



Coventry Water Pollution Control Authority
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 8, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT: Matthew Twerdy (Remote), Richard Brand (Remote), Daniel Murphy (Remote), Todd Matthewson (Remote)

STAFF PRESENT: Mike Ruef, WWTP Operator (Remote)
Charlie Grossmann, WPCA Operator 1 (Remote)
Cherie Trahan, Finance Director (Remote)

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** Matthew Twerdy called the January 8, 2026 WPCA Regular Meeting to order at 6:04 P.M. on Zoom Online Video Conference meeting id 828 2199 8522.
- 2. AUDIENCE OF CITIZENS:** None
- 3. NEW BUSINESS:**
 - a. Approval of minutes from December 11, 2025 WPCA Regular Meeting:

MOTION Jan-8-2026-1: To approve minutes from the December 11, 2025 WPCA Regular Meeting:
By: Brand Seconded: Murphy
The Motion carried with the following vote:
For: Brand, Murphy, Matthewson, Twerdy
Against: None
Abstain: None

- 4. OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. Ongoing Discussion of Sewer System Capacity:
Flows are down due to infiltration & inflow removal success.
 - b. FY 2027 Budget & Sewer Use Increase:
Staff introduced Finance Director Cherie Trahan who joined to meet the WPCA and answer any questions.
Staff displayed the WPCA sinking fund report provided by Cherie Trahan. The fund balance is a little over \$500,000. Staff estimate that after capital expenses in FY26 the balance will be about \$300,000. Average cost of capital improvement projects over the next 5 years is about \$80,000 per year so we need to be putting this much into the sinking fund. FY27 is the last year for debt service payments, which are \$55,000 per year so we need a budget surplus of \$25,000 per year to put \$80,000 per year into the sinking fund. A 7% increase in sewer use fees would generate a surplus of \$25,000.

MOTION Jan-8-2026-2: To propose a 7% increase to sewer use fees raising the fee from \$475 per year per EDU to \$510 per year effective July 1 2026, to be discussed during a Public Hearing in April 2026.

By: Brand Seconded: Murphy

The Motion carried with the following vote:

For: Brand, Murphy, Matthewson, Twerdy

Against: None

Abstain: None

Staff will notify Town building directors and the schools to budget for a 7% increase in sewer use fees.

- c. The FY26 operating budget report was reviewed. We are 62% expended halfway through the fiscal year.

5. WPCA STAFF REPORT:

- a. Wastewater Management Plan Update:
The CEPA Public Scoping Meeting was held December 11. An Environmental Impact Evaluation (EIE) will be required. SLR Consulting provided a draft scope of work and fee for the EIE. Staff will distribute to WPCA members to review before sending to DEEP. The draft Clean Water Fund grant priority list shows our project in the Small Community category which is 25% grant, 75% loan, and is not competitive.
- b. Western Route 44 Sewer Project Update:
There is the possibility of a CTfastrak bus route down Rt 44. We are keeping our options open.
- c. Operations & Maintenance Report:
 - Staff are assisting the public works dept with registration & compliance with the reissued Industrial Stormwater Permit for DPW & the Transfer Station. Staff are also working with on the Industrial Pretreatment permit for two town buildings and three local businesses that discharge into the sewer system.
 - Staff completed major maintenance to infiltration basin 3 at the treatment plant and initial results show improved drainage.

6. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATION:

- a. The draft WPCA 4th quarter report was reviewed. Staff will submit.

7. NEXT MEETING: February 12, 2026

8. ADJOURNMENT:

Matthew Twerdy adjourned the January 8, 2026 WPCA Regular Meeting at 6:59 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Mike Ruef, WWTP Operator

1/9/2026

****These minutes are not official until approved by the WPCA at the next regular WPCA meeting.***