

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF
THE GENERAL AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF FRANKLIN

March 10, 2026

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members in Attendance:

John Eckel
Fred Leyda
Chad Ellis
Peter O'Polka

Excused:

Caleb Williams
Tracy Jamieson

Absent: Jody Freni

Others in Attendance:

Kurt McFadden, City of Franklin
Devin Hines, Water Treatment Plant
Clint Hoffman, Water Network
Josh Kalp, The EADS Group
Brian Ricella, The EADS Group
James Wetzel, City of Franklin
Harmony Motter, Deputy Manager
Michael Gorman, Tech Resources Assistant
Nathan Bell, Waste Water Treatment Plant
Mike Moore, Waste Water Network
Brian Spaid, Dale Woodard Gent McFate
Alex Spaid, Dale Woodard Gent McFate
T.J. Parks, Recording Secretary
Helen Fielding, The Derrick

3. Adoption of Agenda

Resolution No. 29 – Motion by Mr. O’Polka and seconded by Mr. Ellis to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Eckel noted that Mr. McFadden’s name was spelled incorrectly on page 7.

Resolution No. 30 – Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Leyda to approve the minutes of February 10, 2026 as corrected. Motion passed unanimously.

6. Citizens’ Inquiries – None

7. Water

7.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff Updates

Mr. Hines

- The CCR Report is finished and has been uploaded to the website
- Two (2) spare motors for Coefield Corners have been delivered
- Scheduling a time with Moody’s to clean wells at 9th Street plant
-

Mr. Hoffman

- Continuing to order supplies for the Maple Street project
- Laterals for 805 and 803 Atlantic Avenue have been separated
- Fixing various leaks
- New wheel for Bobcat arrived yesterday

2. EADS Group

Dam Removal

Mr. Kalp reported that Beran Environmental is scheduled to conduct field work on March 23rd. There is a nearby resident who is upset that people associated with the project are entering his property in order to access the entire project area. Baren will assess the berm relocation requested by DEP which may result in additional permits and a separate construction contract.

Barrett Flats Water Treatment Plant

Mr. Kalp announced that the preliminary subdivision has been completed and submitted for review; the property now contains 11.3 acres. Environmental permits have been received and pump testing is to be completed in the near future. A Uniform Environmental Review and cost-effective analysis is being prepared. The PENNVEST application will be submitted by April 29th.

Washington Crossing Control Valve

Mr. Kalp had nothing new to report.

City Pressure District Control Valve

Mr. Kalp stated that he is still waiting for a fully executed grant agreement.

Wendy Way Tank

Mr. Kalp had nothing new to report.

Miscellaneous

- **Lead and Copper Service Line Inventory** - Nothing new to report.

Grant Street Waterline Replacement

Mr. Ricella will have an update for next month's meeting.

7. B. Water Financial Report

Total Unrestricted Water Funds Balance is \$654,562.

Resolution No. 31 – Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. O'Polka to accept the financial report for March. Motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 32 – Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. O'Polka to pay the following bills. Motion passed unanimously.

City of Franklin General Services Fee for March	\$ 18,166.67
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Water General Matters	\$ 327.50
Dale Woodard Gent Law Firm for Water Treatment Plant Project	\$ 25.00

The EADS Group for 2026 Engineering	\$ 576.00
Anthony Parks for February Meeting	\$ 50.00
The EADS Group for GACF Barrett Flats WTP	\$ 10,046.14
LB Water for Pacific Street	\$ 4,409.50
Bison Construction, Inc. for Pacific Street Line Replacement	\$ 73,062.00
Water Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 37,801.49
Totals:	\$ 144,464.30

Additional items to be reviewed:

Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund

Pre-approved payroll for 2/06/26 & 2/20/26

2/28/26 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

8. Sewer

8.A. Operations/Project Reports

1. Staff

Mr. Bell

- Micromod will begin switching over the digester on March 16th
- Loader was delivered
- Generator hookup to be scheduled – weather dependent
- Chapter 94 report is complete
- Contacted DEP to remove Mr. Dunkle’s contact information and replaced with Mr. Eckel
- Roughing screen supplies have been ordered

Mr. Moore

- Jetting out sewer lines
- Need to locate lateral at a property on 15th Street but the tenant won’t answer the door and the owner will not comply. Mr. Spaid suggested issuing a search warrant or sending a notice to terminate service.

2. EADS Group

WWTP – Emergency Generator

Mr. Kalp announced that a progress meeting is scheduled for March 17th at 10 A.M. He presented Change Order No. 3 in the amount of \$78,017.88 to construct the access road.

Resolution No. 33 – Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. O’Polka to accept Change Order No. 3 in the amount of \$78,017.88 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Kalp then presented Payment Application No. 5 in the amount of \$322,571.25 for approval.

