



MINUTES

**Business Meeting of the
Niagara Falls Water Board
February 23, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.**

**Water Treatment Plant Conference Room
5815 Buffalo Avenue, Niagara Falls New York 14304**

Meeting could be attended in person or via videoconference. Minutes do not represent a complete summary of all matters discussed. Complete video recordings of meetings are posted online at: <https://tinyurl.com/nfwbMedia>.

1. Preliminary Matters

a. Call To Order

Chairman Sirianni called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

b. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

**c. Attendance: Cole Present, Dean Present, Kimble Present via Zoom,
Sirianni Present, Weiss Present via Zoom.**

d. Public Comments

e. Correspondence

i. 2026-01-30 - Thank You Note From NFCSD Superintendent

f. Prior Meeting Minutes

i. Draft January 26, 2026 Business Meeting Minutes

Motion by Board Member Dean and seconded by Board Member Kimble to accept the January 26, 2026 business meeting minutes.

Cole Y Dean Y Kimble Y Sirianni Y Weiss Y

Motion carried, 5-0.

2. Executive Director & General Counsel – Sean Costello

a. WWTP PER Update

Mr. Costello provided an update on the Preliminary Engineering Report due to the NYSDEC. His presentation slides are attached to these minutes. The Board requested a presentation by Hazen and Sawyer at its next meeting.

3. Finance – Deborah Ziolkowski

- a. Bank Account Balance Report**
- b. Invested Funds Balance Report**
- c. Wilmington Trust Account Report**

Ms. Ziolkowski noted that bank reconciliations were not completed for much of 2025, and these are proving time consuming. Because all required documents are not ready, the auditors will be scheduled to perform their on-site work in April.

Progress continues on the implementation of Tyler Technologies online payment system. The company currently is in the process of setting up a merchant account for the NFWB.

4. Administrative Services – Caleb Holman

a. February 23, 2026 Personnel Actions

Mr. Holman noted that in February, occupational stress training was offered at both treatment plants. This training was delivered by WNYCOSH.

Motion by Board Member Dean and seconded by Board Member Cole to approve Line Item 1 on the February 23, 2026 Personnel Actions, authorization to hire a CDT Team Leader to fill an anticipated vacancy.

Cole Y Dean Y Kimble Y Weiss Y Sirianni Y

Motion carried, 5-0.

Motion by Board Member Weiss and seconded by Board Member Dean to approve Line Item 2 on the February 23, 2026 Personnel Actions, appointment of Louis Fratello from CDT Team Leader to Foreman from the Civil Service List for that position established January 22, 2026.

Cole Y Dean Y Kimble Y Weiss Y Sirianni Y

Motion carried, 5-0.

Chairman Sirianni noted that is has been a focus of the Board to appoint qualified people as demonstrated in part by passing Civil Service tests and congratulated those noted on the Personnel Actions sheet as having passed.

5. Engineering – Douglas Williamson

Mr. Williamson is working on annual reports required by the Mercury Minimization Plan and Pollutant Minimization Plan. We have had no mercury excursions for several years, and there have been two permit violations for alpha-BHC, which we continue to work to address.

Mr. Williamson also discussed evaluation of a 30” cast iron pipe at the WWTP by Encourus. We are waiting for their report. If the pipe must be replaced, it likely will be the subject of a resolution for the next Board meeting.

6. Outside Infrastructure Updates – Michael Eagler, Sr.

Mr. Eagler noted that water main breaks are down somewhat this year from the number at the same time last year. However, there have been many more instances of frozen water service lines due to the extended cold. Outside maintenance is contacted to turn off water at the street where there is frozen internal plumbing and no working internal shutoff valve.

Outside maintenance will be busy this summer with water main replacement contract work as well as a large sewer rehabilitation project on Calumet.

Mr. Eagler expressed appreciation for customer service and for the WTP operators who take after-hours calls. They deal with community members who are upset and rarely are thanked when repairs are completed.

7. Information & Operational Technology (IT & OT) – Jonathan Joyce or Elton Mensah-Selby

Mr. Mensah-Selby discussed progress in deploying new switches, which are installed after business hours to minimize disruptions. Work continues on upgrading UPS units at the WWTP, testing new SCADA software for the WTP, and working with National Grid for a pole attachment agreement to install a camera to better monitor the Gorge Pump Station.

8. January 2026 Operations and Maintenance Report

a. 2026-02-18 - E3communications Activity Report

Mr. Costello noted that E3communications will provide a monthly activity report to help keep the Board informed of efforts to obtain funding for NFWB projects.

9. Resolutions

2026-02-001 – PROCUREMENT OF GAS CHROMATOGRAPH FOR HALOACETIC ACID ANALYSIS

a. 2026-01-21 - Quote for Agilent Gas Chromatograph

Motion by Board Member Dean and seconded by Chairman Sirianni to approve.

Cole Y Dean Y Kimble Y Weiss Y Sirianni Y

Motion carried, 5-0.

2026-02-002 - RENEWAL OF NEPTUNE 360 METER DATA MANAGEMENT, THREE YEARS OF SERVICE

a. 2026-02-17 - Ti-SALES Quote - 3 Years of Neptune 360

Motion by Board Member Dean and seconded by Board Member Kimble to approve.

Cole Y Dean Y Kimble Y Weiss Y Sirianni Y

Motion carried, 5-0.

2026-02-03 - AWARD BID FOR EMERGENCY REPAIR CONTRACT

- a. **2026-02-16 - CPL Award Recommendation and Bid Tabulation -
Emergency Repair Contract**

Motion by Board Member Dean and seconded by Board Member Cole to approve.

Cole Y Dean Y Kimble Y Weiss Y Sirianni Y

Motion carried, 5-0.

**2026-02-004 - CHANGE ORDER 1 AND FINAL FOR J.R. SWANSON CONTRACT FOR
15 INCH SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT, 600 BLOCK OF 88TH STREET**

- a. **2026-02-10 - Change Order 1 - JR Swanson - 15 Inch Sanitary Sewer Repair
- 600 Block of 88th Street**

Motion by Board Member Kimble and seconded by Board Member Dean to approve.

Cole Y Dean Y Kimble Y Weiss Y Sirianni Y

Motion carried, 5-0.

**2026-02-005 - ZERO COST CHANGE ORDER FOR JR SWANSON CONTRACT
FOR 10 INCH SANITARY SEWER REPLACEMENT, 78TH STREET AND
LINDBERGH AVENUE**

- a. **2026-02-03 - Zero Cost Change Order - JR Swanson - 10 Inch Sanitary
Sewer Repair, 78th and Lindbergh**

Motion by Board Member Kimble and seconded by Chairman Sirianni to approve.

Cole Y Dean Y Kimble Y Weiss Y Sirianni Y

Motion carried, 5-0.

10. Unfinished/Old Business

11. New Business & Additional Items for Discussion

12. Executive Session (if needed)

13. Adjournment of Meeting

Motion by Board Member Kimble and seconded by Board Member Weiss to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 p.m.

Cole Y Dean Y Kimble Y Weiss Y Sirianni Y

Motion carried, 5-0.