



Kennebec Water District Board of Trustees
Annual Meeting
Thursday, January 15, 2026 – 7:30 AM
131 Drummond Avenue, Waterville, ME and Via Zoom
AGENDA

1. Introduction of guests
2. Welcome new trustee – Paul Fongime, representing Fairfield
3. Review and approve minutes of regular meeting of December 4, 2025
4. Nominations and Election of 2026 Board Officers

Officer Positions	2025 Officers
President	Frank Rickards
Vice President	Ben Murray
Treasurer	Jeff Earickson
Assistant Treasurer	Mike Talbot
Clerk	Sarah Whateley
Assistant Clerk – (Typically the General Manager)	Roger Crouse

5. Request by the Town of Vassalboro to purchase KWD land (John Melrose to make a brief presentation)
6. Review and approval of account warrant
7. Review of November and miscellaneous year-end financial reports
8. Approvals/motions needed:
 - a. Approval of 2026 Worker Compensation Fund premium - \$29,235 (paid in four installments) – The 2025 premium was \$22,809. (No memo.)
 - b. Approval to purchase Sensus water meters and associated meter reading equipment
 - c. Approval of agreement for West River Road water main replacement
9. General Manager report
10. Department reports
11. Continuous Monitoring Buoy Discussion
12. Trustee comments, concerns, and/or ideas
13. Public participation
14. As needed: Executive session 1 MRS §405. 6.
15. Adjournment

**KENNEBEC WATER DISTRICT
REGULAR BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
THURSDAY – DECEMBER 4, 2025 at 7:30 AM**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by President Richards.

Trustees present: Frank Richards, President; Ben Murray, Vice-President; Jeff Earickson, Treasurer; J. Michael Talbot, Assistant Treasurer; Sarah Whateley, Clerk; Mark McCluskey, Trustee; Allan Fuller, Trustee; Amy Stabins, Trustee; Nathan Saunders, Trustee

Trustees absent: Matthew Bulmer, Trustee

Mark McCluskey, Trustee, left the meeting at 8:15 a.m.

Also present: Roger Crouse, KWD General Manager; Amy Dyer, KWD Finance Manager; Matt Zetterman, KWD Engineering Manager (Remote Access); Benny LaPlante, KWD Service Manager (Remote Access); Jared Bragdon, KWD Distribution Manager (Remote Access); Robbie Bickford, KWD Water Quality Manager (Remote Access); Sue Markatine, KWD Recording Secretary

ITEM 1: INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

None

**ITEM 2: WELCOME NEW TRUSTEE – NATHAN SAUNDERS, FAIRFIELD
(APPOINTED BY THE FAIRFIELD TOWN COUNCIL TO FILL THE SEAT
VACATED BY BRUCE WILLIAMS)**

The Trustees welcomed and made introductions to Trustee Saunders. Trustee Saunders was appointed by the Fairfield Town Council to fulfill the seat vacated by Bruce Williams.

The Trustees also thanked outgoing Trustee McCluskey for his commitment and dedication to the KWD Board over the past several years.

**ITEM 3: REVIEW AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR
BOARD OF TRUSTEES' MEETING OF NOVEMBER 20, 2025**

Motion by Trustee Talbot, "to accept the minutes of the Regular Board of Trustees' meeting of November 20, 2025," seconded by Trustee McCluskey.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM 4: REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF ACCOUNT WARRANT

Motion by Trustee Earickson, "to ratify the December 4, 2025 total warrant of checks released for \$288,069.11," seconded by Trustee Talbot.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM 5: APPROVALS/MOTIONS NEEDED

A. Approval of Community Service Policy

The Trustees were provided with the KWD Community Service Policy which grants four-hours administrative leave annually to interested employees to allow them the opportunity to provide community service during work hours.

Motion by Trustee McCluseky, “to approve the KWD Community Service Policy as presented,” seconded by Trustee Fuller.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

B. Approval of Payment to Core & Main for Advanced Metering Infrastructure Services

In September 2024, the Trustees approved a five-year agreement with Core & Main for KWD’s meter data management software and equipment which includes Sensus Regional Network Interface, Sensus Analytics, and three Base Station warranties. At today’s meeting, the Trustees were asked for approval of the year two payment of the five-year agreement. Mr. Crouse and Mr. LaPlante answered questions from the Board members regarding this agreement.

Motion by Trustee Earickson, “to approve the year two payment to Core & Main for Sensus Regional Network Interface, Sensus Analytics, and three Base Station warranties for \$42,190.69,” seconded by Trustee Talbot.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

C. Approval of Agreement with CDM Smith for 10 Percent Design Services for Water Treatment Plant Upgrades

The Trustees were provided with a request for authorization to approve an agreement between KWD and CDM Smith for engineering design services for PFAS mitigation – ten-percent design and site evaluation. Also provided was the proposal from CDM Smith outlining the specific tasks associated with the design services. Several months ago, the Trustees voted to use the existing Water Treatment Plant (WTP) gravity filters for PFAS mitigation with more frequent replacement of granular activated carbon media. CDM Smith was chosen to evaluate WTP design upgrades and provide cost estimates to improve efficiencies of the media replacement process, reduce backwash recycle, and other improvements. As a result of the evaluation, Mr. Crouse explained the present and future scope of the projects on the Priority 1 list and possible funding sources. There will be future evaluations and adjustments as each phase moves forward. Mr. Bickford provided specific details of some of the planned construction modifications. Mr. Crouse and Mr. Bickford answered questions as the Board discussed the upgrades associated with the overall project.

Motion by Trustee Earickson, “to approve an agreement with CDM Smith to complete a ten-percent design of the Priority 1 projects outlined in the preliminary evaluation and relevant site evaluations at the WTP for a not to exceed price of \$161,165.00,” seconded by Trustee Talbot.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

D. Approval of Annual Employee Holiday Gift (\$200 in 2024 and 2023)

Typically, in past years as an expression of appreciation, KWD employees have been provided with a one-time cash bonus in December in their paychecks.

Motion by Trustee McCluskey, “in appreciation of KWD employees, to authorize a one-time cash bonus of \$200.00 per employee in their paycheck,” seconded by Trustee Talbot.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM 6: GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

As part of their Board packet, the Trustees were provided with the General Manager’s report, and a brief review was conducted by Mr. Crouse.

On behalf of the Board members, President Richards thanked Mr. Crouse for his report.

ITEM 7: DEPARTMENT REPORTS

As part of their Board packet, the Trustees were provided with the Monthly Department Reports prepared by the respective managers.

In response to a question from Trustee Fuller, Ms. Dyer responded that KWD’s auditors, Runyon Kersteen Ouellette, have informed her the 2024 Financial Audit Report will be finalized in December.

On behalf of the Board members, President Richards thanked the Department Managers for their reports.

ITEM 8: TRUSTEE COMMENTS, CONCERNS, AND/DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Because the first Thursday of January falls on New Year’s Day, the next Board meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2026. The 2026 Board Officers will be elected at this meeting.

Trustee Richards reminded re-elected Trustees to take their Oath of Office at their respective city/town office before the January Board meeting.

Trustee Richards mentioned that he has been approached by the Town of Vassalboro Trail Committee. In 2021, KWD entered into an agreement for a land use permit for the Town of Vassalboro to construct walking trails on property belonging to KWD behind the Water Treatment Plant (WTP). The trails have been a tremendous success, and the Town now wants to extend the trails. Trustee Richards mentioned the Town is interested in purchasing the portion of KWD property used for the trails. Mr. Crouse recapped the original agreement and displayed a map showing the trails. This subject will be an agenda item for the January 15, 2026 meeting.

ITEM 9: PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

ITEM 10: AS NEEDED: EXECUTIVE SESSION – 1 MRS §405. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ITEM 11: ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Trustee Talbot, “to adjourn the meeting,” seconded by Trustee Earickson.

Vote: Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 a.m.

