DRAFT

BUFFALO WATER BOARD MINUTES
OCTOBER 14, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT:
William Sunderlin
Bill Hanley
Tim Donovan (remotely)
Debbie Lombardo
Scott Billman

OTHERS PRESENT:
Peter J. Merlo
John D. McMahon
Fouad Arab
David Hill
Doug Fultz
Charlie Martorana
Bill Ferguson
Stephen Waldvogel
Damon Sykes
Ahmed Giwa
Dustin Steiner
Zac Cox
Mike Wolasz
Damond Rand
Pat Thornton
Matthew Adam
Jeff Mays
Sean McLouglin
Roger Lis
Eric Machin

The regular monthly meeting of the Buffalo Water Board (BWB) was called to order at 9:00 A.M.

1. Motion by Ms. Lombardo, seconded by Mr. Billman, to approve the agenda. Approved.

2. Motion by Mr. Hanley, seconded by Ms. Lombardo, to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2026, meeting. Approved.

3. Public Comment: After the Vice Chair offered an opportunity for public comments, no comments were received.

4. Staff Update: Mr. Mays, with Veolia Water provided a staffing update to the Buffalo Water Board. One Account Clerk Typist and one General Mechanic have recently been hired.

5. Motion made by Mr. Billman, seconded by Ms. Lombardo, to authorize and fund an increase for services as part of the Management Agreement dated as of July 1, 2020, with Veolia Water, specifically the Spoils Limit Account CY17 in an amount not-to-exceed $150,000.00, bringing the total allocation to $200,000 to extend through June 30, 2027. These projects and services will continue to be administered by the City of Buffalo, Division of Water, as part of the Management Agreement with Veolia Water. Approved.

6. Mr. Waldvogel of GHD Consulting Services, Inc. delivered a report of GHD's on-going professional services to assist the Buffalo Water Board on several projects, including: (a) GHD has been working on Buffalo Water Board financial stability, focusing on revenue collections, with emphasis on large accounts including the Marine Drive apartments, the Erie County Water Authority (ECWA) and the Buffalo Sewer Authority (BSA). GHD is also working with the City of Buffalo Commissioner of Assessment and Taxation to coordinate with the annual the In-Rem Tax process. GHD is also studying more effective enforcement options to address large

commercial properties and to inform the public that the Buffalo Water Board will engage in enhanced enforcement; (b) GHD is working with the City of Buffalo to improve staffing issues and plans to provide the Buffalo Water Board with recommendations in the upcoming months; (c) GHD in coordination with Veolia Water, has assisted the Buffalo Water Board to submit a major grant application to the NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation to help fund its Lead Line Water Service Replacement Program. GHD reported that the State has indicated that additional grant funds may become available and will monitor for additional information to be released about the application process for State funding; (d) GHD is continuing to assist the Buffalo Water Board, in coordination with the City of Buffalo and Veolia Water to develop a Lead and Copper Rule Improvements (LCRI) Compliance Draft Policy; (e) GHD is continuing to provide engineering and oversight services at Colonel Ward Treatment Facility, for among other matters, the electrical upgrades at the Colonel Ward Water Treatment Facility. GHD continues to participate in weekly contractor meetings for development of the Ralph C. Wilson Centennial Park.

7. Mr. Hill of Veolia Water presented Veolia Water's monthly Management Report. Mr. Hill reported that Veolia Water is initially planning to replace three to five large meters at the BSA to test and ensure accuracy. Depending on initial test results, the meter testing and replacement program at the BSA will be expanded. Veolia Water is also studying residential meters to confirm the accuracy of the data Veolia Water is also investigating better use of the Promise Pay data on a platform that can be tested and provide better information, with capabilities provided by the Invoice Cloud platform.

   Mr. Hill reported that the Erie County Department of Health and New York State Department of Health performed routine sanitary surveys of the Colonel Ward Water Treatment Facility on September 10, 2026. The Health Department survey went well with no violations or adverse findings. Veolia Water hosted a statewide water treatment plant operator symposium at the Colonel Ward Water Treatment Facility on September 16, 2026 for a conference and tour.

   Mr. Hill reported that as of the end of September 2026, 2,494 customers were enrolled in the Residential Affordable Water Program (RAWP), and 3,842 customers were enrolled in the Senior Discount Program, and received the benefits allowed by each Buffalo Water Board program. Mr. Hill reported that 304 customers are currently enrolled in a payment plan originated by Promise Pay and 2,736 customers are currently enrolled in a payment plan originated by Buffalo Water. Mr. Hill reported that $5.82 million in revenue was received in September 2026 as compared to budgeted estimates of $5.94 million for the same period. Mr. Hill attributed the improvement in collections to heightened communication with customers regarding accounts in arrears and potential for enforcement measures, including service disconnections. He also reported a notable increase in customers enrolling in affordability programs and payment plans.

   Motion by Mr. Hanley, seconded by Mr. Billman to adjourn at 9:34 A.M. Approved.

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The Buffalo Water Board members and staff will be present in person at the next meeting, which is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18, 2026, at 9:00 A.M.

Buffalo Water Board meetings are held in accordance with the New York State Open Meetings Law, Article 7 of the Public Officers' Law. The agenda will be posted on www.Buffalowater.org in advance of the meeting and will provide time for public comment. The public are invited to attend in person or by remote video and audio conference. A computer access "MS Teams"

link and a Toll-Free Conference Call Telephone Number will be provided in advance of the meeting. See www.Buffalowater.org or call 716-851-9626 for more information.