METRO WATER RECOVERY

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors

July 21, 2026

The Board of Directors of Metro Water Recovery, in the Counties of Adams, Arapahoe, Douglas, Jefferson, and Weld, and the City and County of Denver, State of Colorado, met in regular session at 6450 York Street, Denver, Colorado, Tuesday, July 21, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the Boardroom.

Chair Niyork called the meeting to order.

1. OATH OF OFFICE

The following Director has been appointed by her Member Municipality to complete a two-year term of office expiring June 30, 2028.

Appointed Director	**Member Municipality**
Jo Ann Rossi	City of Fort Lupton

The following Directors have been reappointed by their Member Municipality for a two-year term of office expiring June 30, 2028.

Reappointed Director	**Member Municipality**
Curt Aldstadt	City of Westminster
Craig Kocian	City of Arvada
Laura Kroeger	City Lakewood

2. ROLL CALL

Secretary Smith called the roll.

Officers Present:

Sarah Niyork, South Adams	Chair
Marena Lertch, Aurora	Chair Pro Tem
Del Smith, Bancroft-Clover	Secretary
Janet Kieler, Denver	Treasurer

Directors Present:

Curt Aldstadt, Westminster	Marty Majors, Fruitdale*
Mike Barrett, Crestview	George Mazzotti, North Washington Street
Cody Berg, Applewood*	Jamie Miller, North Table Mountain*
Clint Blackhurst, Brighton	Cat Olukotun, Aurora*
Travis Bogan, Denver*	Jason O'Shea, Thornton*
Nadine Caldwell, Aurora	Jo Ann Rossi, Fort Lupton
Deborah Crisp, East Lakewood	Peter Spanberger, Denver
Clark Davenport, Northwest Lakewood	Bud Starker, Wheat Ridge
James DeHerrera, Aurora	Mary Beth Susman, Denver*
Lee Jones, Berkeley	Dennis Towndrow, North Pecos*
Joan Iler, Westridge	Dominic Vessa, Arvada*

Laura Kroeger, Lakewood	Jennifer Williams, Denver
Bob LeGare, Aurora	Ronald Younger, Denver

Directors Absent:

Jolon Clark, Denver	Josh Redman, Thornton
Mary Gearhart, Denver	Greg Sekera, Lakewood
Craig Kocian, Arvada	Johnny Watson, Aurora

Others Present:

Mickey Conway	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Liam Cavanaugh	Chief Operating Officer
Molly Kostelecky*	Chief Financial Officer
Erik Burggraf	Associate Attorney
Betsy Jarvis	Senior Administrative Assistant
Yvonne Kohlmeier	Executive Assistant
Lydia Nkem	Assistant to the CEO
Brittany Peshek*	Legal Administrator

*Attended virtually

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no comment.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

4.a Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting on June 16, 2026

Chair Niyork asked if there were any corrections, deletions, or additions to the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors held June 16, 2026.

Director Kroeger moved and Director DeHerrera seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors held June 16, 2026.

The motion carried unanimously.

5. PROGRESS AND PROJECTION REPORTS

5.a Report by CEO

CEO Conway reviewed his written report, highlighting the Meet the Directors featuring Directors Crisp and O'Shea, Metro Water Recovery's hosting of a per- and polyfluoroalkyl substance (PFAS) discussion with Congressman Gabe Evans, and the impact of Metro's sponsorship program. Mr. Conway remarked the upcoming September 21, 2026 New Director Orientation is for new Directors and also a refresher for other Directors.

CEO Conway answered questions on the sponsorship program.

5.b Report by Chief Legal Officer

There was none.

6. REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

6.a Meeting Minutes

There were no additions to the following meeting minutes:

Operations Committee	July 7, 2026
Finance Committee	July 9, 2026
Executive Committee	July 14, 2026

7. NEW BUSINESS

<u>Consent Agenda</u>

7.a **Consideration of 2027 Sewer Connection Charge**

Director Barrett moved and Director Crisp seconded the motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Metro Water Recovery, hereinafter referred to as “Metro,” has established a Sewer Connection Charge (SCC); and

WHEREAS, Section 509 of the *Sewage Treatment and Disposal Agreement* (*Service Contract*) between Metro and its Member Municipalities, and Section 507 of the *Special Connector Agreement* between Metro and its Special Connectors, provide the SCC may be changed by resolution duly enacted by action of Metro’s Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary the SCC be established for 2027 for each Single Family Residential Equivalent (SFRE) and such charge to be effective January 1, 2027; and

WHEREAS, based on the Board’s current buy-in methodology, Metro staff recommends increasing the SCC from $6,070 to $6,290 for 2027; and

WHEREAS, the Operations and Finance committees, after having reviewed the matter, recommend adopting a SCC of $6,290 per SFRE for 2027; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee, after having reviewed the matter, concurs in the recommendation of the other committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Metro’s Sewer Connection Charge be and hereby is increased to $6,290 for each Single Family Residential Equivalent, effective January 1, 2027.

The motion carried unanimously.