Sue Markatine, Recording Secretary

A. ACCOUNT WARRANT JANUARY 15, 2026

NO.	CHECK DATE	VENDOR NAME	DESCRIPTION	DOLLAR AMOUNT
1	11/26/2025	NORTHEAST DELTA DENTAL	MONTHLY DENTAL INSURANCE PREMIUMS	1,021.25
2	11/26/2025	MAINE MUNICIPAL EMPs. HEALTH TRUST	MONTHLY HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS	36,700.44
3	11/26/2025	CAPITAL ONE TRADE CREDIT-AUBUCHON	WINDSHIELD WASH	45.48
4	11/26/2025	CAREER MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATES	COMPENSATION STUDY	5,801.25
5	11/26/2025	CENTRAL MAINE POWER	MONTHLY ELECTRICITY-VARIOUS LOCATIONS	8,507.23
6	11/26/2025	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS	MONTHLY INTERNET SERVICE	390.98
7	11/26/2025	DEAD RIVER COMPANY	PROPANE-2 LOCATIONS	241.22
8	11/26/2025	DOSTIE'S TOWING WATERVILLE	INSPECTION/OIL CHG/TRANS FLUID CHG	682.57
9	11/26/2025	GRAINGER	CHECK VALVE/HVAC MOTORS	841.29
10	11/26/2025	HALL'S HOMES RE, LLC	OCT LAWN SERVICE-DRUMMOND AVE	350.00
11	11/26/2025	HARCROS CHEMICALS, INC.	SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE-WTP	5,250.00
12	11/26/2025	HR MAINE CONSULTING	HUMAN RESOURCE CONSULTING	125.00
13	11/26/2025	MAINE WATER UTILITIES ASSOCIATION	DECEMBER BI-MONTHLY MEETING	65.00
14	11/26/2025	MID-MAINE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	BUSINESS MEETING	25.00
15	11/26/2025	CARPARTS DIST. CENTER-MOTOR SUPPLY	GLASS CLEANER	47.63
16	11/26/2025	OAKLAND SUPPLY	LED LIGHT UPGRADE-WTP	229.99
17	11/26/2025	ROKI REPAIR SHOP	TRAILER COMMERCIAL INSPECTION	100.00
18	11/26/2025	SEBAGO TECHNICS	VASSALBORO TO WATERVILLE MAIN SURVEY	1,800.00
19	11/26/2025	UNITED RENTALS (NORTH AMERICA), INC.	FORKLIFT MAINTENANCE	671.19
20	11/26/2025	VERIZON WIRELESS	MONTHLY TELEPHONE/DATA SERVICE	1,888.60
21	11/28/2025	U. S. BANK	BOND INTEREST	355,134.38
22	11/28/2025	FLORES & ASSOCIATES	HEALTH INS. DEDUCTIBLE REIMBURSEMENT	39.83
23	11/28/2025	TREASURER, STATE OF MAINE	FAMILY LEAVE APPLICATION-PRIVATE PLAN	250.00
24	12/03/2025	SILVER STREET TAVERN	ALL-STAFF MEETING FOOD	335.00
25	12/03/2025	FRANCOTYP-POSTALIA, INC.	POSTAGE FOR POSTAGE METER	2,000.00
26	12/03/2025	TREASURER, STATE OF MAINE	MONTHLY SALES TAX	4,068.29
27	12/03/2025	TREASURER, STATE OF MAINE	APPROVAL OF FAMILY LEAVE PRIVATE PLAN	250.00
28	12/03/2025	MAINEPERS	MONTHLY EMPLOYER RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION	16,850.36
29	12/03/2025	MAINEPERS	MONTHLY GROUP LIFE PREMIUMS	1,223.24
30	12/08/2025	FLORES & ASSOCIATES	MONTHLY ADMIN FEE DEDUCTIBLE REIMBURSEMENT	88.00
31	12/08/2025	ERGOS TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS, INC.	MONTHLY BACKUP SERVICES	238.00
32	12/08/2025	FASTENAL COMPANY	BULK HARDWARE	139.69
33	12/08/2025	VERTEXONE SOFTWARE, LLC	WATERSMART DOCUMENT STORAGE	47.60
34	12/09/2025	ADVANCE 1 CLEANING SERVICES, INC.	MONTHLY CLEANING SERVICE	1,080.00
35	12/09/2025	CENTERLINE UTILITIES	MONTHLY KWD LOCATES	4,170.66
36	12/09/2025	CENTRAL MAINE POWER	MONTHLY ELECTRICITY-VARIOUS LOCATIONS	12,967.23
37	12/09/2025	CINTAS	EMPS. UNIFORM SERVICE/DIRECT PURCHASES	3,121.50
38	12/09/2025	DIG SAFE SYSTEM, INC.	MONTHLY COST OF OPERATIONS	843.17
39	12/09/2025	DOSTIE'S TOWING WATERVILLE	OIL CHANGE-1 VEHICLE	97.90
40	12/09/2025	HAMMOND LUMBER COMPANY	SCOOP SHOVELS/SNOW PUSHERS	172.22
41	12/09/2025	KENNEBEC COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS	LIEN DISCHARGE-1 PROPERTY	22.00
42	12/09/2025	KENNEBEC EQUIPMENT - FAIRFIELD	PUMP DIAPHRAM	73.00
43	12/09/2025	MODERN INDUSTRIES, INC.	WATER TESTS	550.00
44	12/09/2025	CARPARTS DIST. CENTER-MOTOR SUPPLY	ENGINE OIL/CUTTING EDGE KIT	750.05
45	12/09/2025	NORTHEAST LABORATORY	WATER TESTS	1,020.00
46	12/09/2025	NORTHERN SAFETY CO, INC.	RUBBER GLOVES-WTP	68.76
47	12/09/2025	PROSEAL, LLC	PAVEMENT PATCH	707.00
48	12/09/2025	QUILL CORPORATION	TRUSTEE NAMEPLATE	18.59
49	12/09/2025	RINALDI ENERGY, LLC	HEATING OIL-WTP	7,337.44
50	12/09/2025	SHANNON CHEMICAL CORP	PHOSPHATE-WTP	16,556.36
51	12/09/2025	STILES COMPANY	4 METER TESTS	1,600.00
52	12/09/2025	SULLIVAN TIRE CO., INC.	8 NEW REAR TIRES	5,093.76
53	12/09/2025	T-MOBILE	MONTHLY TELEPHONE/INTERNET SERVICE	596.28
54	12/09/2025	TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS OF MAINE	MONTHLY ANSWERING SERVICE	105.30
55	12/09/2025	VASSALBORO CAR CARE	MINOR EXHAUST REPAIR	102.00
56	12/09/2025	VERIZON	MONTHLY VEHICLE DATA SERVICE	303.20
57	12/09/2025	CITY OF WATERVILLE	MONTHLY VEHICLE FUEL USAGE	1,656.89

A. ACCOUNT WARRANT JANUARY 15, 2026

NO.	CHECK DATE	VENDOR NAME	DESCRIPTION	DOLLAR AMOUNT
58	12/09/2025	F.W. WEBB COMPANY	POWER TOOLS/BATTERIES	877.48
59	12/09/2025	AQUA BACKFLOW, INC.	PROGRAM MANAGEMENT SERVICE	289.00
60	12/11/2025	VERTEXONE SOFTWARE, LLC	WATERSMART DOCUMENT STORAGE	45.44
61	12/11/2025	FANADO PELOTTE CONTRACTOR	CONTRACTOR SERVICES-VARIOUS LOCATIONS	4,522.50
62	12/12/2025	BUDGET DOCUMENT TECHNOLOGY	POSTAGE MACHINE INK CARTRIDGE	138.62
63	12/12/2025	CENTERLINE UTILITIES	MONTHLY KWD LOCATES	3,110.16
64	12/12/2025	CINTAS	EMPLOYEES UNIFORM/CLOTHING SERVICE	155.69
65	12/12/2025	DEAD RIVER COMPANY	PROPANE-1 LOCATION	97.20
66	12/12/2025	HAMMOND LUMBER COMPANY	MATERIALS FOR QUONSET HUT RELOCATION/ MATERIALS FOR WATERPROOFING TRAILER DECKS	550.97
67	12/12/2025	HUSSEY COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	MONTHLY INTERNET SERVICE	182.00
68	12/12/2025	INFOSEND, INC.	MONTHLY BILL PROCESSING AND MAILING	2,466.45
69	12/12/2025	KENNEBEC EQUIPMENT - FAIRFIELD	EQUIPMENT RENTAL/SUCTION HOSE	363.11
70	12/12/2025	TREASURER, STATE OF MAINE-HETL	WATER TEST	45.00
71	12/12/2025	CARPARTS DIST. CENTER-MOTOR SUPPLY	SMALL ENGINE FUEL	26.47
72	12/12/2025	NORTHEAST LABORATORY	WATER TEST	55.00
73	12/12/2025	PINE TREE WASTE, INC.	RUBBISH REMOVAL	234.00
74	12/12/2025	PORTLAND PAPER PRODUCTS	CLEANING/TISSUE SUPPLIES	321.35
75	12/12/2025	QUILL CORPORATION	TRUSTEE NAMEPLATE	18.59
76	12/12/2025	DAVID MORIN	FALL LAWN CLEAN-UP-VARIOUS LOCATIONS	292.50
77	12/12/2025	F.W. WEBB COMPANY	HYDRANT PARTS/TOOL FUEL/LEAK PARTS	508.07
78	12/12/2025	TOWN OF WINSLOW	HIGHWAY OPENING PERMIT	123.85
79	12/15/2026	DIVVY-VISA CARD	DOCKING STATIONS/BOOTS/INK/OFFICE SUPPLIES/ SHIPPING FEES/MICROSOFT SUBS./SHOP SUPPLIES/MONTHLY TELEPHONE SERVICE/ANTI-SPAM PROTECTION/BINDERS/TRUSTEE GIFT-END OF TERM/MEETING FOOD/TOOLS/GOOGLE SUB./ PASSWORD MANAGER SUB./COMPUTER SUPPLIES/TARP DISPOSAL/CLEANING SUPPLIES/ ISOPROPYL ALCOHOL/BACKET/HOSE/BATTERIES/SHOP VACUUM	3,251.53
80	12/18/2025	CANINE CORRAL	PROJECT TAP REFUND	1,259.73
81	12/18/2025	CINTAS	EMPLOYEES UNIFORM/CLOTHING SERVICE	155.69
82	12/18/2025	DEAD RIVER COMPANY	PROPANE-2 LOCATIONS	321.25
83	12/18/2025	EASTWOOD CONTRACTORS, INC.	SUMMER ST, WTVL, WATER MAIN REPLACEMENT	252,834.25
84	12/18/2025	GONETSPEED	MONTHLY INTERNET SERVICE	114.90
85	12/18/2025	KENNEBEC WATER DISTRICT-PETTY CASH	CANDY CANES FOR CHRISTMAS TREE	5.45
86	12/18/2025	MAINE LABORATORIES, LLC	WATER TESTS	3,180.00
87	12/18/2025	TREASURER, STATE OF MAINE-HETL	WATER TESTS	570.00
88	12/18/2025	OAKLAND SUPPLY	SWITCH FOR TRANSFER PUMP GENERATOR	6.99
89	12/18/2025	PINE TREE WASTE, INC.	PORTAPOTTY RENTAL	145.00
90	12/18/2025	PROSEAL, LLC	PAVEMENT PATCHES-VARIOUS LOCATIONS	1,049.00
91	12/18/2025	TRANE US, INC.	REPLACE BLOWN FUSE/CHECK SETTINGS	150.00
92	12/19/2025	PAYMENTUS	MONTHLY CUSTOMER CC TRANSACTIONS FEES	3,085.92
93	12/24/2025	CALITO DEVELOPMENT GROUP, LLC	REFUND-REDUCTION OF ORIGINAL METER SIZE	2,126.00
94	12/24/2025	CENTRAL MAINE POWER	MONTHLY ELECTRICITY-VARIOUS LOCATIONS	3,651.48
95	12/24/2025	CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS	MONTHLY INTERNET SERVICE	390.98
96	12/24/2025	DEAD RIVER COMPANY	HEATING OIL- PUMP STATION	541.09
97	12/24/2025	KIMBERLEY A FEUGILL	VINYL DECALS FOR HYDRANTS	28.00
98	12/24/2025	INFOSEND, INC.	DATA SECURITY INFRASTRUCTURE SURCHARGE	51.60
99	12/24/2025	MAINE RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION	2026 MEMBERSHIP DUES	2,115.00
100	12/24/2025	MAINE WATER UTILITIES ASSOCIATION	2026 MEMBERSHIP DUES	4,513.00
101	12/24/2025	TREASURER, STATE OF MAINE-HETL	WATER TESTS	330.00
102	12/24/2025	NORTHEAST LABORATORY	WATER TESTS	45.00
103	12/24/2025	ROTARY CLUB OF WATERVILLE	SEMI-ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES	150.00
104	12/24/2025	THE SHERWIN-WILLIAMS COMPANY	PAINT SUPPLIES	385.12
105	12/24/2025	F.W. WEBB COMPANY	WATER SYSTEM/METER ITEMS	2,017.71
106	12/29/2025	FLORES & ASSOCIATES	MONTHLY ADMIN FEE DEDUCTIBLE REIMBURSEMENT	88.00
107	12/29/2025	FLORES & ASSOCIATES	HEALTH INS. DEDUCTIBLE REIMBURSEMENT	1,705.29
108	12/30/2025	KENNEBEC EQUIPMENT - FAIRFIELD	EQUIPMENT RENTAL-QUONSET HUT RELOCATION	550.00
109	12/30/2025	MESSALONSKEE STREAM HYDRO, LLC	ENERGY CREDITS	2,212.86

