

HEBER SPRINGS
WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY
1108 WEST FRONT STREET
HEBER SPRINGS, ARKANSAS 72543
501-362-3422

January 2026 Commission Meeting Minutes

1/29/26 9:00 A.M.

Meeting Location: Utility office at 1108 W. Front St. Board Room

In attendance:

Heber Springs Water Utility Commission

Commissioner Eddington

Commissioner Fall

Commissioner Holland

Utility Manager: Paul Graham

Office Manager: Nikki Early

Additional Attendees:

Kasey Griffin, Mayor City of Heber Springs

-Call to order by: Commissioner Eddington Time: 9:00 a.m.

-Motion to Approve Previous Month's Minutes: Commissioner Holland made a motion to approve the reading of the previous month's minutes, Commissioner Fall 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

-Checks \$2,000 and over: A question was asked concerning check # 51268.

-Bond Spending Report: Mrs. Early updated the Commission on the bond project spending stating that there was no change in the bond spending from the previous meeting.

-General Manager Bonus: Commissioner Eddington made a motion to approve the bonus. Commissioner Holland 2nd. Motion passed unanimously

-No Tax On Overtime: Ms. Early informed the Commission about new taxation rules on overtime and what options are available to meet the federal requirements. No decision was made.

-2025 SEP IRA: Commissioner Eddington made a motion to approve the IRA amount of 5%. Commissioner Holland 2nd. Motion passed unanimously

-FY26Q1 Bad Debt Write Off: Commissioner Holland made a motion to approve the write-off Commissioner Fall 2nd. Motion passed unanimously

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-Manager's/Engineering Report:

Office: 498 meters are bad due to black screens. Audit is nearly complete. Working with HW on SAM.gov registration for ANRC audit of grant money that was received for the WWTP upgrades. Currently deciding on whether to keep Optimum internet or go with another vendor. Document shredding was done December 4th and cost \$304. O&M fund will begin going down as projects get underway.

Operations: Ernie Simpson has decided to extend a water main on Harbor Hill Road to his property at his cost. The Utility will lay the main and will continue it all the way to Park Road and tie into an existing dead end main. Total feet is approximately 3,200'. Pinewood and Elmwood are also going to be rehabbed this year and HW is engineering a water main replacement on Hwy 110 E near the old glove factory.

WTP: Chlorine pump went out, and a new one was ordered. The filter media was removed from all of the old plant 1 filters. No issues arose during the recent cold weather and the daily flow of treated water went from an average of 3.5 MGD to 4.5 MGD while people were dripping faucets.

WWTP/Lift Stations: Midwest Infrastructure is coating 29 manholes soon and will also be coating the headworks at the plant. The cost of the headworks part will be approximately \$21,000 and will be paid via bond money. The filter media was removed from the old plant filters and was tested. It is able to be mixed with dirt to make better soil. There were no issues at the plant or with any lift stations during the recent cold weather

Other: ATT is wanting to renegotiate the lease contract on the Hwy 25 B N tank. The Utility responded to their request by stating that it will continue with the current contract. The Utility is going to be purchasing a new skid steer for the cost of approximately \$120,000 soon. This was in the budget and will be added to the depreciation schedule, but will be bought with O & M funds. Energy/Clearesult presented the Utility with a check for \$40,625.47 for energy credits from the new additions at the wastewater treatment plant. The new upgrades will save the utility approximately 290,181 kW/h annually. The Utility received the 2025 Trendsetter City award in water and infrastructure for populations 5,000 to 20,000.

Adjourn: Motion by: Commissioner Eddington 2nd by Commissioner Holland at 9:55 am to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

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THE HEBER SPRINGS WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION

Commissioner Burt Eddington _____

Commissioner Greg Holland _____

Commissioner Franklin Fall _____