

Commissioner Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2026

Meeting called to order at 4:00 pm.

All Board members present

The Board reviewed and signed Warrants

The Board reviewed the minutes from the previous meeting. Mr. Emkey requested that the Clerk revise the minutes to change, "the Supt must" to "the Supt stated". Mr. Woodward agreed. The Clerk revised the minutes. Mr. Woodward would accept a motion to approve the minutes of July 22nd, 2026. Mr. Emkey, so moved. Mr. Bursch seconded, all in favor.

Mr. Emkey discussed his new spreadsheet for manganese and PFAS. He requested that the most recent data be input and that once all that data is entered the District could place this information on the website for residents to view. Mr. Bursch stated he felt Mr. Emkey was stepping outside of what the Board of Water Commissioners handles. He felt the daily operations should be handled by the Supt. The Supt agreed to continue to work with Mr. Emkey outside of the Board meetings and once more data becomes available, he will bring all that information to the Board.

The Supt gave the Board a copy of the corrective action plan that MassDEP sent to the Water District. On it, it stated that Lunenburg would need to respond with a plan on how to address the high manganese levels in the water. The Supt questioned the Board if they knew what the maximum contaminant level is; it's .05. Right now, there are two wells on Lancaster Ave that have levels above the health concern of .3. The Board all agreed it was hard to come up with a full plan until the EPA set the final contaminant levels for PFAS, as that could dictate what treatment may be needed. The Board agreed it was best to continue to blend the wells to try and keep the levels lower and explain to DEP that once they provide more guidance, Lunenburg can come up with a full corrective action plan.

The Sunnyhill tank was just inspected. The Supt had forwarded the report earlier in the week for the Board to review. The company that did the inspection offered multi-year maintenance plans. The Board agreed they would like the company to come in and review all the information with them, so they can decide on how to proceed.

The Clerk informed the Board that the CD the District currently has in the bank would be maturing at the end of the month. She asked the Board if they would like to renew it for another 6 months. The Board agreed it was best to reinvest as the funds are not needed at this time.

The Supt updated the Board on the Meadow Lane water main replacement project. Once the new water main is installed, it must be pressure tested. The Supt asked the Board whether the District could purchase pressure-testing equipment so it would not need to hire a company each time testing is required. The Board agreed that this equipment is necessary and that the District should have it.

The Supt informed the Board on how well the new gateways for the meter reading system have been. Multiple times he was able to identify leaks right away and reach out to the owners to prevent further high usage and bills.

The PJ Keating's well went down again, and the District was helping supply water to them. This time it was only for a few weeks. The Supt asked the Board if they wanted to charge PJ Keating's anything for the water. The Board agreed they did not want to charge them. Mr. Bursch and Mr. Woodward expressed their gratitude for all the employees working so hard on the Meadow Lane water main project. Mr. Emkey requested the District purchase a speaker phone that could be used for future meetings when he is in Florida for the winter.

Public Comment

Paul Grunditz, 30 John St. suggested that the Commissioners could investigate other Towns to see how much involvement they have with daily operations. He also suggested that the engineers might be able to help with the blending of the wells.

Meeting adjourned 5:15 p.m.

Minutes by Christina Schwinger