A. ACCOUNT WARRANT JANUARY 15, 2026

NO.	CHECK DATE	VENDOR NAME	DESCRIPTION	DOLLAR AMOUNT
110	12/30/2025	SULLIVAN TIRE CO., INC.	TIRE REPLACEMENT	428.20
111	12/30/2025	KENNEBEC COUNTY REGISTRY OF DEEDS	SURVEY DRAWINGS FILING	456.00
112	12/31/2025	MAINE MUNICIPAL EMP'S. HEALTH TRUST	MONTHLY HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUMS	40,571.38
113	12/31/2025	NORTHEAST DELTA DENTAL	MONTHLY DENTAL INSURANCE PREMIUMS	1,117.00
114	12/31/2025	ADVANCE 1 CLEANING SERVICES, INC.	MONTHLY CLEANING SERVICE	1,350.00
115	12/31/2025	FASTENAL COMPANY	HARDWARE FOR RELIEF VALVE	28.29
116	12/31/2025	KENNEBEC EQUIPMENT - FAIRFIELD	PROPANE REFILL FOR FORKLIFT	28.90
117	12/31/2025	CENTRAL MAINE POWER	MONTHLY ELECTRICITY-VARIOUS LOCATIONS	10,229.69
118	12/31/2025	CINTAS	EMPLOYEES UNIFORM/CLOTHING SERVICE-2 WEEKS	305.83
119	12/31/2025	DEAD RIVER COMPANY	PROPANE/DIESEL FUEL	783.75
120	12/31/2025	M A HASKELL FUEL	BOILER SERVICE/REPLACE BURNER MOTOR	783.02
121	12/31/2025	MAINE METAL BUILDINGS, INC.	ROOF SNOW GUARDS	5,616.00
122	12/31/2025	MAINE RURAL WATER ASSOCIATION	CONFERENCE-1 EMPLOYEE	215.00
123	12/31/2025	CARPARTS DIST. CENTER-MOTOR SUPPLY	BRAKE PARTS CLEANER	76.79
124	12/31/2025	NORTHEAST LABORATORY	WATER TESTS	215.00
125	12/31/2025	SPILLER'S	PLOTTER INK CARTRIDGES	854.99
126	12/31/2025	VERIZON WIRELESS	MONTHLY TELEPHONE/DATA SERVICE	100.05
127	12/31/2025	CITY OF WATERTVILLE	HIGHWAY OPENING PERMIT-SUMMER STREET	37,288.75
128	01/07/2026	TREASURER, STATE OF MAINE	MONTHLY SALES TAX	4,495.02
129	01/08/2026	MAINEPERS	MONTHLY EMPLOYER RETIREMENT CONTRIBUTION	21,735.33
130	01/08/2026	MAINEPERS	MONTHLY GROUP LIFE PREMIUMS	1,223.24
TOTAL WARRANT				933,818.34

Kennebec Water District
Balance Sheet
As of November 30, 2025

	November 2025	November 2024	Variance
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Cash	10,302,680.13	7,684,921.33	2,617,758.80
Accounts Receivables	489,509.62	390,211.37	99,298.25
Unbilled services	839,770.66	740,586.30	99,184.36
Prepaid expenses	133,659.92	94,059.73	39,600.19
Inventory	490,272.33	463,891.62	26,380.71
Total Current Assets	12,255,892.66	9,373,670.35	2,882,222.31
Non-Current Assets			
Other Assets	49,402.37	52,329.66	(2,927.29)
Total Non-Current Assets Excluding Capital	49,402.37	52,329.66	(2,927.29)
Capital Assets			
Capital assets, not being depreciated	4,047,854.97	2,916,073.21	1,131,781.76
Capital assets, being depreciated	89,192,227.95	84,849,005.37	4,343,222.58
Accumulated Depreciation	(31,287,463.43)	(30,466,774.32)	(820,689.11)
Total Capital Assets	61,952,619.49	57,298,304.26	4,654,315.23
DEFERRED OUTFLOWS OF RESORUCES			
Deferred Other Post Employee Benefits	70,431.18	23,883.19	46,547.99
Deferred Pension Benefits	360,099.75	219,994.14	140,105.61
Total Deferred Outflows of Resources	430,530.93	243,877.33	186,653.60
TOTAL ASSETS AND DEFERRED OUTFLOWS	74,688,445.45	66,968,181.60	7,720,263.85
LIABILITIES			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	50,662.08	58,702.77	(8,040.69)
Accrued Expenses	13,361.85	383,302.98	(369,941.13)
Accrued wages and benefits	67,975.21	77,646.60	(9,671.39)
Accrued Interest Payable	19,095.16	57,411.57	(38,316.41)
Short-Term Debt	3,090,373.74	1,023,195.99	2,067,177.75
Current portion of LT Debt	981,421.47	645,162.27	336,259.20
Total Current Liabilities	4,222,889.51	2,245,422.18	1,977,467.33
Non-Current Liabilities			
Other Post Employee Benefits Liabilities	285,984.00	218,933.00	67,051.00
Net Pension Liability	839,659.00	640,280.00	199,379.00
Accrued Compensated Balances	434,149.85	140,443.84	293,706.01
Unamortized bond premium, less current	305,171.94	327,051.36	(21,879.42)
Long-Term Debt (Net)	24,003,006.76	23,540,246.93	462,759.83
Total Non-Current Liabilities	25,867,971.55	24,866,955.13	1,001,016.42
TOTAL LIABILITIES	30,090,861.06	27,112,377.31	2,978,483.75
DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES			
Deferred Credits	3,965,415.69	3,516,776.80	448,638.89
Deferred Other Post Employee Benefits	71,009.27	97,250.10	(26,240.83)
Deferred-Pension Benefits	87,303.15	94,945.58	(7,642.43)
TOTAL DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES	4,123,728.11	3,708,972.48	414,755.63
NET POSITION	40,473,856.28	36,146,831.81	4,327,024.47
TOTAL LIABILITIES, DEFERRED INFLOWS OF RESOURCES AND NET POSITION	74,688,445.45	66,968,181.60	7,720,263.85

KENNEBEC WATER DISTRICT

MONTHLY INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2025

	2025		2024		2025		2024		YTD	VARIANCE	2025		% OF BUDGET USED
	NOVEMBER ACTUAL	NOVEMBER ACTUAL	NOVEMBER ACTUAL	NOVEMBER ACTUAL	MONTHLY VARIANCE	YTD ACTUAL	YTD ACTUAL	YTD ACTUAL			BUDGET	BUDGET	
OPERATING REVENUES													
METERED SALES RESIDENTIAL CUST	334,228	312,976	21,252	3,415,749	3,224,113	191,636	3,793,725	90%					
METERED SALES COMMERCIAL CUST	93,777	86,353	7,424	1,126,614	1,057,408	69,206	1,227,034	92%					
METERED SALES INDUSTRIAL CUST	99,106	138,058	(38,952)	1,782,826	1,399,517	383,308	1,042,117	171%					
METERED SALES GOVERNMENTAL	19,498	17,212	2,286	204,917	179,991	24,925	201,094	102%					
PUBLIC FIRE PROTECTION	-	-	-	888,439	844,213	44,227	894,866	99%					
PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTION	293	-	293	354,468	330,689	23,780	350,297	101%					
SALES FOR RESALE	20,834	18,740	2,094	252,747	184,830	67,917	206,417	122%					
FORFEITED DISCOUNTS & PENALTIES	5,301	3,357	1,944	41,530	43,553	(2,024)	50,000	83%					
MISC SERVICE REVENUE	5,011	5,971	(960)	101,540	77,591	23,949	43,900	231%					
OTH WATER REVENUE (SALE READ)	6,199	6,199	-	52,504	52,504	-	52,500	100%					
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES	584,447	588,916	(4,469)	8,222,233	7,396,659	825,573	7,861,950	105%					
NON-OPERATING REVENUES													
INTEREST & DIVIDEND INCOME	31,450	26,424	5,026	318,941	290,723	28,217	250,000	128%					
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME/(LOSS)	(32)	29,377	(29,408)	1,160,348	495,641	664,708	244,500	475%					
TOTAL NON-OPERATING REVENUES	31,419	55,801	(24,382)	1,479,289	786,364	692,925	494,500	299%					
TOTAL REVENUES	615,866	644,717	(28,851)	9,701,522	8,183,024	1,518,498	8,356,450	116%					
OPERATING EXPENSES													
SALARIES & WAGES EMPLOYEES	171,603	186,512	(14,909)	1,923,007	1,888,580	34,427	2,216,350	87%					
EMPLOYEE PENSIONS & BENEFITS	68,407	64,971	3,436	692,020	693,951	(1,931)	832,500	83%					
PURCHASED POWER	26,659	26,621	37	363,437	306,225	57,212	311,560	117%					
CHEMICALS	32,204	6,755	25,448	222,870	218,663	4,207	200,000	111%					
MATERIALS & SUPPLIES	25,655	38,968	(13,313)	480,049	406,656	73,393	480,354	100%					
CONTRACTUAL SERVICES	61,089	116,934	(55,845)	728,630	858,579	(129,949)	1,065,812	68%					
RENTAL EXPENSE	1,015	145	870	4,814	7,056	(2,242)	7,175	67%					
TRANSPORTATION EXPENSES	6,496	4,512	1,984	40,244	66,551	(26,307)	74,850	54%					
INSURANCE	8,030	8,680	(650)	90,834	87,979	2,856	113,225	80%					
TAXES OTH THAN INCOME	15,579	15,541	38	222,795	204,452	18,343	243,075	92%					
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES	11,734	15,198	(3,464)	161,562	187,815	(26,253)	207,600	78%					
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	428,471	485,953	(57,482)	4,930,262	4,928,093	2,169	5,752,501	86%					
EARNINGS BEFORE INTEREST, TAXES, DEPR & AMORT (EBITDA)	187,395	158,764	28,631	4,771,260	3,254,931	1,516,329	2,603,949	183%					

