

EVESHAM MUNICIPAL UTILITIES AUTHORITY

Meeting Minutes from March 4, 2026

Authority Board, Professionals and Staff in Attendance

Present: Vice-Chairman Tencza, Commissioners Schmidt & Kipness
(Not in attendance – Chairman Waters, Commissioners Druss & Wilmott)

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

Authority Board via Video Conferencing:

Commissioner Sweeney

Members of the Public:

None

Vice-Chairman Tencza called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Opening Statement:

Board Secretary Kipness 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 5, 2026 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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

February 4, 2026 – On motion by Kipness, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to approve the minutes of February 4, 2026.

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt
 NAY: None
 ABSTAIN: Tencza (Not in attendance)

MOTION CARRIED: 3-0-1

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items only)

None

FINANCIAL

Resolution 2026-36: Payment of Bills – On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to adopt **Resolution #2026-36** approving the payment of the February 2026 bills.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-0

Resolution 2026-37: Refunds, Credits & Cancellations – On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to adopt **Resolution #2026-37** approving the February 2026 refunds, credits & cancellations.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-0

Resolution 2026-41: Authorizing award of contract through OMNIA Partners National Cooperative Pricing Program – On motion by Kipness, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution #2026-41** authorizing award of contract through OMNIA Partners National Cooperative Pricing Program in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 to USA Bluebook to provide maintenance, repair, operating supplies and related products and services. Operations Manager Higgins explained that the Authority utilizes USA Bluebook for tools, parts, chemicals, etc. They have joined this co-op agreement and we receive product at a reduced cost.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-0

Resolution 2026-42: Award of Contract in excess of \$53,000 – On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to adopt **Resolution #2026-42** authorizing an award of contract in excess of \$53,000 to Electri-Tech, Inc. in the amount of \$86,200.00 for electrical repairs and services. Operations Manager Higgins explained that this is the RFP that we just did for an electrician. We had several bidders and they qualified and were low bidder.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-0

Resolution 2026-43: Award of Contract under Extraordinary, Unspecifiable Services – On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to adopt **Resolution #2026-43** awarding a contract under Extraordinary, Unspecifiable Services to Conner Strong & Buckelew for 2026 Employee Dental Insurance Broker. Deputy Executive Director Puszcz advised the Board that we received 2 proposals and Conner Strong was the most favorable to the Authority. There will be no fees as Conner Strong's compensation is commission based.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-0

Resolution 2026-46: Authorizing award of contract through North Jersey Cooperative Pricing System – On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to adopt **Resolution #2026-46** authorizing award of contract through North Jersey Cooperative Pricing System to Pumping Services, Inc. in the amount of \$468,336.48 for RAS/WAS Pump replacement at Elmwood WWTP. Operations Manager Higgins explained that this is for the RAS/WAS (Return Activated Sludge and Waste Activated Sludge) process at Elmwood Wastewater Treatment Plant. The pumps are from 1989 and need to be replaced.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-0

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Booth advised the Board that there were no violations this month. There were three watermain breaks and one wastewater break in the month of February. They were all repaired in-house. There were no discolored water complaints, however, there were three odor in the water complaints but we could not replicate the odor when we went to the properties. We tested the water and they came back in compliance.

Executive Director Booth advised the Board that New Jersey American Water Company is once again requesting a rate increase of 17/18 percent. He requested Board approval to join in with Mount Laurel MUA to litigate those percentages down. The Board unanimously agreed to move forward with Mount Laurel MUA litigation.

Executive Director Booth discussed three open projects that we have on going. The Woodstream Wav Tex (nitrates removal) which our Auxiliary Engineer, Environmental Resolutions Inc., is overseeing, the Woodstream Headworks project and the Lincoln Drive Water Tower which T & M Associates is overseeing.

Executive Director Booth advised the Board that we sent out over 6,000 billing statements last month through the United States Postal Service and they lost all of them. The office staff resent the statements, extending the due date to March 12, 2026. The post office subsequently located and delivered the misplaced statements, resulting in customers receiving both billing statements.

Executive Director Booth informed the Board that the staff is currently working on their capital budgets. The Personnel Committee has already approved the salary administration plan. We will now review the capital projects and continue moving forward.

