Lee Hammond
MDWCA

Regular Board Meeting Minutes
March 18, 2026

The Regular March Board meeting of the Lee Hammond MDWCA was called to order at 18:18 on March 18, 2026, at 414 RD 5500 by Barbara Kiipper.

Present

Barb Kiipper

Doug Smith

Russell Cloer

Joe Lewis

Dakota McAdam~~s~~

Moses Herrera

Teresa Stevens

Aaron Lee

Tiffany Alcon

After the review of the minutes of Feb. 18, 2026, Barb asked if there were any questions or concerns. No questions/concerns

Russell Cloer Motioned to approve the minutes, Doug Smith Seconded, all in favor.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda included,Approval of agenda, Consideration and approval of February's meeting minutes, Financial report, Operational report, election of officers, Members/customer issues, discussion and approval of Health insurance changes for July 2026-June 2027, General liability-Added to agenda, Appointment of delegate and alternate to NMRWA annual meeting, Aaron's goals, director comments/other items.

Barb asked for Motion to approve Agenda. **Teresa Stevens Motion to approve with additional item, Joe Lewis seconded, all in favor.**

Elections of Officers:

Barb has stated she will be stepping down as the board President, so we need to elect a new President. The board unanimously voted for Teresa Stevens for President, therefore we need a new Vice President, Joe Lewis nominated to be the Vice President, as he was the Secretary/Treasurer, we will also need a nominee for Secretary/Treasurer. Doug Smith nominated to be the new Secretary/Treasurer. Appointment of Dakota McAdams to take the place of Tye Bell for his remaining term.

After a vote for the mentioned positions, it was voted all together and all in favor for Teresa, Joe and Doug to take on the roles of the new positions.

System Report

Financial Report

Aaron gave a financial report for February, Revenue for Feb. was $113,424 97% of the budget. Other Revenue was $1,052 53%. Expenditures were $92,566 94% of budget, other Expenditures $0 Total Net Revenue for February was $21,910 985%. Aaron showed a few slides on a graph with the numbers above.

Operation report:

In February we produced 12,604,272 and sold 11,352,809. We are looking at a possible leak on the North side, we just haven't found it yet. We had a couple transfers and 2 new services. Carl Rhames and Jack Moore purchased new meters for the new services.

Discussion and approval of the Health Insurance changes Starting July 1st.

We are going into the state fiscal year on health insurance. The changes will be starting July 1st every year going forward as long as we stay on the State health insurance. There was a slight increase on the monthly costs for the Basic HMO plan that we currently have. A hand out was given to board members to show the different plans and the costs associated with each one. There was no cost increase for the vision. The company currently pays 100% of Health, Vision and disability for the employee, and anything else the employee pays 100% for. The board voted to keep the plan the same as last year.

Joe Lewis Motioned to approve the same plan health insurance as we currently have, Russell Cloer Seconded, all in favor.

General Liability Quote:

We received our quote for the insurance and need a Motion to approve. Last year we paid $65,000 and this year it is quoted at $66,000. There are not a lot of insurers that will cover water utilities. We did get a second price this year, significantly less money, but with the print out that was given it shows why the significant decrease. One is the Excess liability, one quote has 5 Million and the other only 2 Million. We need to really look at the differences and determine if it is worth it. Professional and directors liability is another difference. Employment practice is another. If we opt for the cheaper one, it will be pretty expensive to get back to the 5 Million for the excess liability. We are currently waiting on additional quotes for the professional, directors liability and employment practices. Those probably will not be in time for the April 1st deadline. Barb had asked why the big difference in the auto policy. Did not have an answer to that question but will find out. Doug opted to go with Philadelphia. Aaron stated, we could have a special meeting to go over what the other quotes come back with, but there again it is cutting it close to the April 1st deadline. The board decided to just go with Philadelphia this year, and next year go out to bid. Barb stated that she does not like this company, and would ask the board for sure next year to go out to bid.

Teresa Stevens Motioned to approve the Philadelphia quote for insurance, Russell Cloer Seconded, all in favor.

Appointment of delegate and alternate to NMRWA annual meeting:

Motion for Aaron Lee to be delegate and Teresa Stevens as alternate.

Joe Lewis motioned to approve, Dakota McAdams seconded, all in favor.

Aaron's Goals:

Reduce back office costs by $1500 by March 1st. Missed it by 1 month. Reduced costs by $200 in January. The new billing software is online and will be used for March billing. The other 2 goals are already completed. Objectives, Plans and costs for Capital improvements 2026, we have most of the costs for electrical and aeration, most of that is wrapped up. Fences around the 2 tanks, we don't have those costs yet. Refurbish Cottonwood tanks, that will happen this fall. We will put that out to bid probably in June instead of waiting later in the year. Cottonwood or Songbird one of the two. We may get them both done this year just depending on what the price tag looks like, and the 2 sections of pipe that have been a problem every year. We should have bid documents ready soon for one, and the other we are going to do in house in May or June. Shop expansion at the office and building at the plant for storing our backhoe and chemicals. We have not had a strategic planning workshop yet. Last thing, getting board packets out the Friday before meetings. This has been completed, this month was a little late as we were waiting on the insurance quotes.

Aaron did meet with the stakeholders about the shared water plant. When he talked to Blanco, they kind of backed out of the idea, they wanted to own it themselves. Teresa had a conversation with them at their last meeting, and it is not completely off the table with them. Also talked to Kenny about doing a regionalization project, they seem to be in favor of that. And if we can get a few more of them on board hopefully we can split the costs with each system.

Joe: What are the downfalls of this project?

Aaron: There really isn't a downfall, it's more about having an additional source to help everyone.

We are going to try and redo the contract rates with the City of Bloomfield, because they have been buying water from us the last couple of years.

Our annual CCR was accepted and posted to the website.

Member/customer issues;

Dakota McAdams was voted in to take Tye Bell's spot at the Annual Meeting.

The NMRW Spring conference will be held April 14-16

Law of the Colorado River will be May 18-19

NRWA Waterpro conference will be September 14-16 in Phoenix, AZ.

No Board meeting in April

Next board meeting will be May 20, 2026

There being no further business, *Barb Kiipper adjourned at* 19:33.