**KENNEBEC WATER DISTRICT
MONTHLY INCOME STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 2025**

	2025 NOVEMBER ACTUAL	2024 NOVEMBER ACTUAL	MONTHLY VARIANCE	2025 YTD ACTUAL	2024 YTD ACTUAL	YTD VARIANCE	2025 BUDGET	% OF BUDGET USED
DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION EXPENSE (NON-CASH ITEMS)	105,353	134,559	(29,206)	1,497,642	1,474,366	23,276	1,742,176	86%
TOTAL DEPRECIATION AND AMORTIZATION	105,353	134,559	(29,206)	1,497,642	1,474,366	23,276	1,742,176	86%
INTEREST EXPENSE - LT DEBT	63,571	65,241	(1,670)	743,784	729,708	14,076	840,000	89%
TOTAL INTEREST & AMORTIZATION	63,571	65,241	(1,670)	743,784	729,708	14,076	840,000	89%
EXTRAORDINARY INCOME	-	-	-	1,316,993	-	1,316,993	-	-
NET INCOME	18,470	(41,036)	59,507	3,846,826	1,050,856	2,795,970	21,773	17668%

**Kennebec Water District
Statement of Cash Flows
For the Period Ending November 30, 2025**

Cash Balance 10/31/2025		\$ 10,325,921.03
Utility Billing Receipts		696,738.39
Payments to Vendors		(805,068.78)
Interest		31,450.42
Payroll		(190,915.63)
MMBB Bond payments for Summer St Req #8		244,554.70
Net Monthly Activity		\$ (23,240.90)

Cash Balance 11/30/2025		\$ 10,302,680.13
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Cash and Investment Accounts-Ending Balances

Operating Checking Account TD Bank		1,700,828.53
Checking Account-Northeast Bank		1,918.00
Certificates of Deposit TD Bank		5,261,361.76
Certificates of Deposit Northeast Bank		3,334,735.06
Cash Drawers & Petty Cash & Deposits		3,836.78
Cash Balance 11/30/2025		\$ 10,302,680.13

Reserve for Debt Payments

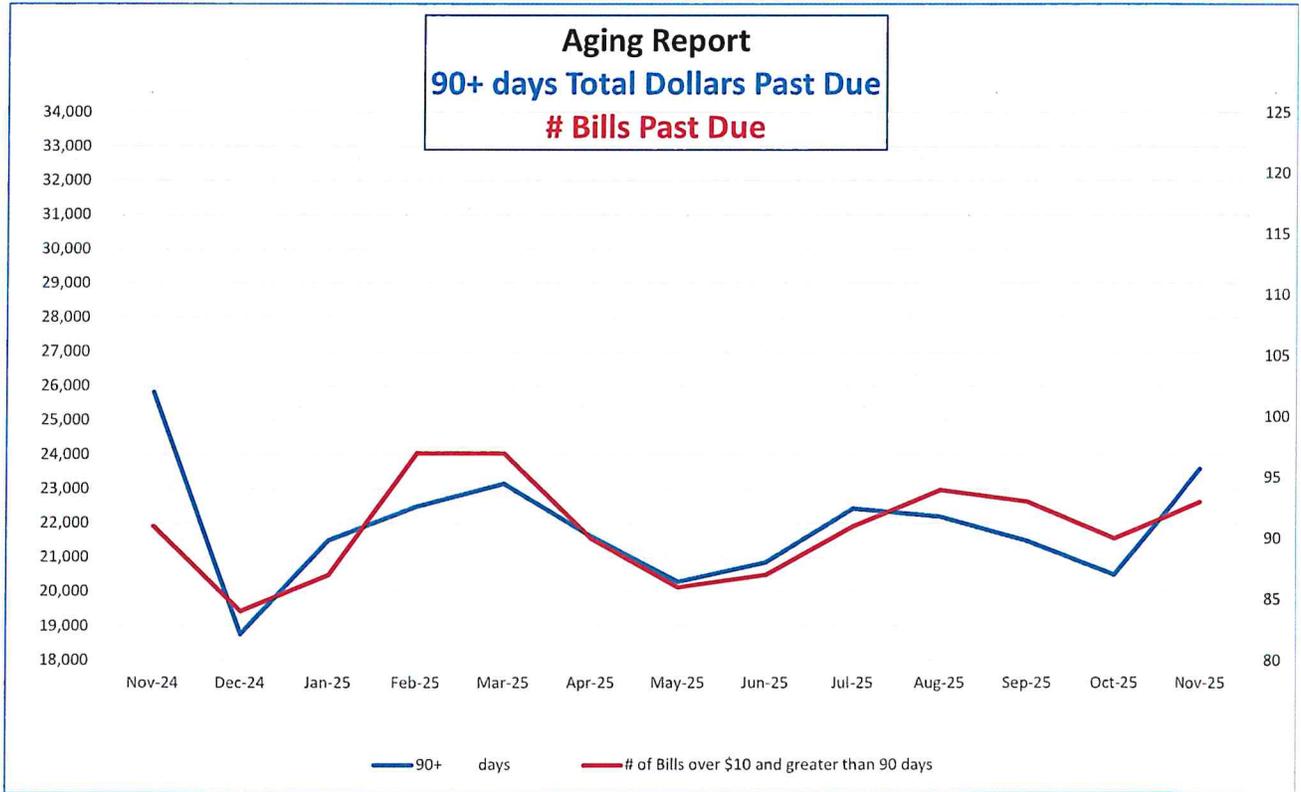
LESS RESERVE 2025 BOND PRINCIPAL		
LESS RESERVE 2025 BOND INTEREST	\$	19,625.75
LESS RESERVE 2025 BOND PRINCIPAL	\$	11,728.11
LESS RESERVE 2024 BOND PRINCIPAL	\$	21,300.00
LESS RESERVE 2024 BOND INTEREST	\$	4,031.08
LESS RESERVE 2022 BOND PRINCIPAL	\$	51,288.44
LESS RESERVE 2022 BOND INTEREST	\$	9,105.19
LESS RESERVE 2022 BOND PRINCIPAL	\$	36,926.14
LESS RESERVE 2022 BOND INTEREST	\$	6,555.46
LESS RESERVE 2022 REVENUE BOND PRINCIPAL	\$	425,000.00
LESS RESERVE 2022 REVENUE BOND INTEREST	\$	355,134.38
LESS RESERVE 2021 BOND PRINCIPAL	\$	32,661.64
LESS RESERVE 2021 BOND INTEREST	\$	5,636.70
LESS RESERVE 2020 BOND PRINCIPAL	\$	141,126.00
LESS RESERVE 2020 BOND INTEREST	\$	22,944.06
LESS RESERVE 2020 BOND PRINCIPAL	\$	23,692.00
LESS RESERVE 2020 BOND INTEREST	\$	3,695.11
LESS RESERVE 2017 BOND PRINCIPAL	\$	136,470.00
LESS RESERVE 2017 BOND INTEREST	\$	16,625.43
LESS RESERVE 2011 BOND PRINCIPAL	\$	72,181.00
LESS RESERVE 2011 BOND INTEREST	\$	16,812.02
LESS RESERVE 2009 STIMULUS PRINC	\$	7,168.71
TOTAL CASH RESERVED BONDS	\$	1,419,707.22

Uncommitted Balance		\$ 8,882,972.91
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Kennebec Water District

AGING REPORT

	Current	31-60 days	61-90 days	90+ days	Total	# of Bills over \$10 and greater than 90 days
Nov-24	367,319	(4,185)	1,261	25,816	390,211	91
Dec-24	404,786	(2,704)	364	18,747	424,145	84
Jan-25	580,940	263	5,924	21,489	611,570	87
Feb-25	484,706	2,162	2,081	22,472	511,420	97
Mar-25	329,568	109,013	1,119	23,144	462,844	97
Apr-25	548,538	(1,904)	1,370	21,608	569,612	90
May-25	364,956	(3,400)	1,615	20,277	383,449	86
Jun-25	362,278	(3)	1,562	20,856	384,694	87
Jul-25	544,304	(2,086)	3,238	22,417	567,872	91
Aug-25	377,553	(3,611)	1,454	22,194	397,590	94
Sep-25	352,304	724	1,654	21,472	376,153	93
Oct-25	569,408	(771)	2,995	20,482	592,114	90
Nov-25	462,363	940	3,013	23,580	489,896	93





MEMO

January 15, 2026

To: Kennebec Water District Board of Trustees

From: Amy Dyer

CC: Roger Crouse, General Manager

Subject: Report on 2025 Spending Exceeding \$15,000

Per KWD's Procurement Policy, an annual report on vendors receiving payments of more than \$15,000 must be submitted to the Board of Trustees at the start of the following fiscal year.

