



625 St. Joseph Street  
New Orleans, LA 70165  
504.529.2837 or 52.WATER

June 10, 2026

The Finance and Administration met on Wednesday, June 10, 2026, in the Executive Board Room. The meeting convened at approximately 9:04 a.m.

**Present:**

Director Jonatha Stewart – Chair  
Director Chadrick Kennedy  
Director H. Davis Cole  
Councilmember Hughes  
Deputy CAO Stephen Nelson – Mayor’s Designee

**Members Absent**

Director Courtney Scrubbs

**Non-Members Present:**

Director Tyler Antrup  
Director Kimberly Thomas  
Director Ariane Greenidge

**Director Stewart presented a motion to amend the Finance and Administration agenda to include executive session Item 4B to the agenda to be discussed during executive session. Director Kennedy moved. Director Cole seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

**PRESENTATION ITEMS**

***A. City of New Orleans Parcel Fee – Steve Nelson, Deputy CAO of Infrastructure & Director of Public Works, and Leo John Arnett, City of New Orleans Director of Policy and Research***

Stephen Nelson, the City’s Deputy CAO of Infrastructure and Director of Public Works, and Leo John Arnett, the City’s Director of Policy and Research, shared the administration’s vision for a fee to support right-of-way improvements, which could include repairs to water and sewer lines. The request was for Raftelis, the utility’s financial consultant, to conduct the necessary analysis and develop the fee. The administration seeks to implement a parcel fee, which would include a stormwater and right-of-way improvements component, that would provide flexible options to fund critical infrastructure needs.



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## ***B. Executive Summary Report (April 2026) - E. Grey Lewis, CFO, SWBNO***

### **Financial Overview**

Mr. Lewis reported on preliminary April financials and provided an update on the annual audit and the Oracle system conversion project. The audit is expected to be completed in the next couple of weeks by the state deadline of June 30. The April year-to-date financial information was compiled using data from the new system along with some estimated expenses, due to the Oracle conversion.

### **Revenue**

Water and Sewer Operating Revenues for April amounted to \$17.9 million, which is \$5.3 million below budget, mainly due to lower billed consumption and increased customer credits for the month. Drainage taxes for the month were \$7.9 million, totaling \$64.1 million to date, which is ahead of budget. Year-to-date Operating Expenses for April totaled \$80.3 million, which is lower than budgeted and will require ongoing monitoring due to the system changes.

### **Cash on Hand**

Cash collections for water and sewer bills reached \$21.1 million in May, compared to \$24.3 million in April, indicating an improvement over historical average. As of April 30, cash on hand was 155 for Water and 232 for Sewer, an increase from the previous month and above the required 90 days. The draft audited financial statements for 2025 also indicate that the required bond covenant metrics exceed the minimum stipulated in the bond indenture for both liquidity and debt service (1.25X).

The statistics for the Promise Pay payment plan showed a slight increase, with 72% of past due customers (22,866) enrolled in an active payment plan out of a total of 138,000 connections. There was a 28% decrease in the number of customers with a past due balance.

### **Customer Service**

Keith James, Customer Service Manager and Renelle Brown Interim Chief of Customer Service, reported on the continued increase in customer service activity through all customer channels. The Committee inquired about staffing levels, with Mr. James reporting two new hires and efforts to better align staffing with the strategic objectives of the department. The Committee inquired about additional metrics to track items such as resolved calls and strategies to achieve lower wait times with the Chief of Customer Service indicating that with continued modernization of systems and processes, it is expected



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that these capabilities will become available. The total customer interactions for the month were 44,983 including integrated voice response, emails, calls, and walk-in customers compared to 58,718 in March.

Councilmember Hughes expressed concerns regarding the occurrence of dropped calls and inquired about the implications of these interruptions. He questioned whether SWBNO is tracking the resolution of issues reported by customers when they experience dropped calls and noted the significant increase in the number of disconnections. The directors asked to consider alternative methods for presenting this information and to identify the next steps for tracking these issues.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

- Resolution (R-068-2026) – Authorization of Amendment No. 4 for Professional Services for the Feasibility Analysis and Development of a Parcel Fee between Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc.
  - o **Director Stewart made a motion to approve Resolution R-068-2026. Director Cole moved. Director Kennedy seconded. The motion carried.**

The following person(s) appeared before the Finance and Administration to make comments:

1. **Chris Ralston** raised concerns regarding comments made toward JEI Solutions related to the contract for RFP 2025-SWB-18. Mr. Ralston acknowledges the case is still pending.
2. **Kennedy Moore** - Ms. Moore from The Water Collaborative emphasizes the necessity of collaborating with SWBNO to develop a comprehensive plan for a holistic approach to water management. This approach prioritizes transparency, affordability, equity, and public trust. She looks forward to the possibility of working with the city and SWBNO to advance future improvements in water infrastructure.
3. **Jessica Dandridge** - submitted an online comment - expressed concerns regarding (R-068-2026) related to the parcel fee and emphasized the need for transparency and accountability before additional funds are allocated.



