

**Mercersburg Water Authority Meeting
Borough Hall, Mercersburg, PA 17236
November 20, 2025
MINUTES**

ATTENDING: Chairman Ed Twine, Vice-Chairman Jason Frey, Member Joe Creighton, Member Jacob Morgan, Member Michael Pedersen, Water & Sewer Plant Laborer Donnie Keefer, Administrative Professional Angela Alleman

GUEST(S)/PRESS: Reference Sign in Sheets

Chairman Twine called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and opened the floor to Public Comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Alan Fries - Informed the Authority that Fairview Cemetery does not want to be removed from the MWA.

Marlene Harmon and Kim Berkstresser – Shared concerns with the RAVE Alert System stating that there are inconsistencies in the alerts that they receive. Chairman Twine advised them to get in contact with Borough office staff to verify that correct contact information is on file.

Ben Dugas – Inquired about the outcome of the meeting with Mercersburg Academy. Chairman Twine reported that the MWA continues to collaborate with the Academy regarding the current water issues. Ben also asked about the timeframe for implementing the new meter reading and billing software and whether the MWA could afford it. Member Creighton stated that the new systems will pay for themselves through improved staff efficiency and are expected to start being implemented with the January billing cycle.

Emily Moore - Inquired about the status of her current bill dispute and asked what the fair way would be to address the incorrect meter reads and resulting bills. She expressed that she believes all of her 2025 readings should be reevaluated. Staff informed her that her dispute is still under review.

Vincent McCullough – Inquired about the two most recent water main breaks. Member Creighton reported that the first water issue was not a main break and that it was a house connection that broke, and the second issue was a main break on Johnston's Lane. Vincent shared concerns with the cost of system repairs. Chairman Twine reported that MWA is actively seeking various grant funding to help offset those costs.

Vincent requested that Borough staff take additional steps to improve communication during water emergencies. He suggested providing daily updates.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Pending

MINUTES

MOTION: To approve October 16, 2025 Meeting Minutes was made by Frey, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Not Present.

WATER AND SEWER LABORER'S REPORT

Donnie Keefer reported that well levels continue to decrease, with the Buck Run well being the most concerning. Despite the Borough being under a mandatory water conservation notice, daily flow into town continues to exceed 220,000 gallons.

Donnie stated that he would like to table the quote for the Steadfast Air Dryer due to the current water situation. He also noted the need to purchase a new countertop chlorine tester, as the existing unit only narrowly passed its quarterly calibration. He will have this purchase added to the December Agenda.

MOTION: To table the quote for the Steadfast Air Dryer was made by Pedersen, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS

Written report included.

SOLICITORS REPORT

Not Present. No report included.

GMS REPORT

Not scheduled to be present.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Angela Alleman reported on behalf of Connie Creighton that the new meter reading software remains on schedule for transition and use in the January 10th billing cycle.

Angela noted that letters are being drafted for the No Charge Accounts, with particular attention to Alan Fries' request that the Fairview Cemetery's account not be closed.

Additionally, closed accounts with remaining balances, as well as Zero Consumption accounts, continue to be reviewed, evaluated, and processed.

Member Creighton reported on the anticipated staff time efficiencies that would be achieved with the purchase of new billing software.

OLD BUSINESS

MOTION: To extend the Water Conservation Notice was made by Frey, seconded by Creighton, all ayes, motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

The review questions from the *Journal* have been tabled for Borough staff to verify answers.

MOTION: To approve invoice for Professional Services from Salzmänn Hughes (07/09/2025) related to PennVest financing, Interim financing, Permitting was made by Frey, seconded by Pedersen, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve 2026 Meeting Calendar for December advertising was made by Pedersen, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

Member Creighton presented the benefits of purchasing a GPS location system. With the Authority's approval, he will continue his research and obtain price quotes.

The proposed 2026 Water Authority Operating Budget is still pending and will be shared once it is completed and ready for approval.

MOTION: To approve Resolution 2025-10-W to authorize GMS to file LSA Grant Application on behalf of MWA was made by Creighton, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve Bulk Water Purchase Agreement with the Borough of Chambersburg was made by Frey, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve High Tide Invoice was made by Pedersen, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

MOTION: To approve Express Water LLC Invoices for 11/10, 11/11, 11/12, and 11/13 was made by Creighton, seconded by Morgan, all ayes, motion carried.

Property owner Richard Yale has requested to disconnect from the MWA system. Member Creighton explained that the Water Authority Rules and Regulations require all Borough residents to remain connected to the water authority system. Because this resident is located in Peters Township, the requirement depends on the services he receives: if he receives both water and sewer billing through the Authority, he must remain connected, as this is how sewer usage is tracked. However, if he receives only water service from the Authority, he may have the option to disconnect. Staff will contact Salzman Hughes to determine whether any additional restrictions apply.

It was requested that staff be authorized to reissue the October 10, 2025 bill for 232 Overhill Drive, averaging consumption over the last four quarters, due to an unexplained high bill.

MOTION: To approve a reissued, averaged bill for 232 Overhill Drive was made by Creighton, seconded by Frey, all ayes, motion carried.

CORRESPONDENCE

Mark Jones submitted a request for permission to use his ATV on Water Authority property to access State Game Land for hunting. Chairman Twine reported that Authority rules prohibit hunting and trespassing on the property.

MOTION: To adjourn at 8:33 PM was made by Morgan, seconded by Pedersen, all ayes, motion carried.

These meeting minutes were transcribed from audio recording and Angela Alleman's notes and have been respectfully submitted for approval.

Date Approved: 12-18-2025 Motion Made By: Frey Seconded: Pedersen



Borough Manager

SEAL