Table 1 below provides a list of vendors receiving payments from KWD in 2025 of more than \$15,000.

Table 1		
2025 ANNUAL EXPENSES OF MORE THAN \$15,000		
Vendor Name	YTD Purchases	Description
EASTWOOD CONTRACTORS INC	2,952,643.08	Water main replacement - Summer Street
U.S. BANK	1,143,768.76	Bond payments
TREASURER, STATE OF MAINE	1,079,493.53	Water testing, sales tax payments, licenses, annual drinking water fee (DWP), annual regulatory assessment (MPUC and OPA)
MAINE MUNICIPAL BOND BANK	697,226.85	Bond payments
CHADWICK-BAROSS INC.	607,011.18	Purchase of vacuum excavation truck
MAINE MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEE HEALTH TRUST	441,058.80	Health, vision, and income protection Insurance
CENTRAL ME. POWER CO.	236,289.05	Electricity
CORE & MAIN LP	225,067.44	Meter and metering supplies
MAINE PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM	219,850.91	Pension, Group Life insurance, 457b employee contributions
F.W. WEBB COMPANY	202,358.40	Distribution parts and supplies and some WTP supplies
DARLING'S	199,520.00	Purchase of truck #8-Ford F550 w/maintainer body
CDM SMITH	150,302.72	PFAS Contract Services
MESSALONSKEE STREAM HYDRO LLC	129,294.03	Renewable Energy Credit fees
EASTWOOD CONTRACTORS INC	2,952,643.08	Water main replacement - Summer Street

Vendor Name	YTD Purchases	Description
FANADO PELOTTE CONTRACTOR	110,011.25	Excavation and other contractor support services
CITY OF WATERVILLE	95,389.14	Carbon iodine testing
PROSEAL LLC	90,870.86	Paving
US BANK CORPORATE TRUST BOSTON	89,353.92	Bond payments
TYLER TECHNOLOGIES INC	60,182.73	Munis accounting/billing software
MAINE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION	60,153.50	Liability, property, casualty, and workers compensation insurance and training
HARCROS CHEMICALS INC.	58,170.90	WTP Chemicals
BRAY SALES, INC.	55,902.90	Valves
DIVVY	55,089.50	Credit card purchases
UNIVAR USA INC	53,003.92	WTP Chemicals
NITRAM EXCAVATION & GEN CONTRACTOR INC	51,000.00	Water main replacement - Pleasant Street final
DIRIGO ENGINEERING	50,796.55	Chase Ave booster evaluation and design
GENERAL ALUM N.E. CORP.	50,073.84	WTP Chemicals
SEBAGO TECHNICS	49,765.90	Transmission line survey
NALCO COMPANY	43,962.05	WTP Chemicals
CENTERLINE UTILITIES	43,777.12	Utility locating services
PAYMENTUS	33,730.42	3rd party payment processing
STEPHEN T BARD	31,120.00	Paving
INFOSEND, INC	27,812.52	3rd party bill processing
EAGLE RENTAL	25,455.00	Rental equipment
FIELDING'S OIL & PROPANE CO INC	23,778.75	Distribution parts and supplies and some WTP supplies
MAINE LABORATORIES LLC	23,320.00	PFAS/water testing
FLORES & ASSOCIATES	22,898.50	Insurance deductible-employee benefit
JUDDI L HALLOWELL	21,280.00	Gravel
VERTEXONE SOFTWARE LLC	19,501.84	Customer portal (formerly Watersmart)
ROKI REPAIR SHOP	19,272.31	Truck repairs and maintenance
ERGOS TECHNOLOGY PARTNERS, INC.	18,012.08	Anti-virus 3yr agreement and other IT support
SHANNON CHEMICAL CORP	16,556.36	WTP Chemicals
HAMMOND LUMBER COMPANY	15,468.87	Aquaphalt black top, insulation, rock salt, chair rails for offices and other supplies
SARGENT CORPORATION	15,340.20	Cold patch, sand salt mix
VERRILL DANA LLP	15,256.94	Bond counsel, Poolers Park, transmission main, 6 Maple St Vassalboro, landlord disconnection notices, solar project

Kennebec Water District
2025 Capital Spending Summary
December 31, 2025

Department	Item	Budget Estimate	Actual Spent in 2025	Total spent on project	Unused/(Over) Budget	Comment
Water Quality	Replacement of Pneumatic Actuators	\$75,000	\$80,795	\$80,795	(\$5,795)	Complete
Water Quality	Building Access Control at WTP	\$30,000	\$12,185	\$12,185	\$17,815	Complete
Water Quality	Routine Replacement of GAC in 2 Filter Units	\$300,000	\$0	\$0	\$300,000	Project canceled. Carbon replacement will occur as part of the WTP upgrades in 2026 and/or 2027
	Total Water Quality	\$405,000	\$92,980	\$92,980	\$312,020	
Distribution	Hydrant Buddy/Valve Turner	\$6,800	\$5,945	\$5,945	\$855	Complete
	Total Distribution	\$6,800	\$5,945	\$5,945	\$855	
Fleet	Upgrade an 3/4 ton existing service truck with a Ford F550 service truck with external hydraulics, electrical power, and compressed air. (Carryover from 2024)	\$225,000	\$223,020	\$223,020	\$1,980	Delivered at the end of July. Purchase price \$223,020 less trade of \$23,500 recognized as a gain on sale.
	Total Fleet	\$225,000	\$223,020	\$223,020	\$1,980	
Engineering	Summer and Grove Streets Main Replacement	\$4,321,000	\$3,078,339	\$3,514,361	\$806,639	In-progress
Engineering	Chase Avenue Pump Station Rehabilitation Design	\$218,160	\$51,736	\$57,088	\$161,072	In-progress
Engineering	Lagoon Discharge Project	\$625,000	\$20,017	\$69,205	\$555,795	Outfall structure only in 2025-Remaining \$10,000 to be spent in October
Engineering	Miscellaneous Projects - various locations	\$130,000	\$126,557	\$126,557	\$3,443	Whipple (8" valve), Franklin (hydrant), Violette/Cool St (hydrant), Riverview St

Department	Item	Budget Estimate	Actual Spent in 2025	Total spent on project	Unused/(Over) Budget	Comment
Engineering	Future capital projects design work	\$50,000	\$17,119	\$17,119	\$32,881	Sanger St. (Wtvl), Sunset Heights & Partridge Ln. (Winslow), High St (Fairfield), West River Rd
Engineering	Ticonic Bridge Crossing (Carryover project from 2024)	\$158,058	\$879,364	\$1,030,134	-\$872,076	When budget was created, most of the spending was anticipated in 2024. Project now complete.
	Total Engineering	\$5,502,218	\$4,173,133	\$4,814,464	\$687,754	
	Total-All Departments	\$6,132,218	\$4,489,133	\$5,130,465	\$1,001,753	
2024 Projects Carried Over into 2025						
Fleet	Vacuum Excavation Truck to replace existing Truck#1 and Vacuum Trailer	\$604,942	\$604,942	\$604,942	\$0	Complete
Engineering	Pleasant St Main Replacement	\$3,532,000	\$35,116	\$2,656,791	\$875,209	Project complete.
	Total Carried over into 2025	\$4,136,942	\$640,058	\$3,261,733	\$875,209	
Unbudgeted capital items						
Engineering	Maura Court Main Replacement	\$0	\$152,991	\$152,991	(\$152,991)	Complete
Water Quality	#10 Slaminator check valve- WAPS	\$0	\$6,387	\$6,387	(\$6,387)	Complete
Facility	Snow guards on cold storage bldg	\$0	\$5,616	\$5,616	(\$5,616)	Complete
	Total unbudgeted capital items	\$0	\$164,994	\$164,994	-\$164,994	
	Total-All Departments	\$10,269,160	\$5,294,185	\$8,557,192	\$1,711,968	



MEMO

January 15, 2026

To: Kennebec Water District Board of Trustees

From: Amy Dyer, Finance Manager

CC: Roger Crouse, General Manager

Subject: Summary of KWD Outstanding Debt

Please find a summary of KWD's outstanding debt in the following table.



Date Incurred	Project	Term (yrs)	Original Amount	Forgiveness of Debt/Grants	Net Borrowing	Balance as of December 31, 2025	Interest Rate	2025 Principal Payments	2025 Interest Payments
06/08/2009	2009 Stimulus	20	\$409,641	\$0	409,640.50	\$50,181	0.00%	\$14,337	\$0
10/27/2011	2011 Series E	20	\$1,304,500	\$0	1,304,500.00	\$474,225	0.5-5.5%	\$72,180	\$17,173
05/12/2017	Kennebec Water Dist-2017FR	20	\$3,000,000	(\$225,000)	2,775,000.00	\$1,730,778	1.00%	\$133,781	\$17,983
03/18/2020	Savage Street	20	\$659,589	(\$163,248)	496,341.00	\$357,665	1.00%	\$23,457	\$3,814
07/16/2020	Wtl: Main, North, Middle, St, Win: China Rd	20	\$4,266,000	(\$1,279,800)	2,986,200.00	\$2,294,406	1.00%	\$139,728	\$24,355
05/05/2022	Benton Avenue, Win.	20	\$1,527,364	(\$836,249)	691,114.82	\$563,670	1.00%	\$32,018	\$5,960
07/07/2022	Drummond Ave. Facility	20	\$14,640,000	\$0	14,270,000.00	\$14,270,000	4.50%	\$370,000	\$649,075
07/07/2022	Eustis Parkway and High St, Wtl	20	\$1,635,000	\$0	1,635,000.00	\$1,475,000	4.50%	\$55,000	\$69,694
06/01/2023	Western Ave, Fairfield	20	\$1,111,351	(\$330,000)	781,350.93	\$673,827	1.00%	\$35,840	\$7,100
06/01/2023	WTP Chemical Room	20	\$1,543,255	(\$458,000)	1,085,254.66	\$935,910	1.00%	\$49,780	\$10,360
07/22/2024	Kennebec & Lockwood, Wtl.	20	\$527,815	(\$72,610)	455,205.00	\$413,652	1.00%	\$20,880	\$4,345
06/25/2025	Pleasant St, Wtl.	20	\$1,795,668	(\$224,519)	1,571,149.00	\$1,571,149	1.56%	\$67,545	\$7,898
08/19/2024	Vacuum Truck	10	\$610,087	(\$335,548)	274,539.15	\$219,631	0.00%	\$27,454	\$0
Interim	Summer St, Wtl.	20	\$3,343,208	\$0	3,343,207.99	\$3,343,208	2.00%	\$0	\$0
	TOTAL Debt/Debt Service		\$36,373,477	(\$3,924,974)	\$32,078,503	\$28,373,302		\$1,042,000	\$817,757



MEMO

January 15, 2026

To: Kennebec Water District Board of Trustees

From: Benny LaPlante, Service Manager

Cc: Roger Crouse, General Manager

Subject: Request for authorization to purchase 2026 budgeted Sensus water meters and associated meter reading equipment

Need/Background

Water meters and reading equipment must be replaced prior to end-of-life, and per the Maine Public Utilities Commission (MPUC) Chapter 620 rules. In the past, KWD purchased metering and associated meter reading equipment inventory in batches, due to lack of storage space. The new facility at Drummond Avenue is equipped with the necessary space and equipment to move and store the annual metering and reading equipment inventory.

