

EVESHAM MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

Meeting Minutes from February 4, 2026

Authority Board, Professionals and Staff in Attendance

Present: Chairman Waters, Commissioners Schmidt, Kipness, Druss and Willmott
(Not in attendance – Commissioner Tencza)

Authority Board via Video Teleconferencing:

Commissioner Sweeney

Also Present: Executive Director Booth, Deputy Executive Director Puszcz, Operations Manager Higgins, Asset Manager Vandenberg, General Counsel Agostini, Engineer Simpson and Board Secretary Krimmel

Members of the Public:

None

Chairman Waters called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Opening Statement:

Commissioner Schmidt read the opening statement as follows:

Both adequate and electronic notice of this meeting, pursuant to both the Open Public Meetings Act and Emergency Remote Meeting Protocol advised in Local Finance Notice 2020-21, has been given by the Office Manager of the Evesham Municipal Utilities Authority on February 6, 2025 in the following manner:

1. E-mailing written notice to the Burlington County Times, and Courier Post
2. Posting written notice on the official Evesham MUA website
3. Filing written notice with the Clerks of Evesham and Medford

This statement shall be entered into the minutes of this meeting

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

REORGANIZATION

General Counsel Agostini conducted the nomination for election of Chairperson.

Chairman: On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Sweeney, it was moved to nominate Mr. Edward Waters as Chairman for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: Waters

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-1

Chairman Waters conducted the nominations for the remaining Board positions.

Vice – Chairman: On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to nominate Mr. George Tencza as Vice Chairman for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Secretary: On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Druss, it was moved to nominate Mr. Lewis Kipness as Secretary for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: Kipness

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-1

Assistant Secretary: On motion by Kipness, seconded by Druss, it was moved to nominate Mr. Michael Schmidt as Assistant Secretary for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: Schmidt

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-1

Assistant Secretary: On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to nominate Mr. Richard Sweeney as Assistant Secretary for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Schmidt, Waters

NAY: None
ABSTAIN: Sweeney

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-1

The members accepted their respective positions.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 8, 2025 – On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Sweeney, it was moved to approve the minutes of January 8, 2025.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items only)

None

Motion to re-adopt Roberts Rules of Order - On motion by Kipness, seconded by Sweeney, it was moved to re-adopt Roberts Rules of Order for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Motion that all rules and regulations heretofore made will continue for the following year unless changes are made – On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Druss, it was moved that all rules and regulations heretofore made will continue for the following year unless changes are made.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Motion to approve official depository of the Authority – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to name and approve WSFS as the official depository of the Authority for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-13: Authorizing Actions to be performed on behalf of the Authority – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-13** authorizing actions to be performed on behalf of the Authority for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-14: Appointment of Public Agency Compliance Officer (PACO) for 2026 – On motion by Druss, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-14** appointing Laura Puszcz as Public Agency Compliance Officer (PACO) for the Authority for the upcoming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-15: Re-adoption of Anti- Harassment Policy for the Authority – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-15** re-adopting the Anti-Harassment Policy for the Authority for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-16: Open Public Meetings Act – On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-16** that advance notice of all meetings of the Authority will be in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-17: Award of professional contract to Environmental Resolutions for the position of Auxiliary Engineer – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-17** awarding a professional contract to Environmental Resolutions for the position of Auxiliary Engineer for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-18: Award of professional contract to T & M Associates for the position of Auxiliary Engineer – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-18** awarding a professional contract to T & M Associates for the position of Auxiliary Engineer for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-19: Award of professional contract to CME Associates for the position of Auxiliary Engineer – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-19** awarding a professional contract to CME Associates for the position of Auxiliary Engineer for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-20: Award of professional contract to Remington & Vernick Engineers for the position of Auxiliary Engineer – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-20** awarding a professional contract to Remington & Vernick Engineers for the position of Auxiliary Engineer for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-20: Award of professional contract to CME Associates for the position of Auxiliary Engineer – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2025-13** awarding a professional contract to CME Associates for the position of Auxiliary Engineer for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-21: Award of professional contract to Malamut & Associates for the position of Bond Counsel – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-21** awarding a professional contract to Malamut & Associates for the position of Bond Counsel for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-22: Award of professional contract to Richard A. Alaimo Associates for the position of Consulting Engineer – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-22** awarding a professional contract to Richard A. Alaimo Associates for the position of Consulting Engineer for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-23: Award of professional contract to CME Associates for the position of Environmental Consultant – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-23** awarding a professional contract to CME Associates for the position of Environmental Consultant for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-24: Award of professional contract to Acacia Financial Group for the position of Financial Advisor – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-24** awarding a professional contract to Acacia Financial Group for the position of Financial Advisor for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-25: Award of professional contract to Malamut & Associates LLC for the position of General Counsel – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-25** awarding a professional contract to Malamut & Associates LLC for the position of General Counsel for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-26: Award of professional contract to Sevee & Maher Engineers for the position of Geological Engineer – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-26** awarding a professional contract to Sevee & Maher Engineers for the position of Geological Engineer for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-27: Award of professional contract to Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt, Cappelli & Tipton LLC for the position of Labor Counsel – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-27** awarding a professional contract to Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt, Cappelli & Tipton LLC for the position of Labor Counsel for the coming year. Chairman Waters recused himself from the vote due to a conflict of interest with Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt, Cappelli & Tipton.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: Waters

