BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

April 22, 2026

MEETING MINUTES

SEWERAGE AND WATER BOARD OF NEW ORLEANS

ROLL CALL

The Board of Directors for the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans (SWBNO) met on Wednesday, April 22, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. in the Executive Boardroom. Interim Special Counsel, Mr. Darryl Harrison called the roll and confirmed the following members were present: Designee for Honorable Mayor Moreno, City of New Orleans CAO – Infrastructure, Stephen Nelson, Director Chadrick Kennedy, Director H. Davis Cole, Director Jonathan Stewart, Director Kimberly Thomas, Director Tyler Antrup, Director Ariane Greenidge, Director Joseph Peychaud, and Director Courtney Scrubbs.

The following member(s) were absent: Hon. Mayor Helana Moreno and Hon. Councilmember Jason Hughes.

Staff present were Randy Hayman, Executive Director; Jamie Parker, Chief of Staff; Grey Lewis, Chief Financial Officer; David Callahan, Chief Administrative Officer; Darryl Harrison, Interim Special Counsel; Kaitlin Tymrak, Interim General Superintendent; Ceara Labat, Interim Chief of Communications; Renelle Brown, Interim Director of Customer Service; Irma Plummer, Director, Economically Disadvantaged Business Program; Brionne Lindsey and Breanna Johnson, Board Relations.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Director Kennedy presented a motion to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2026, Board Meeting. Director Peychaud moved for approval of the minutes. Director Thomas seconded. The motion carried.

Director Kennedy presented a motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2026, Board Retreat Meeting. Director Antrup moved for approval of the minutes. Director Thomas seconded. The motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

Director Antrup reported on the summary and actions taken by the Strategic Planning Committee. The Strategic Planning Committee Report was presented and recommended for approval.

- Director Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the reports from the Strategic Planning Committee. Director Thomas moved to approve the minutes. Director Scrubbs seconded. The motion carried.

FINANCE & ADMINSTRATION COMMITTEE

Director Kennedy reported on the summary and actions taken by the Finance and Administration Committee. The Finance Committee Report was presented and recommended for approval.

- Director Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the reports from the Finance and Administration Committee. Director Thomas moved to approve the minutes. Director Antrup seconded. The motion carried.

GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Director Scrubbs reported on the summary and actions taken by the Governance Committee. The Governance Committee Report was presented and recommended for approval.

- Director Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the reports from April 8, 2026, Governance Committee with a change to correct a clerical error, *corrected: a motion to exit executive session*. Director Cole moved to approve the minutes. Director Thomas seconded. The motion carried.

- Director Kennedy asked for a motion to defer the reports from April 22, 2026, Governance Committee. Director Peychaud moved to defer the minutes. Director Cole seconded. The motion carried.

PENSION COMMITTEE

Director Kennedy reported on the summary and actions taken by the Pension Committee. The Pension Committee Report was presented and recommended for approval.

- Director Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the reports from March 31, 2026, Pension Committee. Director Scrubbs moved to approve the minutes. Director Greenidge seconded. The motion carried.

- Director Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the reports from April 8, 2026, Pension Committee. Director Scrubbs moved to approve the minutes. Director Greenidge seconded. The motion carried.

PLUMBING COMMITTEE

Director Cole reported on the summary and actions taken by the Plumbing Committee. The Plumbing Committee Report was presented and recommended for approval.

- Director Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the reports from the Plumbing Committee. Director Greenidge moved to approve the minutes. Director Antrup seconded. The motion carried.

Director Greenidge asked a question about canal cleanup and public stormwater, as far as limitations and the location of additional language outside of the plumbing code. Director Cole expressed that during the meeting, there was discussion on a separation of State control and limitations for wastewater. Additionally, questions were asked about wastewater events moving into stormwater

territory and its limitations. Limitations for wastewater is controlled by Environmental Equality at the state-level.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. ***House Bill 573/Substitute House Bill 1243 - Mary Arceneaux, SWBNO Deputy Special Counsel and Theron Levi-Baquet, Assistant Special Counsel***

A presentation was given by Theron Levi-Baquet, Assistant Special Counsel, for information purposes. The presentation was a review of House Bill 1243, its impact, and a comparison of the Revised Statutes as amended. Revised Statutes that were noted included: La. R.S. 33:4071, 33:4072, 33:4074, 33:4123, and 33:4159.2. Various changes to La. Revised Statutes opens the door to City Council's broadened powers. Without speculation, Special Counsel would not interpret the bill to determine the intent as it stands. Additional information is forthcoming as House Bill 1243 moves through the legislative session. Counsel referenced Roberts v. Sewerage and Water Bd. in describing the governing structure of SWBNO.