While these items have been approved in the 2026 operating budget, all purchases exceeding \$15,000 require Board approval per the Procurement Policy. The following is a summary of the metering and meter reading equipment purchase anticipated to be purchased in 2026:

Item Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost
5/8"x3/4" IPERL METER	576	\$171.16	\$98,588.16
5/8"x3/4" ALLY METER	2	\$458.02	\$916.04
3/4" IPERL METER	20	\$171.16	\$3,423.20
3/4" ALLY METER	2	\$502.95	\$1,005.90
3/4" METER GASKET (100pk)	10	\$30.90	\$309.00
1" IPERL METER	15	\$266.53	\$3,997.95
1" ALLY METER	2	\$528.03	\$1,056.06
1" METER GASKET (100pk)	10	\$36.05	\$360.50
1.5" CORDONEL METER	30	\$1,961.13	\$58,833.90
1.5" METER FLANGE GASKET	100	\$1.29	\$128.75
2" CORDONEL METER	35	\$2,030.65	\$71,072.75
2" METER FLANGE GASKET	100	\$1.44	\$144.20
3" METER FLANGE GASKET	20	\$2.32	\$46.35
4" METER FLANGE GASKET	20	\$3.09	\$61.80

6" CORDONEL METER	1	\$7,001.69	\$7,001.69
6" METER FLANGE GASKET	20	\$4.12	\$82.40
MXU SMARTPOINT	270	\$179.88	\$48,567.60
ECR TOUCH PAD	100	\$8.34	\$834.00
IPERL 3-SCREW CONNECTOR	100	\$25.23	\$2,523.00
5/8"x3/4" RESETTER	100	\$297.11	\$29,711.00
			\$328,664.25

Request: I am requesting Board approval to purchase water meters and meter reading equipment in 2026 at the rates and quantities listed above for a total of \$328,664.25.



MEMO

January 15, 2026

To: Kennebec Water District Board of Trustees

From: Matt Zetterman, Engineering Manager; Max Kenney, Senior Project Manager

Cc: Roger Crouse, General Manager

Subject: Request for Approval of West River Road Waterville Water Main Improvements Project Construction with Eastwood Contractor's Inc.

Need/Background:

A 430-ft section of 1971 ductile iron water main on West River Road between Franklin Street and John Avenue in Waterville has experienced seven water main breaks since 2016. Over the past decade we have seen that the pipeline appears to be experiencing rapid corrosion and more emergency repairs are expected at any time.

The Board of Trustees allocated \$500,000 toward the replacement of this section of water main in the 2026 Capital Budget. Based on bid pricing received for the Sanger Avenue & Boutelle Avenue Area Water Main Improvements project (Sanger & Boutelle) bid in April of 2025, KWD's preliminary cost estimate for the project was \$448,000.

In 2025, KWD sought to add this West River Road water main replacement work to the Summer Street Area Water Main Improvement project (Summer Street) which was being completed with Eastwood Contractors Inc. (Eastwood) to utilize remaining contingency funds within the project's DWSRF award. However, the Maine Drinking Water Program ultimately did not allow this additional work because it was outside of the project boundary.

Contractor Selection

Eastwood has agreed to hold their March 2024 Summer Street bid pricing if they are directly awarded the project. Utilizing their low-bid pricing from the Summer Street project, the construction cost estimate for the West River Road work is \$282,715. Note: this cost doesn't include in-house time spent on inspection, administration, and design, as well as the cost of the highway opening impact fee.

There are several significant logistical and financial advantages to considering Eastwood as the low bidder (using the Summer Street project pricing) on the West River Road water main replacement.

- 1) **Quality Contractor.** Through the Summer Street project and the start of the Sanger-Boutelle project, Eastwood has demonstrated a commitment to high quality work and project flexibility.
- 2) **Simplification of Construction Documents.** If the project was a direct award to Eastwood, staff would be able to put together a basic design without a full survey and work in a "design-build" capacity with Eastwood as the project progresses. We are hesitant to trust other potential low-

bid contractors to work in this fashion and would therefore need to develop a detailed set of plans and specifications. This would result in significantly more in-house staff time.

- 3) **Construction Timing.** Eastwood has agreed to complete all work on West River Road prior to any substantial work on the Sanger & Boutelle project. Given limited construction inspection resources, having two simultaneous large-scale construction projects that require full-time inspection creates a challenge for staff and could necessitate hiring third-party inspection services.
- 4) **Low-Bid.** The Summer Street project, although much larger in scope, involved the installation of 12-inch water main. Eastwood was the low bidder on that project and Eastwood has agreed to hold a 12-inch main replacement price of \$255 per linear foot from their Summer Street bid (from two years ago). We have seen a substantial increase in pricing for 12-inch main replacement in more recent project bids. Therefore, a competitive bid process is unlikely to result in a lower construction cost.

Request:

We are requesting Trustee approval to award the West River Road Water Main Improvements project to Eastwood Contractors for a construction cost estimate of \$282,715.00.

Kennebec Water District
West River Road Waterville - Water Main Replacement
Cost Estimate With Eastwood's Summer Street Bid Pricing

Item No.	Item Description	Unit	Estimated Cost/Unit	John Ave to Franklin St 1971 12" Main Only	
				Est Quantity	Bid Price
1	Mobilization & Demobilization	LS	\$ 25,700.00	1	\$ 25,700.00
2	Temporary Water System	LS	\$ 20,000.00	1	\$ 20,000.00
3	Excavation & Replacement of Unsuitable Material	CY	\$ 63.00	15	\$ 945.00
4	Rock Excavation	CY	\$ 350.00	10	\$ 3,500.00
5	Temporary Pavement	SY	\$ 25.00	418	\$ 10,450.00
6	Pavement Repair – City Roads/Driveways	SY	\$ 50.00	62	\$ 3,100.00
7	Pavement Repair - Sidewalks	SY	\$ 55.00	14	\$ 770.00
8	Pavement Repair – State Roads	SY	\$ 90.00	560	\$ 50,400.00
9	Bituminous Concrete Curb Repair	LF	\$ 25.00	20	\$ 500.00
10	Test Pit and Backfill	EA	\$ 4,000.00	1	\$ 4,000.00
11	2" Rigid Insulation	LF	\$ 15.00	27	\$ 400.00
12	8" CLDI Water Main	LF	\$ 255.00	30	\$ 7,650.00
13	12" CLDI Water Main	LF	\$ 255.00	430	\$ 109,650.00
14	8" Restrained Push-On Pipe Gasket	EA	\$ 450.00	2	\$ 900.00
15	12" Restrained Push-On Pipe Gasket	EA	\$ 600.00	2	\$ 1,200.00
16	12" Gate Valve and Valve Box	EA	\$ 6,900.00	4	\$ 27,600.00
17	1" Copper Service Pipe	LF	\$ 120.00	80	\$ 9,600.00
18	1" Curb Stop and Curb Box	EA	\$ 1,100.00	2	\$ 2,200.00
19	1" Corporation Stop and Tap	EA	\$ 1,000.00	2	\$ 2,000.00
20	Pipe Abandonment	LS	\$ 2,150.00	1	\$ 2,150.00
Total Construction Cost Estimate					\$ 282,715.00



**January 15, 2026
Trustee Meeting
General Manager Report**

1. Notable accomplishments/successes since last report (including personnel commendations):

a. N/A

2. Progress report on items presented at the previous Trustee meeting:

a.

3. New or upcoming items of significance:

- a. Included in the 2026 capital budget is the purchase of a forklift for the water treatment plant. Like our purchase of a forklift for 131 Drummond Avenue in 2024, we plan to purchase a used forklift. Consequently, we will not be soliciting quotes or bids for the purchase. We will be evaluating used forklift options over the next several weeks and selecting and purchasing a unit when we determine we have found a forklift meeting our expectations at an appropriate price. As with the 2024 purchase, an after-the-fact approval memo will be presented to the Board for approval. We budgeted \$35,000 for the purchase of the forklift.
- b. The draft 2026 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) funding lists have been published by the Maine CDC Drinking Water Program. KWD applied for funding for four projects. It appears we may only receive funding for one project. Following is a summary of our projects:
 - i. Chase Avenue Pump Station Upgrades - \$1,296,100 – Funding available
 - ii. Design of WTP Modifications for PFAS Mitigation - \$1,313,000 – funding availability in question due to anticipated reduction in DWSRF funding due to Congressionally Directed Spending (aka earmarks).
 - iii. Sunset Heights Area Water Main Improvements Project (Winslow) - \$4,151,100 – on backup list – funding unlikely
 - iv. Fairfield PFAS Water Main Extensions (Phase 1) - \$11,786,000 – funding not available

The disappointing outcome of our funding requests was due in part to the unprecedented number of requests for water treatment projects and the current method Congress has for funding earmark projects (pulling money from other programs rather than direct funding).

