

Commissioner Meeting Minutes
May 6, 2026

Meeting called to order at 4:00 pm.

All members present

The Board reviewed and signed Warrants

Mr. Bursch made a motion to approve the minutes of April 22nd, 2026, Mr. Emkey, so second, all in favor.

Lou Sarraco, with Tighe & Bond, reviewed with the Board the timeline and procedures for the SRF funding. The Board discussed the upcoming meeting to approve this funding. The Board agreed that the Warrant for the Special meeting should include not only the 41 million for the SRF but also the additional 6 million to include the Keating transmission water main. The Supt met with DEP for the sanitary survey, and they mentioned to him that the survey could include a corrective action plan for the removal of iron and manganese at the Lancaster Ave wells. Regardless of the vote for the PFAS removal, a treatment plant will need to be built to remove that.

The Board reviewed the draft presentation for the SRF funding and upcoming Special meeting. They discussed options if this vote does not pass. The Supt and Clerk are working with Waterworth to come up with slides to add that will show the residents a closer estimated cost for each funding option. The Board is also going to investigate the PFAS litigation and how that will or won't affect the District.

Mr. Bursch made a motion to approve the Special Warrant as written for Wednesday, June 3rd at 6PM. Mr. Emkey second, all in favor.

Mr. Emkey wrote a draft letter to MassDEP regarding the kayak rack in Zone I of the Hickory Hill's well. The other two Board members did not agree with sending the letter. The District has already worked with the Woodland's and their lawyer to try and resolve this. Mr. Bursch and the Supt went to the Hickory Hills Well and looked at the kayaks. There is not only one but 10 racks in the area now and it appeared lots of them were not even being used. The Supt spoke with MassDEP and asked if they wanted him to send the most recent paperwork that the Woodland's had submitted. DEP responded to him stating that they did not want to see it and that they already answered no, the kayak rack must be moved. The Clerk reached out to the Woodland's lawyer, and he is supposed to get back to her to let her know if he will attend a meeting to discuss this with the Board. Mr. Emkey made a motion to send the letter he drafted to MassDEP requesting a variance for the kayak rack. No second.

Resident of the Woodland's Condo, Joan Pease emailed all the Commissioners but not the Water District directly with a request to have a tree company go through the Zone I area of the Hickory Hills well to have a tree removed. Mr. Bursch and the Supt went to the home where this is located and stated that they felt there are other options that the Woodlands could do for them not to have to go through the Zone I area. Mr. Bursch made a motion to make no entry into or through the Zone I area for the removal of trees. Mr. Emkey second, all in favor.

Mr. Emkey requested the preparation of the Commissioner's agenda be added for discussion. The Clerk will send the Commissioner's a draft agenda ahead of time for them to review. She will also add "action item" to the bottom for smaller topics to be discussed if needed.

There was a water main break on Northfield Rd. Originally the Supt was going to bill the contractor, but he and the Board agreed not to.

Mr. Bursch wanted the Board to reconsider hiring Capital Strategic Solutions to help with the public outreach needed before the Special meeting. He wants more social media presence and

a post card mailer to go to all the residents. Mr. Bursch made a motion to hire Capital Strategic Solutions not to exceed \$4000 and include additional funds to cover the postcard mailing. Mr. Woodward second. Mr. Bursch and Mr. Woodward in favor, Mr. Emkey nay. Motion passes. The Clerk informed the Board the survey will close tomorrow and will get the results shortly after.

Jo with Public Access TV reached out to the Clerk and stated that the Lunenburg Citizens for Affordable Clean Water reached out to her to record a video about expanding the District resources and building a treatment plant. She extended the invitation to the Water District as well. A comment came from the audience, and the Supt made an offensive remark back. The Clean Water group is making their video on the 12th. The Commissioners want to wait to see what their video is about and will then decide when the Water District will record something with Public Access.

Public Comment

John Fortune, 50 Hemlock Dr. was offended by the Supt remark

Andy Starvaski was offended by the Supt remark. He also asked when the Board will respond to his questions that he sent regarding the SRF funding. Mr. Woodward said it will be on the agenda next week.

Meeting adjourned 6:45 p.m.

Minutes by Christina Schwinger