Executive Director Booth advised the Board that during the weeks of March 16, 2026 through March 27, 2026 the Authority will be conducting our Spring hydrant flushing program. It will go on 7 days a week and around the clock 24 hours straight.

Executive Director Booth informed the Board that he will be attending the Township Council meeting on Wednesday, April 8, 2026. He will present a power point on the year end and look ahead of the MUA. He will also have a question/answer session.

Executive Director Booth advised the Board that the AEA Conference will not be held in Atlantic City this year. It is scheduled for a one-day event on Thursday, April 23, 2026 in New Brunswick. Please advise if you would like to attend.

ENGINEER'S REPORT

Review of Engineer's Status Report

Update: South Side Water Storage Tank – Engineer Simpson advised that the Samost Family is selling their property to a New Jersey Conservation Group. We will need to find a new location for this tank.

Update: Route 70 Water Main –

Resolution 2026-44: Approval of Change Order #3– On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to approve **Resolution 2026-44** approving Change Order #3 in the amount of \$18,937.28 to JVS Industrial & Commercial for Route 70 Water Main Replacement.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-0

Update: Elmwood Storage Building – This project is substantially complete.

Update: Well No. 6 Redrill –

Resolution 2026-38: Approval of Change Order #4– On motion by Kipness, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to approve **Resolution 2026-38** approving Change Order #4 in the credit amount of \$6,303.00 to A.C. Shultes, Inc for Well No. 6 Redrill.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-0

Update: Elmwood UV Disinfection –

Resolution 2026-39: Approval of Change Order #4 – On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to approve **Resolution 2026-39** approving Change Order #4 in the amount of \$16,619.76 to Clyde N. Lattimer & Son Construction Co., Inc. for Elmwood UV Disinfection.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-0

Resolution 2026-40: Approval of Change Order #5 – On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to approve **Resolution 2026-40** approving Change Order #5 in the amount of \$5,833.63 to Clyde N. Lattimer & Son Construction Co., Inc. for Elmwood UV Disinfection.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-0

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

Update: Cardinal Court, Sweetgum Court and Cottonwood Drive Water Main Replacement – Nothing new to report.

Update: Cinelli Farm Lift Station – We are currently reviewing the shop drawings and will be appearing before the Township Planning Board on March 5, 2026.

Update: Elmwood WWTP Generator Replacement – Nothing new to report.

Update: Kings Grant Drive Water Main Replacement –

Resolution 2026-45: Award of Contract in excess of \$53,000 – On motion by Kipness, seconded by Schmidt, it was moved to adopt **Resolution #2026-45** awarding a contract to P & A Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$1,437,671.00 for the Kings Grant Water Main Replacement.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-0

Update: Well No. 5 Redevelopment and Pump Repair – Redevelopment of the well is complete and the well is back on-line.

Update: Well No. 8 Redrill – Nothing new to report.

Update: Pine Grove Pump Station Rehabilitation – This will be presented to the Township Planning Board on March 5, 2026.

Motion to approve S-3/W-3 for Burns Honda – On motion by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness, it was moved to approve S-3/W-3 for Burns Honda – 325 Route 73

RECORDED VOTE: AYE: Kipness, Sweeney, Schmidt, Tencza

NAY: None
ABSTAIN: None

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-0

GENERAL COUNSEL’S REPORT

General Counsel Agostini had nothing new to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

BOARD COMMENTS

Commissioner Sweeney expressed appreciation to Executive Director Booth for joining Mt. Laurel Township to get the rate lowered with American Water. He also expressed appreciation to the Township and MUA staff who worked during the snowstorms.

Commissioner Schmidt agreed with all of Commissioner Sweeney’s comments. He really appreciates all of the employees who worked during both snowstorms.

Commissioner Kipness expressed appreciation to the entire group who worked during the snowstorms. He was happy to hear the luncheon was scheduled to show appreciation. It is very well deserved.

Commissioner Tencza expressed appreciation to the professionals, management, administrative staff and the entire team. He believes they all do a fantastic job.

There was a motion to adjourn by Schmidt, seconded by Kipness. The meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

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

MOTION CARRIED: 4-0-0

The next meeting of the Evesham Municipal Utilities Authority is scheduled for Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Christine Krimmel
Office Manager

APPROVED BY THE BOARD: _____