Questions related to quorum, bond rating, board control, borrowing capacity, employees' status (active and retired) and benefits, contracts, Public Service Commission control, and the ability to meet with Mayor Helena Moreno and City Council on the intent surrounding upcoming changes to the board were raised.

B. Water Quality Master Plan Update – Kaitlin Tymrak, SWBNO Interim Deputy General Superintendent and Chris Bergeron, SWBNO Chief of Engineering

This presentation included an overview of nine key tasks that SWBNO is set to fulfill. Highlights that were addressed included demand/supply, quality, optimization, and a saltwater intrusion assessment.

Beginning with a goal assessment, upcoming upgrades to the Carrollton Water Treatment Plant will come as a major transformation to the water treatment process. The 30-year water improvement plan was projected to cost $1.5-$2 billion. Recognition was shared for those who collaborated on the Water Quality Master Plan. In addition, Mr. Bergeron confirmed that coverings within water treatment ensured security prior to filtration. Also, consultants confirmed that SWBNO's funding sources are being targeted effectively to fund the utility's Master Plan. Directors asked for measures on taste and customer satisfaction based on local water consumption. Mr. Randy Hayman spoke on Philadelphia's Water Revitalization Plan $2.5 billion, over 25 years, 400 projects being completed over time. Those projects were financed through bonds and increasing rates for residents.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Before presenting, Executive Director Hayman spoke about employee notifications and House Bills that are moving through the Legislature. Employees are concerned about the potential impacts regarding the legislation, and SWBNO's voice during the process regarding policy.

Industrial Canal Update

Mr. Hayman addressed the sewer main break at the Industrial Canal and how collaboration efforts are ongoing with Louisiana Department of Health (LDH), U.S. Coast Guard, and Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (LDEQ). Special Counsel confirmed that a ship has been identified as a key source for the sewer break. Through outside counsel and Coast Guard investigation, potential damages may arise for repair costs. Directors asked if a break similar to this could occur within the Mississippi River. Ms. Tymrak confirmed that there are protections surrounding intakes to deter disruption. There were questions regarding current notification systems in use by the utility to alert departments and directors of sewer breaks. Ms. Tymrak shared that notice comes from monitoring at the wastewater treatment plant, and investigation is the existing process. Directors asked for an update at a later date on recovery efforts. Directors were assured that the flow of sewer will be redirected once the line stop is installed.

Lead Service Line Replacement Program Update

CDM Smith was selected as the project manager. Replacements are ongoing throughout the city, near schools and early childhood centers. Mr. Hayman requested City Council's support in educating the public. SWBNO will share a 1-page report for distribution and will include additional recommendations (cold water for drinking, 3–5-minute run to flush lines, obtaining led test kids and replacing private service lines) on how residents can protect themselves as the utility updates water lines. Directors wanted additional information on opportunities for the Board and City Council to collaborate.

Dwyer Canal Update & Immediate Action Plan

Samples have been taken, along with the completion of smoke and dye testing. Seven defects were confirmed by a third-party contractor and will be addressed to cure the sewer break in the surrounding area.

The transmission and water main replacement chart pinpointed six projects throughout the city. Additional information is available online for the public to view. Directors asked for updates regarding the financial impacts based on the utility's immediate action tasks. Additionally, Directors requested paper notifications for residents when implementing tasks. Ceara Labat, Chief of Communication, is exploring alternatives outside of social media, while considering cost effectiveness.

NACWA Week

Mr. Hayman participated in the 2026 National Water Policy Fly-In and Water Week in Washington, D.C. Mr. Hayman expressed interest in additional funds that may be available for New Orleans for transmission main replacement mandates.

Executive Director's Report

April 22, 2026

54-inch Sewer Force Main Break at Industrial Canal

- 54-inch Sewer Force Main was damaged by a vessel on April 17th
- SWBNO immediately mobilized a diving company to assess the damaged line
- Sewer is continuing to discharge until we can stop the leak – condition of valves and configuration of valves is the limiting factor
- We have ordered the parts necessary for repair and expect deliver by Thursday.





