

**PUBLIC HEARING
OF THE BRISTOL COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY**

Thursday, January 22, 2026
450 Child Street, Warren Office, Warren, RI

Board Members Present:

Juan Mariscal, Chairman
Thomas Kraig, Vice-Chairman
Christopher Stanley, Secretary/Treasurer
Robert J. Martin, Board Member
John M. Jannitto, Board Member
Stephen Gross, Board Member
Richard E. Fournier, Board Member
David E. Fales, Board Member
(1 Open Position)

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

Chairman Mariscal called the hearing to order at 5:03pm.

1. Proposed Water Rate Increase

(Appendix A)

Presentation by Executive Director Coutu explained the need for a rate increase for FY2027. The PowerPoint presentation is available on our website (www.bcwari.com) and provides a background on BCWA, our strategic plan, challenges and infrastructure needs, recently completed work (past year), upcoming capital program, and budget and funding needs to accomplish goals.

Proposed 3% rate increase to support revenue requirement and 10-year Financial Plan for Capital Improvement.

The average residential cost increase with the 3% is \$23 per year, or \$1.92 per month.

Chairman Mariscal noted that although there were no members of the public present, he had tried to reach out to a customer who was concerned about the rate increase. Although he was not able to connect with her, he did send along a copy of the public hearing presentation. Additionally, a Facebook user group (Around Bristol 02809) had posted about the public hearing and the proposed rate increase however most responses related to water quality in general.

The hearing was adjourned at 5:39pm.



Christopher Stanley
Secretary