7.b Consideration of 2027 Large-User Exception Capital Investment Fractions

Director Barrett moved and Director Crisp seconded the motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Metro Water Recovery hereinafter referred to as “Metro,” has established a Sewer Connection Charge (SCC) and a Large-User Exception to the SCC; and

WHEREAS, Section 509 of the *Sewage Treatment and Disposal Agreement* (*Service Contract*) between Metro and its Member Municipalities, and Section 507 of the *Special Connectors Agreement* between Metro and its Special Connectors, provide for adoption of an SCC and implementation of a Large-User Exception; and

WHEREAS, the Service Contract and Section 7.5.1 of the *Metro Water Recovery Rules and Regulations Governing Operation, Use, and Services of the System* provide for reviewing the Large-User Exception Capital Investment Fractions annually; and

WHEREAS, Metro staff recommends adopting the Large-User Capital Investment Fractions for 2027; and

WHEREAS, the Operations and Finance committees, after having reviewed the matter, recommend adopting the Large-User Capital Investment Fractions for 2027; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee, after having reviewed the matter, concurs in the recommendation of the other committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Capital Investment Fractions for flows and loadings used to calculate Metro’s Sewer Connection Charges for a Large User, effective January 1, 2027, be and hereby are adopted as follows:

Annual Flow	=	0.5743
Biochemical Oxygen Demand	=	0.1373
Suspended Solids	=	0.1867
Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen	=	0.1017

The motion carried unanimously.

7.c Consideration of 2027 Reactivation Charge

Director Barrett moved and Director Crisp seconded the motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Metro Water Recovery, hereinafter referred to as “Metro,” has established a Reactivation Charge to reactivate an inactive connection to the Metro System; and

WHEREAS, Section 7.6.3 of the *Metro Water Recovery Rules and Regulations Governing Operation, Use, and Services of the System* (*Rules and Regulations*) provides the Reactivation Charge shall be set by the Board of Directors and may be adjusted from time to time by resolution of the Board in accordance with the approved methodology; and

WHEREAS, it is necessary the Reactivation Charge be established for 2027; and

WHEREAS, the methodology approved by the Board for calculating the Reactivation Charge and the historic practice of rounding to the nearest $5 results in a Reactivation Charge for the year 2027 of $170 per Single Family Residential Equivalent (SFRE) for each year beyond ten years that a connection has been inactive as defined by Metro's *Rules and Regulations*; and

WHEREAS, the Operations and Finance committees, after having reviewed the matter, recommend adopting a Reactivation Charge for 2027 of $170 per SFRE; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee, after having reviewed the matter, concurs in the recommendation of the other committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Reactivation Charge for 2027 be and hereby is established at $170 per Single Family Residential Equivalent for each year beyond ten years that a connection has been inactive as defined by the *Metro Water Recovery Rules and Regulations Governing Operation, Use, and Services of the System*.

The motion carried unanimously.

7.d Consideration of an Extension of the Allied Universal Security Services Contract

Director Barrett moved and Director Crisp seconded the motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Metro Water Recovery, hereinafter referred to as "Metro," to enter into an extension of the agreement for security services; and

WHEREAS, utilizing a security services vendor is a key to ensuring physical security, safety, and operational efficiency of Metro's critical wastewater treatment facilities and assets; and

WHEREAS, Metro's contract with Allied Universal Security (AUS) expires on August 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Metro staff is currently engaged in an active solicitation for security services and desires an additional four months for analysis, interviews, and vendor selection; and

WHEREAS, the Operations and Finance committees, after having reviewed the matter, recommend authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to extend the agreement with AUS to provide security services; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee, after having reviewed the matter, concurs in the recommendation of the other committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to extend the agreement for four months with Allied Universal Security to provide security services.

Directors commented that this is a scary realty and CEO Conway mentioned the recent firewall cyber attack at Metro Water Recovery which the Information Technology Department was able to quickly identify and stop.

The motion carried unanimously.

Roll Call Agenda

7.e Consideration of Cybersecurity Extended Detection and Response Services Contract

Director Caldwell moved and Director Davenport seconded the motion to adopt the following resolution:

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of Metro Water Recovery, hereinafter referred to as “Metro,” to enter into a one-year agreement for cybersecurity extended detection and response services; and

WHEREAS, as cybersecurity attacks continue to evolve, change, and become more sophisticated, Metro is required to continue to evolve and add resources to address these threats to ensure continued operations; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Metro’s *Purchasing and Contracts Policy*, Metro technical staff evaluated proposals from a short-list of eight qualified vendors to provide cybersecurity extended detection and response services, and Pellera Technologies was selected; and

WHEREAS, Metro staff has negotiated an agreement with Pellera Technologies to provide cybersecurity extended detection and response services in a not-to-exceed amount of $1,250,000 over five years, with an anticipated annual expenditure of $250,000; and

WHEREAS, the Operations and Finance committees, after having reviewed the matter, recommend authorizing the Chief Executive Officer to enter into an initial one-year agreement with Pellera Technologies to provide cybersecurity extended detection and response services, with up to four additional one-year renewal periods not to exceed five years in total and $1,250,000 in the aggregate, if determined by the Chief Executive Officer to be in the best interest of Metro; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Committee, after having reviewed the matter, concurs in the recommendation of the other committees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to enter into an initial one-year agreement with Pellera Technologies to provide cybersecurity extended detection and response services, in an aggregate not-to-exceed amount of $1,250,000 over five years; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Chief Executive Officer be and hereby is authorized to enter into up to four additional one-year renewal periods, not to exceed five years in total, if it is determined by the Chief Executive Officer to be in the best interest of Metro.

