MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING
OF THE BRISTOL COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

Wednesday, May 27, 2026
450 Child Street (Boardroom), Warren, RI

Board Members Present:
Juan Mariscal, Chairman
Thomas Kraig, Vice-Chairman
Christopher Stanley, Secretary/Treasurer
John M. Jannitto, Board Member
Robert J. Martin, Board Member
Stephen Gross, Board Member
Richard E. Fournier, Board Member
David E. Fales, Board Member
Frank J. Alfano, Board Member

Board Members Absent:
None

BCWA Staff Attending:
Stephen H. Coutu, Executive Director
Michael Crawford, Deputy Executive Director
Daniel Hughes, Finance Manager
Colin O'Hara, Engineering Project Manager
Lauren DeRuisseau, HR/Executive Assistant

Others Attending:
Legal Counsel Joseph Keough

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1. Call to Order
Pursuant to proper notice, the Board Meeting of the Bristol County Water Authority was called to order by Chairman Mariscal at 5:30pm.

2. Public Input
There was no public input as there were no public members in attendance.

3. Minutes

a. Board Meeting – 4/23/2026

Vice-Chairman Kraig moved the following motion seconded by Director Martin

MOTION: To approve.
Motion unanimously by aye vote.

4. Executive Director's Report

- Pawtucket Pipeline Project – We had a meeting with DOT at the end of April. They did not have any significant concerns and they anticipated that the permit will be issued but we have not received a permit as of today. A RIDOT pavement improvement project on Pawtucket Avenue has been advanced. A section of the pipeline is within the limits of the pipeline route for approximately 3,400 feet. We are trying to see if BCWA's project can be coordinated with this project.
- Demo of the Water Treatment Plant – Bids were advertised on May 14th. A pre-bid meeting was held yesterday and those bids are due on June 11th.
- New Maintenance Garage - The 30% schematic design plans for the new maintenance garage have been completed for review.
- Dam Removal Project – The six property owners who did not participate in well testing last fall were contacted for additional sampling. Three of the six participated. Combined with the six properties sampled last fall, results for all nine properties will be distributed to each property owner along with their individual results. The post-dam removal sample round showed no appreciative change in water quality results.
- Shad Factory Pipeline Removal - Pare Corporation and Save the Bay continue to work on finalizing plans and permit documents for the removal of the Shad Pipeline. We received a positive response from Restore Americas Estuaries Program and are putting together a proposal for that grant application for this project.
- BCWA Properties - We received the appraisal reports from Peter Scotti and Associates for the three properties in Swansea, including the one with the dam.
- The "Warren Walk-Habitat Restoration Tour" was held on May 21st.
- Lead Service Line Replacement Program – We are still working with RI Rural Water Association to reach out to customers who still have unknowns and to validate those service lines that we presume are non-lead. To date, 96 service locations have been validated, which is an increase from 35 last month.
- Hydrant flushing is completed and we will flush again in the fall.
- Work has begun on the annual report, which will be developed in-house and printed offsite.

Operations/Engineering Report:

- Operations crews are upgrading hydrants and replacing services.
- 2027 Capital Improvement Program – A pre-construction meeting was held last week with Boyle & Fogarty, Walsh, DOT representatives, and Warren officials. The focus was on coordinating work this summer with emphasis on traffic patterns and detours in the area.

5. Financial Report

(Appendix A)

Finance Manager Dan Hughes provided a financial summary for April 2026.

- A meeting will be scheduled in the coming weeks with the Finance Committee to review the draft of the audit, and other Finance Committee action items.
- Executive Director Coutu will reach out to OPEB actuaries, Angel Pension Group, to present at a future Board meeting.

6. Board Member Town Council Reports
The Board expresses its sincere condolences to the Frerich Family in regard to the passing of David Frerich.

7. Property Committee: Presentation of Schematic Design Plans for the Proposed Operations Building
(Appendix B)
Director Martin noted that the Properties Committee met last Wednesday to review the 30% drawings that were presented by the contractor. The Committee agreed with the 30% design and recommended going forward with the 60% design.

