

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF LOCKWOOD  
WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT**

**February 11, 2026**

**Call to Order:**

The regular monthly meeting of the Lockwood Water and Sewer Board of Directors was held on February 11, 2026. Board President Carl Peters called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Lockwood Water and Sewer District Office, 1644 Old Hardin Road, Billings, Montana 59101.

**Introductions:**

Present at the meeting were Board Members Carl Peters, Carlotta Hecker, Brent Kober, Scot Bowen, and Gary Forrester. LWSD Manager Mike Ariztia, Assistant Manager Tony Reed, and Engineer Jill Cook of Morrison-Maierle, Inc, were also present.

**Public Comment:**

1. **Any member of the public may be heard on any subject that is not on the agenda.**

There were no public comments.

**Approval of Minutes:**

2. **January 14, 2026**

The minutes of the January 14, 2026 Board meeting were presented for approval. The following corrections were noted:

Page 2, Section 5, Health Insurance renewal information consisting of Health, Dental and Vision Plans were clarified by Manager Ariztia.

Page 3, Section 9, the contractor is **Western Municipal Construction**, not Askin Construction.

Page 4, Section 11, Scot Bowen, delete "s" from last name.

Page 4, Section 12, **PAR Wastewater**, not Exxon Wastewater.

- I. Carlotta Hecker moved to approve the minutes with the corrections as noted above. Scot Bowen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**New Business:**

**3. Approval of Pay Application No. 3 to Askin Construction for the Phase 3 Sewer Project.**

Askin Construction presented Pay Application No. 3 in the amount of \$454,645.15, for work performed from 12/24/25 through 1/30/2026. State tax withheld \$4,546.45; amount due Askin Construction, \$450,098.70.

II. Scot Bowen moved to approve Pay Application No. 3 to Askin Construction for the Phase 3 Sewer Project in the amount of \$454,645.15, less State tax \$4,546.45; amount due Askin Construction \$450,098.70. Gary Forrester seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**4. Approval of Pay Application No. 1 to Western Municipal Construction for the Mid-Zone Water Storage Tank Project.**

Western Municipal Construction presented Pay Application No. 1 for services on the Mid-Zone Water Storage Tank Project from January 1 through January 30, 2026 in the amount of \$622,219.99. State tax \$6,222.20 withheld; amount due Western Municipal Construction, \$615,997.79.

III. Gary Forrester moved to approve Pay Application No. 1 to Western Municipal Construction in the amount of \$622,219.99, less State tax \$6,222.20; amount due Western Municipal Construction \$615,997.79. Scot Bowen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Old Business:**

**5. Phase 3 Sewer Project Update**

(Manager Ariztia indicating on map.) A wet well was installed and the sewer main run down to the back corner of the mobile home park on Old Hardin Road. Mainline Installation will then begin on the Bretz RV property behind Horn Street.

The other crew has installed the sewer main down the private road that goes to the Hecker property, and down Lark Street. They currently are working in the alleyway between Wren and Thrush, and have completed that mainline section and the services going into each one of those properties. Within the next week or so, this whole section will be completed, and subsequently they plan to start installing the sewer main on Wasco.

Possibly by the end of the week, they will be done installing the sewer main from Noblewood down to Krumheuer. They started installing the main on Krumheuer Drive and were setting a manhole today. They have been able to put pipe in the ground because of the favorable weather conditions.

**6. Mid-Zone Tank Update**

They are presently breaking down the high points, grading and leveling as much as they are able. Jill Cook advised that the tank manufacturer is anticipated to be onsite in April. They have submitted a change order for the rock because it is much shallower than was shown in the Geotech report which called for additional rock removal. They are close to the elevation they need to be, after which they will start the pipe work.

**Financial Reports**

7. The Board discussed balance sheets, and presented any questions they had on invoices, P&L Budget Comparisons and Yellowstone County Trial Balance Summary. There were no questions.

**8. Approval of Bills due for Signature**

IV. Brent Kober moved to pay the bills due for signature. Carlotta Hecker seconded the Motion. Motion carried.

**Other Business:** None.

**Manager’s Report:**

**9. Pumping Record**

<b>Water</b>	January, 2025	23,691,604	January, 2026	24,222,948
<b>Wastewater</b>	December 2024	2,950,000	December, 2025	4,422,400
<b>Par MT</b>	December, 2024	59,887,000	December, 2025	75,559,300

The District has held recent meetings regarding the MDT Johnson Lane project. MDT has made changes in the administration of the contract, which has resulted in changes for the District. The cost sharing of the project does not include engineering, which will probably result in an amendment to the contract to account for additional engineering costs. Another task order may be for the construction portion, because even through MDT is going to be doing the construction and installing the water mains and sewer main adjustments, there will be some RPR work and some observation that Morrison-Maierle will be providing to ensure that MDT’s contractors are installing those facilities to the District’s specifications once the District is able to narrow down exactly what the expectations are. Jill Cook advised MDT thinks construction will start at the end of 2026. MMI turned in the design and is now having to review and revise parts of the design.

At the March meeting three bond resolutions will be presented for approval; one regarding the Emerging Contaminant grant funding; one for Phase 3 water portion, SRF loan, and one for the Mid-Zone tank loan bond through SRF.

Manager Ariztia reported that the Town Pump on North Frontage Road has connected to the sewer.

Manager Ariztia reported one of the pumps in the main lift station had failed and was pulled and rebuilt. This resulted in having to go over budget on the line item for pump repairs on the sewer side. There was \$15,000.00 budgeted for 2026, but it appears that all three pumps are old, in danger of failing will have to be rebuilt, resulting in an overbudget amount of approximately \$45,000.00. The Board was in agreement with his assessment.

**Adjournment:**

- V. Gary Forrester moved to adjourn. Scot Bowen seconded the motion.  
Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

  
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