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## GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

### CONTRACT AWARDS

- Resolution (R-058-2026) Authorization of Extension and Renewal No. 1 for Contract CM25-0005 Drainage Cleaning and Inspection Services between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Compliance Environmental Services, LLC.
  - Resolution (R-071-2026) Contract 8171 Renewal No. 2 – Repaving Open Cuts in Streets, Driveways, and Sidewalks Resulting from Underground Utility Repairs between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Fleming Construction Co., LLC.
- **Director Stewart made a motion to approve Contract Awards. Director Cole moved. Director Kenedy seconded. The motion carried.**

### CONTRACT AMENDMENTS

- Resolution (R-042-2026) Authorization of Amendment No. 1 to the Agreement between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Xylem Dewatering Solutions Inc., dba Wach Water Services for Leak Detection and Fire Flow Testing Within Orleans Parish.
  - Resolution (R-045-2026) Authorization of Amendment No. 8 to the Agreement between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and N-Y Associates, Inc. for Design and Engineering Servies for the Water Line Replacement Program.
  - Resolution (R-046-2026) Authorization of Amendment No. 10 to the Agreement between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Mott MacDonald, LLC for Design and Engineering Servies for the Water Line Replacement Program.
  - Resolution (R-047-2026) Authorization of Amendment No. 3 to for Contract 30264- Cleaning and CCTV Inspection of Sanitary Sewer Mains at Various Sites Within Orleans Parish between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Compliance Envirosystems, LLC.
- **Director Stewart made a motion to approve Contract Amendments. Director Cole moved. Director Kennedy seconded. The motion carried.**



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### **CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER BY RATIFICATION**

- Resolution (R-033-2026) Ratification of Change Order No. 8 for Contract 1420 – Power Complex Phase 1 Equipment Installation and Commissioning between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Frischhertz-Barnes a Joint Venture.
  - Resolution (R-049-2026) Ratification of Change Order No. 3 for Contract 2164 – Water Main Line Replacements and Extension at Various Locations Throughout Orleans Parish between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Wallace C. Drennan, Inc.
  - Resolution (R-050-2026) Ratification of Change Order No. 5 for Contract 30232-Carrollton Basin No. 3 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and BLD Services, LLC.
  - Resolution (R-052-2026) Ratification of Change Order No. 6 for Contract 30235-Carrollton Basin No. 5 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and BLD Services, LLC.
  - Resolution (R-056-2026) Ratification of Change Order No. 4 for Contract 30261-Carrollton Basin No. 20 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Hard Rock Construction, LLC.
- **Director Stewart made a motion to approve the Contract Change order By Ratification. Director Kennedy moved. Director Cole seconded. The motion carried.**

### **FINAL ACCEPTANCE**

- Resolution (R-051-2026) Authorization of Final Acceptance for Contract 30232-Carrollton Basin No. 3 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and BLD Services, LLC.
- Resolution (R-053-2026) Authorization of Final Acceptance for Contract 30252-Carrollton Basin No. 11 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and BLD Services, LLC.
- Resolution (R-054-2026) Authorization of Final Acceptance for Contract 30256-Carrollton Basin No. 15 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Hard Rock Construction, LLC.



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- Resolution (R-055-2026) Authorization of Final Acceptance for Contract 30260-Carrollton Basin No. 19 Sewer Rehabilitation between The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans and Hard Rock Construction, LLC.
  - **Director Stewart made a motion to approve Final Acceptances. Director Kennedy moved. Director Cole seconded. The motion carried.**

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

- **Director Stewart asked for a motion to enter executive session. Director Kennedy moved. Director Cole seconded. The motion carried.**
  - A. *Pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17(A)(2), the Finance and Administration Committee of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans will meet in Executive Session to discuss: In the matter of War Admiral, L.L.C., As Owner, and Turn Services, L.L.C., As Operator, of the M/V Assault, Petitioning for Exoneration From or Limitation of Liability, No. 26-cv-900, U.S. EDLA.*
  - B. *Pursuant to La. R.S. 42:17(A)(2), the Finance and Administration Committee of the Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans will meet in Executive Session to discuss: JEI Solutions, Inc. v. Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans, Civil District Court for the Parish of Orleans, Case No.: 2026-03395.*
- **Director Stewart presented a motion to exit executive session. Director Kennedy moved. Director Cole seconded. The motion carried.**

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

- A. Report – HGI (March 2026)
- B. Report – CFO (February 2026)
- C. Report – FEMA (March 2026)
- D. Report – EDBP (March 2026)



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## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- Public comments were made as noted above.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Finance and Administration Committees, Director Stewart made a motion to adjourn. Director Kennedy moved. Director Cole seconded. The motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:39 a.m.