaux (CIWW), Tami Madsen (CIWW), Ted Corrigan (DMWW), Shawn Gaddie (AE2S), Dustin Schultz (AE2S), Betsy Seaver (AE2S), Darrin Hager (HNTB), Daria Dilparic (WDMWW), Amy Kahler (DMWW), Melissa Walker (DMWW)*, Matt Van Wyk (WWD)*

ITEM 3. Approve Minutes for May 13, 2026 – Approval

The committee approved minutes for the May 13, 2026, Technical Committee meeting by unanimous voice vote.

ITEM 4. Saylorville Reservoir Water Supply Study – Presentation & Recommendation*

Ted Corrigan presented an overview of Central Iowa Water Works' water supply storage contract associated with the Saylorville Reservoir, the history of drought in central Iowa, and potential next steps for requesting a change to the current Saylorville contract based on previous sedimentation studies and future water supply planning.

Ted reviewed four significant drought periods affecting the Des Moines area: the Dust Bowl (1930–1941), 1952–1957, 1976–1977, and 2020–2024. He highlighted how each drought influenced investments in regional water infrastructure, including the Gallery System, Maffitt Reservoir, the Raccoon River Intake, the Des Moines River Intake and Pumping Station, Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) wells, and other source water improvements. He noted

that while the 2020–2024 drought was prolonged, investments in water supply infrastructure enabled the region to meet increasing customer demand without major service disruptions.

Ted also summarized findings from HDR's 2024 source water supply adequacy study. The study concluded that while Raccoon River flows have generally increased over time, supplemental water sources will continue to be necessary to meet future demand. The Des Moines River, whose flows are influenced by Saylorville Reservoir operations, is projected to be unable to meet water supply demands approximately 20 percent of the time, with as much as 250 cubic feet per second (cfs) of supplemental flow potentially needed during critical periods.

Ted reviewed the history of the Saylorville Reservoir water supply allocation. Reservoir operations began in 1977, and in 1982 the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers entered into a storage agreement with the State of Iowa. The State subsequently executed an agreement allocating two-thirds of its storage allocation to Des Moines Water Works. The reservoir was originally estimated to provide 50 cfs of supplemental water 90 percent of the time. However, sedimentation has reduced available storage from approximately 79,000 acre-feet in 1982 to approximately 60,000 acre-feet by 2023.

Ted discussed the need to evaluate the long-term adequacy of the existing storage agreement and the potential for partnering with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on a water supply study. Topics discussed included the feasibility of raising the reservoir pool elevation by two feet, whether the original 50 cfs yield remains achievable, the impacts on recreation and downstream river conditions, and the remaining one-third of the State of Iowa's storage allocation. The committee also noted that participation in such a study may be eligible for State Revolving Fund (SRF) assistance.

Jeff May moved to recommend that the Board of Trustees authorize the Executive Director to initiate discussions with the State of Iowa regarding a potential agreement to participate in a Saylorville Reservoir Water Supply Study in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Don Clark seconded the motion. The recommendation carried unanimously by voice vote.

ITEM 5. West Plant – Update*

Lyle Hammes provided an update on the West Water Treatment Plant. He reported that the Design Committee continues to meet biweekly and has narrowed the treatment alternative under consideration from four to three after eliminating the lime softening followed by reverse osmosis alternative. Strand has presented preliminary plant schematics for the remaining alternatives.

Lyle also reported that the Design Committee has held two meetings with HDR to review distribution system modeling and will continue evaluating additional modeling scenarios as the project advances. Committee members continue to visit membrane treatment facilities to inform the design process. In addition, Northway will begin drilling test wells for the water treatment plant source water. These are planned to remain through piloting process.

ITEM 6. Grimes Plant Expansion – Update*

Matt Ahrens provided an update on the Grimes Water Treatment Plant Expansion project. He reported that work is continuing on groundwater modeling for new Jordan aquifer wells. Hydraulic model validation is also underway for both the Grimes-Urbandale and Grimes-Johnston transmission connections.

Matt stated that over the next month the Design Committee will review technical memoranda related to ground water monitoring and aquifer evaluations while continuing work on the transmission connection designs.

ITEM 7. Saylorville Plant – Update*

Lindsey Wanderscheid informed the committee that the Design Committee is reviewing modeling to determine whether RCW-4 can be relocated. She reported that design work for the Water Treatment Plant is continuing. The committee has reviewed the reverse osmosis (RO) and ultrafiltration (UF) submittals and returned comments to Wigen. Lindsey also stated that meetings with property owners along NW 26 Street are planned for the coming month.

ITEM 8. Projects Updates – Discussion

Polk City – No update.

Grimes – No update.

West Des Moines Water Works

Daria Dilparic provided an update on West Des Moines Water Works projects. She reported that bids for the A.C. ward Facility Repairs are expected soon. Staff are also awaiting a quote before proceeding with the alluvial wells project.

Daria reported that proposals are due on June 11, 2026, for the A.C. Ward Water Quality Study. To date, eight consulting firms have expressed interest and completed site visits.

Des Moines Water Works

Kyle Danley reported that the 2025 Maffitt Residual East Lagoon Cleaning has been completed. He explained that a survey of the top of the lagoon revealed a higher volume than originally quoted resulting in a change order. A second change order was also required due to the consistency of the lime residuals, which increased the time and effort necessary to complete the work.

ITEM 9. Operations Updates – Information

Polk City – No update.

Grimes – No update.

West Des Moines Water Works

Lyle Hammes reported that three of the twenty-one wells are currently out of service for maintenance or rehabilitation. He also advised that staff are developing new water production reports to enhance operational tracking. Water production during May and June was above normal due to aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) testing and pumping to Zone 3.

Des Moines Water Works

Chair Danley provided an operational update on the treatment facilities. At the Fleur Water Treatment Plant, a stairway is being replaced to address safety concerns, and repairs were completed following an electrical short in West High Lift Pump No. 5. At the McMullen Water Treatment Plant, the lime slaker was cleaned, a controller was repaired, and the Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) system was returned to service following reinstallation of the pump and piping. At the Saylorville Water Treatment Plant, repairs were completed at the lagoon pump station, and the ultrafiltration (UF) system underwent advanced cleaning.

Chair Danley also reported that nitrate concentrations in the rivers have declined slightly but customer demand in relation to supply remains high.

ITEM 10. CIWW Update

Agenda and Packet Submission Procedures

Tami Madsen reviewed the agenda development and packet submission procedures that have been developed for committee meetings.

ITEM 11. Pumpage and Revenue Summary – Information

Tami Madsen informed the committee that the pumpage and revenue summary included in the Technical Committee packet reflects data that is approximately one month behind due to reporting timelines. She noted that updated figures are available and presented at the subsequent Board of Trustees meeting.

Following discussion, the committee agreed to remove the pumpage and revenue summary as a standing item from future Technical Committee agendas.

ITEM 12. Other Business

Tami Madsen reviewed the Central Iowa Water Works website content related to Stage 3 of the Water Use Plan. She noted that the website, frequently asked questions, and supporting informational articles continue to be updated as additional guidance is developed.

The committee discussed public confusion regarding the use of irrigation systems to water flowers during Stage 3 and agreed that the current language could be clarified to explicitly allow irrigation for flowers.

The committee also discussed backflow prevention testing requirements during Stage 3. Members noted that some communities have extended testing deadlines, while others continue to follow existing local ordinances governing backflow testing requirements.

ITEM 13. Adjourn

Chair Danley adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.