- c. The Maine Water Utilities Association Annual Conference will be held on February 4th and 5th in the Augusta Civic Center. More information can be found at: <https://mwua.org/mwua-annual-tradeshaw-conference/>. Robbie Bickford, Benny LaPlante, and I will be making presentations at the conference. Please let me know if you would like me to register you for one or both days.



**January 15, 2026
Trustee Meeting
Monthly Department Reports**

Department: Engineering

Submitted by: Matt Zetterman

1. Notable accomplishments/successes since last report (including personnel commendations):

- a. Transmission Main Right of Way Survey Project – We recently submitted the new transmission main right of way survey to the Kennebec County Registry of Deeds which marks the end of this project. Having this survey documented with the registry of deeds will help provide clarity to landowners on the restrictions in place on their property. The impacted landowners have also all been notified multiple times with letters throughout the project. Our next step is to look at areas where we can cut trees and make other improvements to allow better access to our right of way.
- b. New Computer Solution – Treatment staff recently requested a more efficient solution for remote access. Previous attempts using shared laptops and tablets were cumbersome. Lucas Ramsey, KWD IT Technician, proposed an innovative approach using a portable monitor, keyboard, and mouse connected to staff-issued cellphones. With Samsung’s new DeX platform the end user experience is similar to that of a desktop computer. This solution allows staff to work on devices they are already familiar with and keep them updated through daily use. The success of this approach has led us to explore replacing desktop computers with docking stations connected to cellphones for users with lighter desktop needs.

2. Progress report on items presented at the previous Trustee meeting:

- a. Chase Avenue Pump Station Upgrade Project – We are still waiting on the notice of award, but this project recently made it onto the primary list for SRF funding from the Maine Drinking Water Program. The design is 98% complete and we expect to go out to bid at the end of January so the project can be completed this calendar year.
- b. 2027 Sunset Heights Water Main Improvement Project – We did not make the primary list for SRF funding on this project. We are in the process of evaluating how we want to move forward with this project.
- c. West River Road Water Main Improvement Project – We have been working on locking in pricing for a water main replacement project on West River Road in Waterville with Eastwood Contractors. This 1971, 430 ft section of pipe has had seven main breaks since 2016, and the breaks are both expensive to repair and disruptive. Since Eastwood is also the contractor on our water main project on Sanger Ave and Boutelle Ave in Waterville this year, working with them would allow us to fit both projects in around each other, help avoid the need for third party inspection, and simplify the level of effort put into the design. A memo with a request to move forward with the project will go to the board for the January 15th meeting.

3. New or upcoming items of significance:

N/A



**January 15, 2026
Trustee Meeting
Monthly Department Reports**

Department: Distribution

Submitted by: Jared Bragdon

1. Notable accomplishments/successes since the last report (including personnel commendations):

- a. We had another successful year with our annual year-end inventory audit. While the auditor was onsite, we also discussed a few minor opportunities for improvement. He noted that our team was very organized and that we have strong processes in place for tracking inventory. This was his first time auditing our facility.

2. Progress on items presented in previous monthly department reports:

- a. **Hydrant Checks** –The second round has now been completed, and all inspections are finished. Several dozen hydrants were found to have cap issues, and those problems have since been resolved.
- b. **Internal Inventory Audit** – Conduct a comprehensive review of all inventory items in preparation for the upcoming audit. Complete
- c. **Relocation of Quonset Hut** – The Quonset hut will be moved from the South Street lower yard to Drummond Avenue. This structure will provide covered storage for trailers and trench boxes, protecting them from weather exposure. The added protection will help extend the life of trailer decks, tires, and painted finishes, as well as preserve the steel components of trench boxes. We are now waiting for the new canvas which was ordered January 5, 2026.

3. New or upcoming items of significance:

- a. MWUA tapping competition – We anticipate fielding a team for the tapping competition that will be held at the MWUA annual conference in February.

Main Break Summary:

DATE OF LEAK	LOCATION (STREET)	MUNICIPALITY	PIPE SIZE	PIPE/SERVICE/VALVE INSTALLED DATE	MATERIAL	TYPE OF LEAK
12/1/2025	Bangor Rd @ Libby St	Benton	8"	1973	Ductile Iron (Lined)	2"x2" hole
12/20/2025	10 High St	Fairfield	8"	1993	Ductile Iron (Lined)	8"x3" hole with Longitudinal split
12/20/2025	Robinson St	Fairfield	6"	1930	Cast Iron (unlined)	50" Longitudinal Split
12/20/2025	Woodman Ave	Fairfield	6"	1925	Cast Iron (lined)	3" hole with 3' longitudinal split
1/5/2026	Marie St	Winslow	6"	1960	Cast Iron (Lined)	Circumferential Split
1/8/2026	Cashman St @Robinson St	Fairfield	6"	1930	Cast Iron (Unlined)	4" longitudinal split
1/8/2026	Halifax St	Winslow	8"	1928	Cast Iron (Unlined)	Circumferential Split



**January 15, 2026
Trustee Meeting
Department Reports**

Department: Finance Department

Submitted by: Amy Dyer

1. Notable accomplishments/successes since the last report (including personnel commendations):
 - a. We were approved by the State of Maine to substitute a private Paid Family and Medical Leave (PFML) program through The Hartford in lieu of the public PFML program.
 - b. The new audit firm, Nicholson, Michaud & Nadeau CPAs, were at the office on January 2nd, to audit our inventory. There were no exceptions.
 - c. We have updated all the water billing charge codes to reflect the eight percent rate increase that went into effect on January 1st.
 - d. We recently started paying invoices via ACH payments rather than by paper check. Since October, we have signed up 25 recurring vendors to receive their payments electronically.
 - e. Workers Compensation premium is 28 percent higher than 2025, due to our experience modification rate that rose from 0.74 to 1.15 as well as an increase in estimated payroll. An experience mod is a numerical value used by workers' compensation insurance companies to assess how safe a business is compared to others in its industry. We received an 8 percent credit in the amount of \$3,294 for being a long-time member, having the SHAPE designation and having a *Preferred Provider* and a written *Return to Work* policy. Also included in the estimated contribution is a 15 percent (up from 10 percent in 2025) *Workers Compensation Safety Incentive Program* Tier III credit in the amount of \$5,682.
2. Progress report on items presented at the previous Trustee meeting:
 - a. The auditors continue working on the 2024 audit reports. I have received a draft report, but do not know when we will see the final report.
 - b. The Annual Report for the MPUC is on hold until I have final figures from the audit.
 - c. Tammy Martin-Littlefield and I continue to work on revising the standard operating procedures related to our ACH (Automated Clearing House) payments.
 - d. The creation of W-2s will require additional work to calculate the tax-deductible overtime in accordance with the One Big Beautiful Bill Act.
 - e. We are close to launching an automated phone notification system to notify customers of pending disconnections due to non-payment. Currently, staff make 10 to 60 direct calls per week to notify customers.
 - f. We have been working with Erik Nadeau from Nicholson, Michaud & Nadeau, CPAs on our 2025 year-end audit preparation. I am looking forward to an efficient and timely audit for 2026.
3. New or upcoming items of significance:
 - a. N/A



**January 15, 2026
Trustee Meeting
Monthly Department Report**

Department: Service

Submitted by: Benny LaPlante

1. Notable accomplishments/successes since last report (including personnel commendations):

- a. At the close of 2024, KWD refined its meter replacement process to ensure meters remain in service as close to their life expectancy as possible, without exceeding it. Beginning in 2025, we established a goal to replace 500 meters annually. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of KWD Technicians and Office staff, that target was met by early November. A big thank you and congratulations to the entire team for making this happen!
- b. As of late November, 98.9% of all KWD's active services are equipped with a backflow prevention device, 99% of domestic services and 77% of fire services. Currently, 43 fire services still require the installation of a testable backflow prevention device, and KWD continues working with customers to close that gap.

2. Progress on items presented in previous monthly department reports:

- a. KWD is still awaiting the boiler inspection by Travelers Insurance to complete our Maine Municipal Association – Workers' Compensation Safety Incentive Program: Tier III renewal.
- b. Coordination with staff at the MaineGeneral Thayer Center for Health to replace an old 6" meter continues. This is the last meter in the system requiring manual reading. MaineGeneral maintenance staff are working to verify a shutdown and that their redundant feed will work properly during the shutdown for the work to be completed.

3. New or upcoming items of significance:

- a. Technicians are working to program all meters to read in 1 cubic foot. Not including meters due to be replaced in 2026, there are approximately 800 meters to be programmed. This will greatly improve leak detection capabilities for KWD staff and customers using the KWD Customer Portal.



**January 15, 2026
Trustee Meeting
Department Reports**

Department: Water Quality

Submitted by: Robbie Bickford

1. Notable accomplishments/successes since last report (including personnel commendations):

- a. The China Lake Phase 3 Watershed Restoration Project utilizing DEP Section 319 grant funding has officially ended. This project was very successful at helping to protect China Lake from external nutrient loading and I have attached the final publication outlining the whole project.

2. Progress report on items presented at the previous Trustee meeting:

- a. China Lake (Lake Elevation: 170.1 feet or 17 inches below spillway)
 - i. As winter conditions continue and the ground remains frozen, Comprehensive Land Technologies is preparing to resume harvesting activities on the South Narrows of China Lake. Approximately 25% of the harvest was completed in 2025 with hopes that the remaining 75% will be completed in 2026.
 - ii. The new "No Trespassing" signs, as part of the 2025 MDWP Source Protection Grant Program, have been ordered and are scheduled to be installed around China Lake in late January/early February if ice conditions continue to be favorable.
- b. PFAS Mitigation Project:
 - i. A kickoff meeting to start the 10% design of the "Tier 1" projects outlined in the preliminary engineering evaluation is being scheduled.