Lead Service Line Replacement Program

Next Steps

- Selection Committee Selected CDM Smith as the Program Manager
- LSL Replacement Contract for Schools and Early Childhood Centers continues
  - Includes 600 public LSL replacements



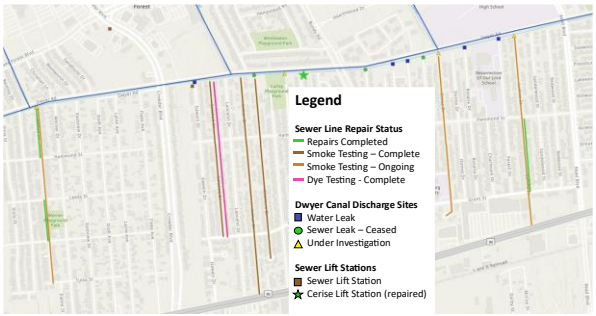


What Customers Can Do Now

- Use only **cold water** for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula
- When water is not used for 6 hours or longer, run faucet for **3 to 5 minutes** to flush lines before drinking/cooking
- Use an **NSF-53 rated water filter pitcher** or request one from SWB
- Request a **lead test kit**
- **Replace your private service line** if possible
- **Corrosion control** adds extra protection



Dwyer Canal: Updates



- Continuing investigation and correction of sewer discharges in the Dwyer Canal since January
- Residents report sewer smells in the area, which vary by weather conditions
- Engaged a 3rd party contractor to assist with pipe inspections
- Water quality samples have been collected within the Dwyer Canal

Immediate Action Plan

Updates here!

Task	Completed	Next Steps
1 – Address Urgent Risk TMs	• Added 30" valves at Spruce/ Carrollton • Finished repair at Magnolia (Jackson, Philip)	• S. Claiborne and 3rd • 4801 Florida
2 – Condition Assessment on Oldest TMs	• Conducted leak detection on repaired section of 30" main	Getting quotes for multiple in-line technologies with intent to begin first tests in mid-May
3 – Issue RFI for Emerging Technologies	RFI for Assessment and Repair/ Replacement Technologies for Water Infrastructure has been posted on swbno.org/Bids.	Submittals due April 17th.
4 – Develop near/medium priorities	30" water main on Magnolia would be a priority in addition to the known JIRR TM projects	Will develop more comprehensive list with results of initial condition assessment
5 – Evaluate hydraulic conditions	Owen & White selected by Selection Committee to update the potable water hydraulic model for a targeted area.	Next steps include awarding contract to the selected bidder, contract negotiation, and notice to proceed
6 – Develop city-wide condition assessment		RFP to be drafted later in 2026

Thank you!



ACTION ITEMS

- **Resolution (R-064-2026) – Amending Sections 14 and 16 of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans Plumbing Code Relative to Cross Connection Control and Stormwater.**
  - Director Kennedy asked for a motion to approve R-064-2026. Director Cole moved for the approval of R-064-2026. Director Peychaud seconded the motion. The motion carried.

- **Resolution (R-044-2026) Award of Contract 2026-SWB-03 Program Management For The Lead Line Replacement Program.**
  - Director Kennedy asked for a motion to approve R-044-2026. Director Scrubbs moved for the approval of R-044-2026. Director Antrup seconded the motion. The motion carried.
  - Designee Nelson did raise questions from City Council regarding the procurement. Rebecca Johnsey, Deputy General Superintendent elaborated on language clarification regarding the RFP, scoring, composition, reference responses, and potential protest.

- **Resolution (R-040-2026) Award of Contract 2025-SWB-18 for Skilled and Unskilled Labor for Maintenance between the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Abacus Service Corporation.**
  - Director Kennedy asked for a motion to approve R-040-2026. Director Antrup moved for the approval of R-040-2026. Director Cole seconded the motion.
    4 – Abstentions, 1 – N, 3 -Y. Resolution fails.

