

Minutes

Technical Committee
Central Iowa Water Works
June 26, 2025
Des Moines Water Works Board Room
2201 George Flagg Parkway
Des Moines, Iowa
4:00 p.m.

Present: Tim Royer (Waukee), Dustin Delvaux (CIWW), Kyle Danley (DMWW), Neil Weiss (Urbandale), Shawn Buckner (Ankeny), Jeff May (Clive), Andy Fish (Warren Water District), Ted Corrigan (DMWW), Lyle Hammes (WDMWW), Royce Hammitt (Xenia), Tami Madsen (CIWW), Ryan Currell (Wixted), Kevin Hensley (Grimes), Matt Greiner (Johnston), Lindsey Wanderscheid (DMWW), Matt Van Wyk (Warren Water District), Christina Murphy (WDMWW), Amy Kahler (DMWW), Melissa Walker (DMWW)

ITEM 1: Call to Order

Chair Kyle Danley called the meeting to order at 4:01p.m.

ITEM 2: Roll Call

ITEM 3: Stage III Update

Kyle Danley provided the committee with an update on nitrates. Nitrates reported in the morning were 6.4 mg/L on the Raccoon River and 14 mg/L on the Des Moines River. Nitrates on the Raccoon River are now higher this afternoon than this morning. Given these levels, Des Moines Water Works could use 100% of the Fleur Drive Treatment plant if necessary. These lower nitrate numbers are temporary as a result of dilution from the recent rain. The Fleur Treatment Plant finished water is 7.81 mg/L which is higher than the Raccoon River because they are continuing to pull water from the Gallery.

The Des Moines River dropped 2 mg/L and then came right back up and the Raccoon River at Van Meter showed nitrates dropping to zero and then rising back up to 10 mg/L by the afternoon.

ITEM 4: Other Business

Tami Madsen has been receiving emails from legislators and city councils about destroying the sod industry and putting people on unemployment.

Tami Madsen advised the committee that CIWW is continuing to talk about allowing sod watering but not everything else. Allowing people to resume water could be tiered by sod, residential lawn watering, commercial lawn watering, and finally city watering. This is necessary so that the system doesn't

become overwhelmed by the sudden increase in watering that would happen if CIWW went straight from Stage III to Stage II.

Christina Murphy added that once residential and commercial are allowed to water again they would require even/odd schedule. To move toward allowing residential lawn watering one of the water sources needs to be at 10 mg/L and on a downward trend which is not happening right now.

Kyle Danley shared historical trends. 2013 was record setting for nitrates in the source water which came after several years of low nitrates due to drought conditions in 2012. There were then higher nitrates on Raccoon River throughout July (above 10) back in 2013 meaning that it could be above 10 for another month in 2025. Before the heavy rain this week the nitrates were dropping. Now the rain is making it somewhat unpredictable. He agreed with Tami on needing a multi staged approach because he doesn't want the plants to get overwhelmed with everyone turning water on all at once.

Jeff May inquired about enforceability. He wanted to know if irrigation of residential or commercial uses more water. He also believes the message would be confusing if CIWW says laying sod and watering it is ok but then fining those who are commercially and residentially watering their lawns.

There is not much of a way to enforce it. Residential lawn watering was assumed to require more capacity.

Matt Greiner would like to know if CIWW can message it in a way that shows if residential water is turned back on the effect it would have on capacity.

Tami Madsen agreed that a visual representation of that would be beneficial, and she will work with AE2S on coming up with some calculations. She reminded the committee that we are a long way away from residential lawn watering.

Kyle Danley asked about implementing the sod portion of the plan.

Tami said it could be ready to go Monday if necessary.

ITEM 5: Adjourn

Chair Danley adjourned the meeting 4:38 p.m.