3. New or upcoming items of significance:

- a. Water Storage Tank Cleaning and Inspection
 - i. Over the past couple months, we have been working with Greater Augusta Utility District (GAUD) to circulate a Request for Proposals soliciting bids for an area wide water storage tank cleaning and inspection contract. These bids have all been received and are being evaluated. We have partnered with GAUD in hopes of getting more favorable bid pricing.

SPECIAL REPORT: WINTER 2025

CHINA LAKE PHASE 3 WATERSHED RESTORATION PROJECT

Protecting Water Quality by Improving the Watershed

Thanks to a two-year (2024-2025) **Maine DEP 319 Phase 3 grant** for watershed restoration grant, the Kennebec County Soil & Water Conservation District (KCSWCD), working alongside the China Lake Association (CLA), China Region Lakes Alliance (CRLA), Kennebec Water District (KWD), and the towns of China and Vassalboro, has made meaningful strides to protect China Lake. Together, these partners helped install a wide range of conservation practices designed to reduce erosion and keep polluted stormwater out of the lake. The project provided hands-on technical assistance to shoreline landowners, improved gravel roads and driveways, and offered engaging educational workshops and community activities. This work builds on earlier efforts to advance long-term goals outlined in the China Lake Watershed-Based Management Plan- helping ensure a cleaner, healthier lake for generations to come.



Volunteers Sorting Buffer Bundles



Youth Conservation Corps at the Buffer Planting Workshop



Gravel Road Workshop

Funding

A **Federal Clean Water Act Grant** of \$100,068 combined with \$101,071 in local match contributions, resulted in a **total investment of \$201,139** dedicated to restoring water quality in China Lake. Local support played a critical role, including more than \$23,000 in volunteer time and \$51,170.50 in construction-related match contributions.

Accomplishments

- 50 Buffer Bundles installed
- 47 Residential site visits
- 19 Non-residential site visits
- 10 Non-residential projects
- 6 Live stake installations
- 5 Residential projects
- 4 Press releases
- 3 CLA Newsletters
- 2 Live stake demonstrations
- 2 CLA annual meetings
- 1 Gravel road workshop
- 2 Buffer workshops

Non-Residential Projects

1. China Baptist Church (Non-residential)
2. China Four Seasons Club (Private Road)
3. The Cottages at China Lake (Non-residential)
4. Fire Road 43 (Driveway)
5. Fire Road 45 (Private Road)
6. Fire Road 53 (Driveway)
7. Fire Road 61 (Private Road)
8. Fire Road 61A (Driveway)
9. Hawks Nest Court (Drainage)
10. Monument Park (Non-residential)



Live Stake Workshop

319 grant funds **reimburse a property owner** up to 50% for the cost of materials and labor to complete a project. In addition, CLA offered an additional \$500 residential matching grant to landowners completing work in 2025. Cost-share grants ranged from \$411.78 to \$14,000.

Phase 3 Pollution Prevention

China Lake Facts

Watershed Area: 27 sq miles
 Lake Surface area: 3,939 acres
 Max Depth: 92 ft
 Average Depth: 25 ft
 Flushing Rate: 0.64 - 0.68 flushes/yr
 Average Clarity: 12 ft (3.7 m)
 Invasives: None known

BMPs

Best Management Practices (BMPs) are strategies designed to reduce stormwater runoff and prevent soil erosion, nutrients, and other pollutants from washing into China Lake.

Pollutants Reduced

Sediment: 42 tons/yr
 Phosphorus: 34 lbs/yr
 Nitrogen: 89 lbs/yr
 Shoreline Protected: 221 ft

China Lake is on Maine DEP's list of Impaired Lakes

Residential Project



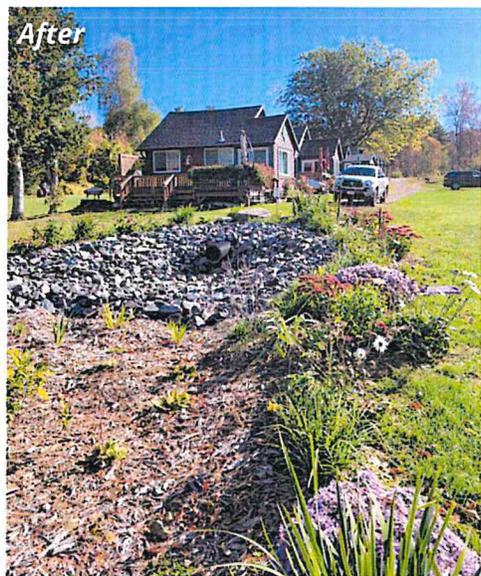
Private Road Project



Driveway Project



Non-Residential Project



Acknowledgments

The China Lake Watershed Restoration Phase 3 Project was sponsored in part by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act. The funding is administered by the Maine DEP in partnership with US EPA. Ecological Instincts served as the consulting project manager for KCSWCD. Other cash and in-kind contributions were provided by KCSWCD, CLA, CRLA, KWD, Kennebec Savings Bank, Maine State Credit Union, and volunteer assistance from the China Lake Steering Committee including representatives from KCSWCD, CLA, CRLA, KWD, the towns of China and Vassalboro, Maine DEP, and local residents. Technical assistance for road and driveway projects was provided by MES. Brochure prepared by Ecological Instincts, December 2025.





MEMO

January 15, 2026

To: Kennebec Water District Board of Trustees
From: Robbie Bickford, Water Quality Manager
Cc: Roger Crouse, P.E., General Manager
Subject: China Lake Continuous Monitoring Buoy Options

Current Lake Water Quality Monitoring

KWD has a long history of monitoring China Lake water quality as part of its ongoing commitment to source water protection. Current monitoring efforts include:

- Biweekly sampling (April-October) at three stations (one in the West Basin and two in the East Basin)
 - Monitoring Parameters: Secchi disk transparency, temperature and dissolved oxygen profiles, total phosphorus, chlorophyll-A, and zooplankton.
- Ongoing collaboration and data sharing with partners such as the MDEP, CLA, CRLA, Maine Lakes, and Lake Stewards of Maine.

These efforts provide valuable seasonal trend data and support large scale planning and collaboration. Likewise, several decades of data is available for comparison providing insight into long-term trends occurring within China Lake.

Continuous Monitoring Buoy

A continuous monitoring buoy is a floating platform with sensors and equipment to generate and record environmental data (e.g. dissolved oxygen, temperature, chlorophyll, etc.). Buoys can include telemetry (e.g. cellular service) to transmit data real-time. Otherwise, the data can be downloaded at the end of the monitoring period when the buoy is removed or at other times during the monitoring period.

The buoy can be equipped with sensors to collect a variety of environmental parameters. However, costs increase for each additional sensor, and the cost of sensors varies. Sensors that record parameters through the depth of the water column (full-profile) can also be purchased. Lake monitoring buoys are generally set in one location rather than being moved to multiple locations during the monitoring period.

The objective of the continuous monitoring buoy should be clearly established before purchasing a buoy (and associated sensors). Continuous monitoring buoys can generate significant amounts of data. If the data is to be used to determine trends or identify water quality risks, the data needs to be analyzed and compared to additional environmental data (e.g. wind speed, direction and duration, amount of precipitation and intensity, air temperature, etc.). This data analysis can require a substantial commitment of time and resources.

Options Overview

Full-Profile Continuous Monitoring Buoy (Comparable to the Portland Water District's buoy on Sebago Lake)

- Capabilities:
 - Temperature and dissolved oxygen profiles at multiple depths
 - Robust dataset suitable for long-term lake health assessment
- Estimated Costs:
 - Capital purchase: ~\$50,000
 - Annual operation & maintenance: ~\$5,000 per year (staff time, servicing, data management)

- Advantages:
 - Highest scientific value
 - Best suited for understanding internal lake dynamics and long-term trends
- Considerations:
 - Higher upfront cost
 - Produces large volumes of data requiring external expertise for full analysis
 - Complex implementation and maintenance

Surface-Only Monitoring Buoy

- Capabilities:
 - Wide variety of sensor options
 - Surface level data only
- Estimated Costs:
 - Purchase option: \$10,000–\$15,000 (depending on sensors selected)
 - Rental option: \$3,000–\$5,000 per year (depending on sensors selected)
 - Year one rental payment can be applied toward purchase if KWD chooses to purchase at end of monitoring season
- Advantages:
 - Lower cost and lower barrier to entry
 - Useful for public communication, trend awareness, and visible stewardship
- Considerations:
 - Limited usefulness for assessing long-term lake health
 - Still generates more data than can be fully analyzed in-house without outside support

Benefits of Continuous Monitoring

Key benefits of continuous monitoring include:

Increased Data Resolution

- Continuous data collection allows for real-time or near-real-time observation of lake water quality
- Provides insight into short-term events such as heat waves, storm runoff, turnover, and stratification that are not captured through biweekly sampling

Public Communication and Transparency

- A visible buoy and publicly shareable data provide a tangible demonstration of KWD's ongoing commitment to China Lake stewardship.
- Offers opportunities for education and outreach with lake residents, partner organizations, and KWD customers

Limitations/Challenges of Continuous Monitoring

Will Not Replace Existing Monitoring

- Installing a continuous monitoring buoy on China Lake could complement but not replace the existing monitoring program.
 - Costs of deploying and operating multiple buoys would likely be prohibitive.
 - Phosphorus analysis needs to be completed in a laboratory. Therefore, the existing sampling regiment for phosphorus would need to continue.

Requires Additional Staff Time

- The implementation of a continuous monitoring buoy will require additional staff resources and/or the cost of hiring a 3rd party to manage the project. The amount of staff time will vary based upon the objectives of the project.

Will Not Provide Data for Operational Decisions

- Data from the continuous monitoring buoy will not impact operational decision at the water treatment plant (nor does the existing water quality monitoring program).

Conclusion

Continuous monitoring offers benefits for understanding China Lake's water quality and enhancing public engagement. However, it requires clear objectives, financial investment, and a commitment to data management and analysis. While a full-profile buoy provides the most comprehensive insights, a surface-only buoy offers a lower-cost entry point for increasing data resolution and demonstrating stewardship.