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-1

Resolution 2026-28: Award of professional contract to Virtua Health for the position of Occupational Physician – On motion by Kipness, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-28** awarding a professional contract to Virtua Health for the position of Occupational Physician for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-29: Award of contract through Extraordinary Unspecifiable Services to Hardenbergh Insurance Group for the position of Risk Management & Insurance Consultant – On motion by Kipness, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-29** awarding a contract through Extraordinary Unspecifiable Services to Hardenbergh Insurance Group for the position of Risk Management & Insurance Consultant for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-30: Award of professional contract to Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt, Cappelli & Tipton LLC for the position of Special Counsel – On motion by Druss, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-30** awarding a professional contract to Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt, Cappelli & Tipton LLC for the position of Special Counsel for the coming year. Chairman Waters recused himself from the vote due to a conflict of interest with Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt, Cappelli & Tipton.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: Waters

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-1

Resolution 2026-35: Award of professional contract to PKF O'Connor Davies LLP for the position of Auditor – On motion by Kipness, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution 2026-35** awarding a professional contract to PKF O'Connor Davies LLP (formerly Bowman & Company) for the position of Auditor for the coming year.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters

NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

FINANCIAL

Resolution 2026-31: Payment of Bills – On motion by Kipness, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution #2026-31** approving the payment of the January 2026 bills.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters*
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: Waters* - Purchase Order #26-01173
 Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt

*Chairman Waters advised that he must abstain approval of purchase order number 26-01173 for Florio, Perrucci, Steinhardt due to a conflict of interest.

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0 For Bill List items except P.O. #26-01173
 4-0-1 For Bill List item P.O. #26-01173

Resolution 2026-32: Refunds, Credits & Cancellations – On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to adopt **Resolution #2026-32** approving the January 2026 refunds, credits & cancellations.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Resolution 2026-33: Authorizing Advertisement – On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to adopt **Resolution #2026-33** authorizing advertisement for proposals for Health Insurance Broker. Deputy Executive Director Puszcz explained that the current contract expires in March.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT

Executive Director Booth informed the Board that there were no violations in the month of January. There were three main breaks since our last meeting. There were three discolored water and three odor complaints. In all cases, we tested the water and all came back in compliance.

Executive Director Booth expressed appreciation to Commissioner Sweeney for accepting his reappointment to the Board.

Executive Director Booth advised the Board that although this month was quiet, the snow and ice kept us very busy. We did assist the Township with personnel and equipment with snow removal and with additional things that they needed help with.

Executive Director Booth informed the Board that our management and supervisor staff are currently working on their capital budget plan. Once they are done, he along with Deputy Executive Director Puszcz, will review them and submit them to the Finance Committee.

Executive Director Booth advised the Board that our 2019 Revenue Bond has been exhausted. We will petition the I-Bank for funding. Executive Director Booth along with Deputy Executive Director Puszcz will review our long-term improvement projects and apply for a new revenue bond.

Executive Director Booth advised the Board that a mini seminar will be held on Wednesday, February 11th at Gibson House. Executive Director Booth expressed appreciation to the staff (Monica, Karen and Angie) for their assistance in making these classes successful.

Executive Director Booth advised the Board that he spoke to Chairman Waters and would like to show appreciation to the staff for all the hard work they did during the snowstorm. They would like to provide lunch. They polled the Board to request approval for lunch, and it was unanimously approved.

