

Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission

June 15, 2026

Minutes

The Rogers Waterworks and Sewer Commission held its monthly meeting at 4:00 PM on June 15, 2026, at the Rogers Water Utilities Administration Building located at 601 S. 2nd Street.

Commissioners Present: Jene' Huffman-Gilreath, Paige Sultemeier, Derek Morgan, Kathy McClure, and Jerry Carmichael.

Staff Present: Aaron Short, Jered Sigmon, Brian Sartain, Todd Beaver, Jerry Roegner, Danny Lester, David Ingram, Debbie Putman, Jennifer Hoffman, and Brent Dobler. Garrett McMichael with Halff Associates was in attendance as well.

Legal Counsel Present: Robert Frazier, Frazier Law Firm.

Chair Huffman-Gilreath called the meeting to order at 4:00PM.

Public Forum: No participants were present.

Action on Minutes: Commissioner McClure made a motion to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Carmichael seconded. All in favor; motion passed.

Financial Report – J. Sigmon: Financial performance for May discussed, including water and sewer fund revenues, consumption trends, capital outlay, access and impact fees, and cash reserves. The Commission received an extensive review of May financial performance, representing 11 months through the fiscal year (benchmark 92%). Water Fund revenues were below expectations at 82% of budget, while expenses aligned closely at 91%. Sewer Fund revenue exceeded budget at 95%, with expenses at 90%. Water capital outlay totaled \$5.4 million (50% of budget), while Sewer capital outlay reached \$22.7 million (48%). Billed revenue increased year-over-year—Water up 4%, and Sewer up 9.9%. Consumption-based revenue grew significantly: Water up 11.7% and Sewer up 22%. Total consumption increased by 9% for Water and 7% for Sewer. Access and impact fee collections totaled \$74,000 in May (YTD \$1.8M), well below historical averages, forcing more conservative FY27 projections. Net income stood at \$6.3M for Water and \$9.7M for

Sewer. Combined unrestricted and restricted cash reserves totaled \$61M, with temporary downward movement caused by delayed reimbursement from the State for debt-related project expenditures

Engineering Report – B. Sartain: Updates included workflow improvements to enhance tracking of access and impact fees. Solids handling facility construction progressed significantly, with HVAC, electrical, plumbing, fire lines, and elevated walkway supports being installed. Several routing conflicts required field adjustments among contractors and design teams. Sewer rehab behind the hospital continued to experience substantial groundwater infiltration, requiring multiple pumps and temporary bypass structures. A contractor misstep resulted in flooding the adjacent Greenway, prompting RWU intervention and corrective action. Chateau subdivision sewer main construction faced early delays due to AT&T boring through an 8-inch clay sewer pipe requiring emergency repair. RWU is pursuing reimbursement for time, materials, and contractor delay costs. Additional engineering activities included modeling updates for the Water Master Plan, permitting the Arkansas Street water line extension, evaluating Highway 94 improvements, and reviewing commercial and subdivision development plans.

RPCF Report – T. Beaver: May treatment performance was strong, with solids handling stabilized despite anticipated future disruptions as new equipment integrates with the existing system. The FOG program remained compliant, with pretreatment staff maintaining close oversight. Ozark Mountain Poultry brought new pretreatment processes online, dramatically reducing key loading values and associated surcharges from 750 ppm to 75 ppm, representing major operational relief for their plant. The RPCF facility recorded a minor dissolved oxygen violation due to unusually warm early-season temperatures, which DEQ has indicated will be reevaluated or removed in future permits due to impractical physics-based requirements. May rainfall contributed 57 million gallons of inflow, producing an average daily flow of 10.9 MGD. Detailed analysis of total loading (TSS, ammonia, CBOD, phosphorus) confirmed system stability and validated prior aeration upgrades in Trains 1 and 2. Discussion followed regarding surcharge policy, cost recovery, and long-term impacts of industrial loading on plant depreciation and future expansion needs.

Old Business: No items listed.