Chair Niyork called for a roll call vote which carried with 30 Directors voting Yes:

Curt Aldstadt	Lee Jones	Jason O'Shea
Mike Barrett	Janet Kieler	Jo Ann Rossi
Cody Berg	Laura Kroeger	Del Smith
Clint Blackhurst	Bob LeGare	Peter Spanberger
Travis Bogan	Marena Lertch	Bud Starker
Nadine Caldwell	Martin Majors	Mary Beth Susman
Deborah Crisp	George Mazzotti	Dennis Towndrow
Clark Davenport	Jamie Miller	Dominic Vessa
James DeHerrera	Sarah Niyork	Jennifer Williams
Joan Iler	Cat Olukotun	Ronald Younger

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

8.a Election of Officers per Metro Water Recovery Bylaws

Director Aldstadt moved and Director Mazzotti seconded the motion to elect the slate of Officers recommended by the Nominating Committee.

Chair Niyork reviewed the slate of Officers recommended by the Nominating Committee at the June 16, 2026 Board of Directors meeting for the upcoming term of office:

Marena Lertch	Chair of the Board	City of Aurora
Del Smith	Chair Pro Tem	Bancroft-Clover Water and Sanitation District
Janet Kieler	Secretary	City and County of Denver
Josh Redman	Treasurer	City of Thornton

Chair Niyork thanked the Directors who served on the Nominating Committee and asked if any Directors wished to make nominations from the floor for any Officer positions; one Director indicated an intent to make a nomination.

There were no other nominations for the Office of Treasurer and Chair Niyork closed the nomination. By majority vote Director Redman was elected Treasurer of the Board of Directors.

There were no other nominations for the Office of Secretary and Chair Niyork closed the nomination. By majority vote Director Kieler was elected Secretary of the Board of Directors.

There were no other nominations for the Office of Chair Pro Tem and Chair Niyork closed the nomination. By majority vote Director Smith was elected Chair Pro Tem of the Board of Directors.

Director Barrett nominated Director Mazzotti for Chair of the Board and Chair Niyork closed the nomination.

Metro Water Recovery staff administered the secret ballot process for the contested office of Chair of the Board and votes were tallied by CEO Conway and Ms. Nkem. By majority vote, Director Lertch was elected as Chair of the Board of Directors.

This motion is memorialized in the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Bylaws of Metro Water Recovery ("Bylaws") require the Board of Directors of Metro Water Recovery ("Metro") to elect Officers annually at the regular Board meeting held in July; and

WHEREAS, the Board has conducted such election and hereby memorializes that the following Board Members have been elected as Officers for the 2026–2027 term:

Marena Lertch	Chair of the Board
Del Smith	Chair Pro Tem
Janet Kieler	Secretary
Josh Redman	Treasurer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of Metro Water Recovery hereby confirms and memorializes the election of the above-named Officers for the 2026–2027 term.

9. DIRECTOR RECOGNITION

Chair Lertch thanked the Board for its vote of confidence and stated she is looking forward to serving as the Chair of the Board. Chair Lertch acknowledged outgoing Chair Niyork for her two years of service, highlighting her major accomplishments achieved, numerous engagement opportunities representing the full Board with Metro Water Recovery staff at key events, participation in community engagement reaching multiple audiences, including the federal level, and celebration of Metro’s successes.

10. INDIVIDUAL DIRECTOR COMMENTS

CEO Conway expressed appreciation for working with Director Niyork, noting the impact she had on Metro Water Recovery during her tenure as Board Chair and thanked her for making the past two years successful, interesting, and fun despite tackling some important issues.

Director Miller expressed gratitude for Director Niyork’s time, effort, and growth over the past two years.

Director Smith appreciated Director Niyork's inquisitive mind.

Director Susman thanked Director Niyork for her mentorship.

Director Kroeger remarked on Director Niyork’s grace as a leader and her collaboration skills.

Director LeGare stated he enjoyed watching Director Niyork grow as Board Chair and become more comfortable in her role during the past two years.

Director Niyork thanked the Board for their support, knowledge, and assistance during her time as Board Chair. She also appreciated Metro Water Recovery staff for always being available when she needed anything and for the amazing experience.

11. OTHER INFORMATION

There was none.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Lertch adjourned the meeting at 6:09 p.m.

MC:lmn\yjk

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
July 21, 2026

(SEAL)

____
Chair

ATTEST:

____
Secretary