CORRESPONDING RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were discussed at the April 8, 2026, Finance and Administration Committee Meeting:

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT RECOMMENDATIONS

Contract Awards/Renewals

- Resolution (R-032-2026) Award of Contract 30270- East Bank Wastewater Treatment Plant - Phase IA Secondary Treatment Upgrade between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and RNGD Infrastructure, LLC.
- Resolution (R-041-2026) First Renewal of Contract 2025-SWB-15 Furnishing Ferric Sulfate to the Algiers and Carrollton Water Plants between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Usalco.

Contract Amendment

- Resolution (R-034-2026) Authorization of Amendment No.3 to the Agreement between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Wesco International for West Power Complex Electrical and Control Cable.

Contract Change Order by Ratification

- Resolution (R-007-2026) Ratification of Change Order No. 1 for Contract 1452 – Structural and Filter Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Industrial & Mechanical Contractors, LLC.
- Resolution (R-012-2026) Ratification of Change Order No. 4 for Contract 30246 – Restoration of Gravity Flow Sanitary Sewer Mains by Point Repair at Various Sites throughout Orleans Parish Between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Wallace C. Drennan, LLC.
- Resolution (R-035-2026) Ratification of Change Order No. 6 for Contract 30254 – Carrollton Basin No. 13 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and BLD Services, LLC.
- Resolution (R-036-2026) Ratification of Change Order No. 7 for Contract 30255 – Carrollton Basin No. 14 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Fleming Construction Company, LLC.
- Resolution (R-037-2026) Ratification of Change Order No. 6 for Contract 30256 – Carrollton Basin No. 15 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Hard Rock Construction, LLC.
- Resolution (R-038-2026) Ratification of Change Order No. 8 for Contract 30260 – Carrollton Basin No. 19 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Hard Rock Construction, LLC
- Resolution (R-039-2026) Ratification of Change Order No. 3 for Contract 30261 – Carrollton Basin No. 20 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Hard Rock Construction, LLC

- **Director Kennedy asked for a motion to approve Corresponding Resolutions in globo. Director Antrup moved to accept Corresponding Resolutions as proposed. Director Cole seconded. The motion carried.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

- Director Kennedy raised a motion to enter executive session. Director Thomas moved. Director Peychaud seconded.

    - Pursuant to R.S. 42:19, 42:17(A)(1), the Board of Directors of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans will meet in executive session to discuss the appointment of the Special Counsel of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans.
    - Pursuant to R.S. 42:19, 42:17(A)(1), the Board of Directors of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans will meet in executive session to discuss the appointment of the General Superintendent of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans.

- Director Kennedy raised a motion to exit executive session. Director Thomas moved. Director Peychaud seconded.

INFORMATION ITEMS

The following items submitted for informational purposes only:

A. Report – CFO (February 2026)
B. Report – GSO (March 2026)
C. Report- Safety (March 2026)
D. Report – HR (March 2026)
E. Report – FEMA (March 2026)
F. Report – EDBP (March 2026)

PUBLIC COMMENT

The following person(s) appeared before the Board of Directors to make comments:

1. **Wade Joseph** - submitted an online comment and was present to speak against Resolution (R-040-2026).
   Mr. Joseph's online comment.
   JEI objects to the Board taking any action in furtherance of the contract related to RFP 2025-SWB-18 skilled and unskilled labor. The SWB has arbitrarily capriciously and without just cause rejected JEI's proposal and has further arbitrarily capriciously and without just cause prevented JEI Solutions from appealing this decision pursuant to SWB's own policy memorandum 83R. JEI is taking legal action and intends to obtain injunctive relief. The Board should not take any action which may have to be undone as a result of the judicial proceedings.

2. **Anthony Jeanmarie III**, SWBNO employee and resident, spoke against House Bill 573, and amendment House Bill 1243. Mr. Jeanmarie rejected local control of SWBNO related to rates, an expansion of administrative authority, budget oversight, and changes to hiring. Mr. Jeanmarie expressed that the Council lacks capacity to sustain the Board and believes in the utility's plan that was set out within the past month. Lastly, Mr. Jeanmaire shared that the root issue is the lack of funding given to the utility, for which is not addressed in either Bill to resolve the Board's current issues of aging infrastructure. A stronger voice is needed to reflect the position of the utility.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board of Directors, Director Kennedy made a motion to adjourn. Director Thomas moved to adjourn. Director Cole seconded. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at approximately 12:58 p.m.