New Business:

Aaron Short presented the 2026 Water Master Plan Consultant Selection. Burns & McDonnell was selected after reviewing engineering proposals. The selection committee evaluated five firms, with Burns & McDonnell ranking highest due to their expertise in

hydraulic modeling, master planning experience, and project delivery history with RWU. The scope includes full model updates, demand projections, fire flow analysis, and system stress-testing during peak summer conditions. Commissioner Carmichael made a motion to approve a contract with Burns & McDonnell in an amount not to exceed \$330,700. Commissioner McClure seconded. All in favor, motion passed.

Aaron Short presented the bid results for the 2027 Sewer Rehabilitation and Maintenance project. RWU received competitive unit price bids with Vortex as low bidder at \$2,728,640. RWU budgets \$3 million annually for sewer rehabilitation, allowing flexibility in selecting segments with the highest structural or inflow/infiltration risks. Approval authorizes execution of the contract and use of the full FY27 budgeted amount. Commissioner Carmichael made a motion to approve the contract as stated, seconded by Commissioner McClure. All in favor, motion passed.

Brian Sartain presented design services for the Industrial Area Water Service Extension West Project. Halff Associates submitted a detailed design proposal covering topographic survey, geotechnical borings, hydraulic modeling, permitting, bid phase, and construction administration. The 12-inch transmission main will replace an aging 8-inch cast iron pipe, improve airport fire flow, add redundancy, and support future connections to Benton-Washington Regional Public Water Authority and Pea Ridge. Contract amount does not exceed \$640,768.50. Commissioner McClure made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Morgan. All in favor, motion passed.

Brent Dobler presented Resolution 26-15 Approving the Pool of Merit Pay Increase Funds. This resolution formally adopts the merit-based pay increase pool for FY27, based on the compensation consultant's analysis of market movement, inflation, and multi-year rate-study constraints. RWU determined a limited 0.5% merit allocation was necessary due to a higher-than-expected COLA projection and RWU's commitment to maintaining long-range rate stability to align with the 2025 rate study projections. Commissioner Carmichael made a motion to approve Resolution 26-15 Approving the Pool of Merit Pay Increase Funds, seconded by Commissioner McClure. All in favor, Resolution 26-15 was approved.

Jennifer Hoffman presented Resolution 26-16 A Resolution Amending and Adopting Revised Pay Range Tables for All Rogers Water Utilities Positions – This resolution updates the utility's compensation administration policy by adjusting pay scale midpoints. Entry level classifications receive +2.7% midpoint increases to address hiring competitiveness, while upper scale classifications receive +2.2% adjustments. The city's adopted 2.8% COLA is integrated into all midpoint baselines. Commissioner Carmichael made a motion to approve Resolution 26-16 A Resolution Amending and Adopting Revised Pay Range

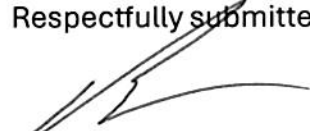
Tables for All Rogers Water Utilities Positions, seconded by Commissioner McClure. All in favor, Resolution 26-16 was approved.

Jennifer Hoffman presented the selection of a Janitorial Service Provider. Elsa's Cleaning Service was selected as the most responsive bidder after evaluation of pricing, prior service performance, and compliance with RWU facility requirements. Staff requests authorization to negotiate and finalize contract terms with Elsa's Cleaning. Commissioner McClure made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Morgan. All in favor, motion carried.

Robert Frazier presented Resolution 26-17 A Resolution Appointing an Organizational Representative for Anticipated Litigation Concerning Pinnacle Sewer Improvements – RWU is engaged in a contractual dispute involving payment claims exceeding agreed upon terms. Anticipated litigation requires appointment of Superintendent Brent Dobler as the Organizational Representative who is authorized to execute, approve, and submit legal filings, responses, claims, or other required documents on behalf of the Commission. Commissioner Carmichael made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Morgan. All in favor, Resolution 26-17 was approved.

With no further business, Chair Huffman-Gilreath adjourned the meeting at 4:48pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brent Dobler', with a stylized flourish extending from the end of the signature.

Brent Dobler, Acting Secretary