Resolution No. 34 – Motion by Mr. Leyda and seconded by Mr. Ellis to approve Payment Application No. 5 from Right Electric in the amount of \$322,571.25 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

A-108 Phase I Sewer Replacement & CSO Elimination Project

Mr. Ricella reported that Bison is finishing laterals on Pacific street, then will head to Center Street between Pacific and Erie Streets. A second crew will begin replacing manholes near the Franklin Housing Authority complex on Dale Avenue. Mortimer will continue excavating on Chestnut Street towards 15th Street. Guyer Brothers completed scoping on Liberty Street.

Mr. Ricella presented PENNVEST Payment Requisition No. 13 in the amount of \$426,276.13, which consists of Bison construction’s Payment Application No. 12 in the amount of \$192,294.58 and Mortimer Excavating’s Payment Application No. 11 in the amount of \$233,981.55.

Resolution No. 35 – Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Leyda to approve PENNVEST Payment Requisition No. 13 for construction costs in the amount of \$426,276.13 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ricella then presented PENNVEST Payment Requisition No. 13 for engineering costs in the amount of \$30,788.69 for approval.

Resolution No. 36 – Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. O’Polka to approve PENNVEST Payment Requisition No. 13 for engineering costs in the amount of \$30,788.69 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Miscellaneous

- **Liberty Street Betterment Project (URMS)** – Mr. Ricella noted that the Notice to Proceed has been issued.
- **WWTP NPDES Permit** – The permit is due on April 29th. Mr. Kalp expects to have it completed at the end of March.

8.B. Sewer Financial Report

Total Unrestricted Sewer Funds Balance of \$632,086.

Resolution No. 37 – Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Mr. Leyda to accept the sewer financial report for March. The motion passed unanimously.

Resolution No. 38 – Motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by O’Polka to pay the following bills. The motion passed unanimously.

City of Franklin General Services Fee for March	\$ 18,166.67
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for Sewer General Matters	\$ 347.50
Dale Woodard Gent McFate for A-108 Sewer Project	\$ 12.50
The EADS Group for 2026 Engineering	\$ 4,228.48
The EADS Group for 2025 NPDES Renewal	\$ 2,818.60
The EADS Group for 2026 Engineering	\$ 360.00
Anthony Parks for February Meeting	\$ 50.00
The EADS Group for CSO Flow Monitoring – January 2026	\$ 3,875.00
The EADS Group for WWTP Emergency Generator	\$ 11,779.75
The EADS Group for Ph. 1 Sanitary Sewer Repl & CSO Elimination	\$ 30,788.69
Right Electric for Standby Generator Project	\$ 322,571.25

Mortimer’s Excavating for A-108 CSO Elimination Project – Ph. 1	\$ 233,981.55
Bison Construction, Inc. for CSO Elimination Project	\$ 192,294.58
Sewer Fund Monthly Invoices for Approval	\$ 55,942.16
Totals:	\$ 877,216.73

Additional items to be reviewed:

Pre-approved invoice and payroll reimbursements to General Fund

Pre-approved payroll for 2/06/26 & 2/20/26

2/28/26 YTD draft budget including a detail of invoices paid and revenue received.

8. Reports

A. Chair’s Report:

Mr. Eckel recalled discussion from the February committee meeting regarding a device that would monitor pressure and temperature. He suggested conducting a propagation study, which can be done for free.

He reminded that the warranty for the Case backhoe expires in April and asked if it can be extended. Mr. McFadden will prepare a list of repairs and their associated costs; he estimated about \$26,000 of repairs so far.

B. City Manager’s Report

- Reconciliation for the General Services fee to the City will be done in April
- Uniontown Heights will be conducting a sewer project
- Announced that he will be absent at the committee meeting on March 26th due to an out-of-town conference
- Asked if the Authority would be willing to sell the 2018 Ford F-150 and snowplow to the City in the amount of \$28,000
 - **Resolution No. 39** – Motion by Mr. Leyda and seconded by Mr. Ellis to approve the sale of the 2018 Ford F-150 to the City’s Street Department in the amount of \$28,000. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Public Utilities Director’s Report:

PA Rural Water staff are anticipated to be in on April 2nd to discuss updating the Risk and Resiliency Plan and Emergency Response Plan. Pictures of well fields were submitted so they can be included in the reports.

D. Mapping Update:

- Continuing to update GIS mapping as projects continue
- Working to address vulnerabilities that were identified by the cybersecurity audit. Should be resolved once the Sonicwall is replaced
- Fireman Mark Breese was put on light duty and has been helping to organize maps, blueprints, etc.

E. Solicitor's Report:

Mr. Spaid had nothing to report.

Mr. Leyda asked how bids will be advertised with the closing of The Derrick. Mr. Spaid said at this point, the best option would be to work with nearby newspapers (Meadville and Grove City, for example). The Derrick is hoping to maintain a once-a-week print edition.


10. Executive Session – None

Meetings

The committee meeting scheduled for March 26, 2026 at 10:00 A.M.
The next regular meeting is April 14, 2026 at 6:00 P.M. at City Hall.

10. Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 P.M.



Minutes prepared by T.J. Parks