

**Bangor Water District
Board of Trustees
Minutes of the Regular Meeting
January 27, 2026**

The regular meeting of the Bangor Water District Board of Trustees was held at 3:45 p.m. in the Hughes Building, 614 State Street. Trustees and staff participated in person. Remote participation for the public was provided; however, no one joined the meeting.

I. Vice Chair Hwalek called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m.

II. **Roll Call:** Mr. Foss, Vice Chair Hwalek, Mrs. Hamilton, Mr. Bragg, Mr. Harrison, Mr. Easterwood, Mrs. Silva, Mrs. Chute, Mr. Littlefield, Mr. Chick- remote

III. **Public Comment:** None

IV. **Old Business:**

Approval of December Regular Minutes: It was upon motion being made and duly seconded, unanimously:

VOTED: To accept the minutes of the regular December meeting as presented by Vice Chair Hwalek.

Approval of December Special Minutes: It was upon motion being made and duly seconded, unanimously:

VOTED: To accept the minutes of the special December meeting as presented by Vice Chair Hwalek.

Report of the Treasurer: Director of Finance Silva presented an overview of the December financials; first highlighting the month's disbursements and investments and then reviewing the year-to-date revenues and expenses compared to the budget. Silva noted that as of the end of December, total metered sales were ahead of budget by 5%, total operating expenses were slightly over budget by 1%. Silva ended by presenting the year-to-date cash flow summary.

Project Manager's Report:

Current Construction Projects:

The construction crew has been repairing leaks scattered across the distribution system, totaling 73 for 2025. The highest number for the past 10 years, amounting to roughly \$ 766,500. From 2015 to 2020 the average cost of a leak was between \$3,800 to \$5,600.

- 2025 Valve Renewal Program totaled 19.

- 2025 Hydrant Renewal Program totaled 17.
- 2025 Valve Box Renewal Program totaled 187.
- 2025 Service Box Renewal Program totaled 325.

The construction crew pressure tested 1,500 hydrants in the spring and returned in the fall to pressure test and pump all hydrants for the winter of 2025-2026.

Engineering Department Projects:

- **Other Projects:** Continued inspection of new private water mains and services including pressure testing and bacteria sampling as well as reviewing plans for other development projects throughout the distribution system.
- **Cumberland Street:** Finalized the water main replacement project, the City of Bangor will be bidding the project in the upcoming months.
- **Birch and Nelson Street:** The plans are nearing completion; this project is on the State Revolving Funding list but may get bumped due to a shortfall in federal funding.

V. New Business:

New Board Member Introduction: General Manager Chuck Harrison welcomes new board members, Lee Chick and Samuel Morse to the board.

Water Quality Report: Water Quality Manager Easterwood presented the Board of Trustees with the District's monitoring of coliform, fluoride, bromate and turbidity, which all meet the EPA and State guidelines. Mr. Easterwood has reduced the number of unnecessary samples to save the district approximately \$ 7,500 in 2025.

Water Treatment Plant: In 2025 the Butler Plant treated 1.625 billion gallons of water, the most production since 2017 at 1.627 billion gallons. Average cost to produce water in 2024 was \$408.23/Million Gallons treated. In 2025 the average cost to produce was \$370.42/Million Gallons. The new efficiency gains saved the district \$ 61,441 in 2025.

General Manager's Report: The December Progress Report was accepted as written.

The Service Department's new Radio Read Equipment reads 9,100 meters Monday through Friday. That equates to 90 percent of the meters in the district. Thomas Hill's new antenna radio reads approximately 7,200 meters.

Muni-Link Utility Billing- Muni-Link has customer notification capability. The office staff has been using this for weekly billing reminders, service line identifier, meter change letters and leak emergencies. These notifications go by phone, email and or text.

GM Harrison to meet with the Bangor City Council for proposed rate increase, the meeting has been delayed until 1/28/26.

The District is working with Streamline for a new ADA compliant website that will be launched in April of 2026.

The R.O.W. (Right of Way) on Peruvian Way was mislabeled in GIS; therefore, the construction crew cleared an area that was not in the R.O.W. GM Harrison is working with the property owner to rectify the problem in the spring.

GM Harrison is working with Verizon to get their equipment moved from the old BIA water tower to the new tower to finalize this project.

GM Harrison has three positions to fill. Project Inspector, GIS Technician/Project Inspector and Information Technology Manager.

Proposal for Employee License Compensation:

GM Harrison proposes additional compensation for employees that pass their water distribution and treatment test beyond their required license. \$0.50 per hour with a cap of \$ 2.00 per hour maximum.

Approval of Employee License Compensation: It was upon motion being made and duly seconded, unanimously:

VOTED: To approve the Employee License Compensation as presented by General Manager Harrison.

VI: Board Member Communication/ Request: None.

VII: Approval to enter Executive Session: It was upon motion being made and duly seconded:

VOTED: that the Board enter executive session for the purpose of discussing an evaluation MRSA § 405.6.A

The Board entered executive session at 5:25 p.m. and exited at 5:51 p.m., there being no vote.

It was then upon motion being made and duly seconded:

VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 5:52 p.m.

X: Next Meeting Dates:

February 17, 2026

Ralph Foss, Clerk

John Hwalek, Vice Chair

Patty Hamilton

Frank Bragg

Lee Chick

Samuel Morse