PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE WEST DES MOINES WATER WORKS
November 2, 2026

The special meeting of The Board of Trustees of the West Des Moines Water Works was called to order by Chair Scott Brennan at 4:06 PM on Monday, November 2, 2026. The meeting was held at the West Des Moines Water Works, 1505 Railroad Avenue, A.C. Ward Water Treatment Plant Conference Room. Vice Chair Jody Smith and Trustees Erin Sheriff, Ted Ohmart and Heather Schebel were present in person. Also present were staff members Christina Murphy, General Manager; Matthew Probasco, Finance Manager and Treasurer; Lyle Hammes, Superintendent; Gary Eshelman, Water Production Manager; Mark Hanasz, Water Distribution Manager; William Mabuce, Principal Engineer – Water Distribution and Development; and Josh Heggen, Business Relations Manager.
Other Attendees: Tim Whipple (online) of Ahlers & Cooney P.C. and Nick Babberl of PFM Financial Advisors.

Moved by Schebel, seconded by Sheriff that the agenda be approved.
Roll call: All yes. Motion approved.

No one came forward during the Citizen Forum.

Moved by Smith, seconded by Schebel to enter into Closed Session as permitted by *Section 21.5(c), Code of Iowa, allows a closed session to strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation and at the advice of legal counsel.*
Roll call: All yes. Motion carried

Entered into closed session at 4:07 PM.

Moved by Sheriff, seconded by Smith to adjourn Closed Session.
Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

Closed session was adjourned at 4:40 PM. The Board did not take any formal action in Closed session.

Staff members joined the meeting at 4:41 following closed session.

Moved by Smith, seconded by Sheriff to defer action on the items 4a and 4b Resolutions until we receive a response from WB Realty regarding the delivery of Easement No. 2.
Roll call: All yes. Motion carried.

Moved by Schebel, seconded by Sheriff to concur with the recommendation from the Finance and Audit Committee and approve the Resolution titled “A Resolution Fixing The Date, Time, And Place For A Public Hearing On Water Rate And Water Basic Service Charge Adjustments at 4:00 PM, November 16, 2026 at 1505 Railroad Avenue, West Des Moines, Iowa”.
Roll call: All yes. Resolution adopted.

Nick Babberl, of PFM Financial Advisors gave a presentation on two rate increase scenarios of 5% to 6% and an increase for the monthly basic service charge for the board to consider for the 2027 budget. He noted that current rates in West Des Moines are among the lowest in the metro area. The discussion covered the impact of Central Iowa Water Works rate increases, the need for a new customer billing and finance software, and the potential for a fiber optic communication project estimated up to $3 million. The Board expressed a preference for a 6% rate increase to provide a larger cushion for rising costs and future capital and expansion projects.

A discussion of Draft Budget for Calendar Year 2027 occurred. Staff provided an overview of the Capital Improvement Plan anticipated and ongoing projects. Staff also reviewed the operating budget highlights.

Moved by Sheriff, seconded by Schebel to adjourn at 5:59 PM.
Roll call: All yes. Motion approved.

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Jody E. Smith
Vice Chair

Attest:

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Christina Murphy
Secretary

These Minutes are a draft. If corrections or additions are made the corrected minutes will be published after approval at the November 16, 2026 meeting.