Executive Director Booth gave a presentation on The Year in Review of 2025 and The Year Ahead in 2026.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Review of Engineer's Status Report

Resolution 2026-34: Award of a One Year Chemical Contracts – On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Druss, it was moved to adopt **Resolution #2026-34** awarding one-year chemical contracts. Engineer Simpson explained that this was a rebid for two chemicals that did not get responsive bids.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Update: South Side Water Storage Tank – Nothing new to report.

Update: Route 70 Water Main – Nothing new to report.

Update: Well No. 6 Redrill – Nothing new to report.

Update: Elmwood UV Disinfection – The equipment has been installed. The manufacture of the equipment has been having issues. We have a meeting planned for tomorrow to discuss what we require so that we can get this into service.

Update: Heritage Village (Phase 3) Water Main Replacement – Nothing new to report.

Update: Cinelli Farm Lift Station – We completed the review of the shop drawings and are waiting for equipment to be delivered before the contractor can start.

Update: Elmwood WWTP Generator Replacement – We are hoping to go out to bid next month.

Update: Kings Grant Drive Water Main Replacement – We are taking bids on February 24, 2026 for this project.

Update: Well No. 5 Redevelopment – The pump is in place and will need to be tested.

Update: Well No. 8 Redrill – We have a preconstruction meeting with Uni-Tech Drilling Company next week for Phase 1 of this project.

Update: Pine Grove Pump Station Rehabilitation – This is currently under review with the DEP for the treatment works approval.

Motion to approve S-1/W-1 for Mac-Rose Contractors, Inc. – 23 East Main Street – On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to approve S-1/W-1 for Mac-Rose Contractors, Inc. – 23 East Main Street

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

Motion to approve S-1/W-1 for Marlton Crossing Dev AMS LLC – 100 Centre Blvd.
– On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to approve S-1/W-1 for Marlton Crossing Dev AMS LLC – 100 Centre Blvd.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Tencza, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

GENERAL COUNSEL'S REPORT

General Counsel Agostini expressed appreciation on behalf of Malamut for their reappointment and advised that there was nothing new to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

BOARD COMMENTS

Commissioner Willmott congratulated Chairman Waters and everyone else on their reappointments. He expressed appreciation to Executive Director Booth for his presentation on the year in review and ahead. He was happy to hear that we only had 3 watermain breaks this past month during this extremely cold weather.

Commissioner Druss congratulated Commissioner Sweeney and Chairman Waters on their reappointments. He is grateful that we have crews and contractors to repair our watermain breaks. He expressed appreciation to Deputy Executive Director Puszcz for her financial reports and to Executive Director Booth for his presentation on the year in review and ahead.

Commissioner Sweeney congratulated Chairman Waters and the professionals on their reappointments. He expressed appreciation to Executive Director Booth for his presentation on the year in review and ahead.

Commissioner Kipness congratulated Commissioner Sweeney and Chairman Waters on their reappointments. He expressed appreciation to Executive Director Booth and the entire MUA team for their dedication.

Commissioner Schmidt expressed his agreement on what all the other commissioners stated. He expressed appreciation to all the employees who have been working through this brutal weather. He also appreciates the calendar that the MUA distributes to all the residents. He believes they are so informative. He questioned Deputy Executive Director Puszcz if the transition is over for the employee health insurance and she confirmed that it was and that employees seem to find that it was an easy transition. He congratulated Commissioner Sweeney and Chairman Waters on their reappointments.

Chairman Waters congratulated Commissioner Sweeney and all the professionals on their reappointments and to the new appointments. He looks forward to working with all of them. He expressed appreciation to Executive Director Booth for his presentation on the year in review and to the entire MUA team. He believes they all do a great job. He also expressed appreciation to the Board. They volunteer their time to do this, and he believes they work well together. He appreciates their confidence in reappointing him for another year as Chairman. He really appreciates the staff that worked during this past storm. He believes we need to show our appreciation when they go above and beyond. He believes that we are the best Authority in the State.

There was a motion to adjourn by Kipness, seconded by Druss. The meeting was adjourned at 8:01 P.M.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Druss, Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Waters
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 5-0-0

The next meeting of the Evesham Municipal Utilities Authority is scheduled for March 4, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at 100 Sharp Road.

Christine Krimmel
Office Manager

APPROVED BY THE BOARD: _____