Discussion.

8. Board Vote on Schematic Design Plan

Director Martin made the following motion seconded by Director Alfano

MOTION: The Properties Committee recommends approving the 30% design drawings and recommends going forward to the 60% design drawings contingent upon the items listed in the May 21 meeting memo.
Motion unanimously by aye vote.

9. Board Vote on Annual Maintenance and Service Work Contract
(Appendix C)

Director Martin made the following motion seconded by Director Stanley

MOTION: We award the contract to JML.

Executive Director Coutu stated that this is on an as-needed basis. Last year's bid price was $278,285 and we spent $51,876, and the year before that we spent $45,000.

Motion unanimously by aye vote.

10. Board Vote on Annual Water Main and Appurtenance Stock Materials Contract
(Appendix D)

Director Mariscal read the Executive Director's proposed motion as follows:
To (approve/deny) the FY2027 Water Main and Stock Materials Bid Award to the respective and responsive low bidders that meet the specification for each item as presented.

Director Stanley made the following motion seconded by Director Jannitto

MOTION: To approve.
Motion unanimously by aye vote.

11. Board Vote on Commitment to Fund the Removal of the Abandoned Shad Factory Pipeline

(Appendix E)
Director Mariscal read the Executive Director's proposed motion as follows:
To (approve/deny) future funding for the removal of the abandoned Shad Factory Pipeline up to $1.5 million and for BCWA to continue to seek and apply for available grant funding.

Director Martin moved the following motion seconded by Director Stanley

MOTION: To approve.
Motion unanimously by aye vote.

12. Quarterly Write Offs – For Information Only
(Appendix F)
Provided for information only.

13. Executive Session

Director Gross made the following motion seconded by Director Stanley

MOTION: To go into Executive Session as presented in the agenda per all the regulations.
(i. Executive Session: Disposition of Publicly Held Property – BCWA Properties pursuant to RIGLs. 42-46-5 (a)(5); Investment of Public Funds – Owner Project Management Services for the Pawtucket Pipeline Project pursuant to RIGLs. 42-46-5 (a)(7); Executive Session Minutes: Personnel Committee Meeting – 2/26/26, Board Meeting – 2/26/26)
Motion passed unanimously by aye vote.

The Board entered Executive Session at 6:29pm.

The Board returned to open session at 7:04pm.

Director Gross made the following motion seconded by Director Stanley

MOTION: To seal the minutes of Executive Session.
Motion passed unanimously by aye vote.

14. Board Vote on Contract Award for Owner Project Management Services for the Pawtucket Pipeline Project
Vice-Chairman Kraig moved the following motion seconded by Director Jannitto

MOTION: To approve.

Chairman Mariscal stated that the motion will be that we are hiring this partnership after a response to our RFP, for which we received one proposal from Pare and Stantec.

Director Fournier stated that the two issues discussed were:
- Giving management discretion to prioritize some of the tasks and potentially reduce scope.
- Ask East Providence for an answer in terms on whether they want to share some of the costs.

Chairman Mariscal moved the following motion as presented within the Executive Director's memo seconded by Vice-Chairman Kraig

AMENDED MOTION: To accept a contract award to Pare Corporation in partnership with Stantec for OPM Services for the Pawtucket Pipeline Project for an amount not to exceed $588,100.00.
Motion passed unanimously by aye vote.

15. Next Scheduled Meeting(s):
Chairman Mariscal proposed moving the next Board meeting from Thursday, June 25th to Wednesday, June 24th due to a prior commitment.

Director Martin made the following motion seconded by Director Jannitto

AMENDED MOTION: We move the meeting to June 24th.
Motion passed unanimously by aye vote.

16. Adjournment

Director Stanley moved the following motion seconded by Director Gross

MOTION: To adjourn.
Motion passed unanimously by aye vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:09pm.

Christopher Stanley
Secretary