



Marion Utilities

1540 N Washington St.
Marion, IN 46952
www.marionutilities.com

Service Board

BOARD MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 20, 2026 MEETING

The Marion Utility Service Board held their meeting on Thursday, August 20, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. in the L.E.A.D. Center, Building 101, at Marion Utilities, 1540 N. Washington Street, Marion, Indiana.

Roll was called and those board members present were: Kristy Barney, Larry Batchelor, Justin Faw, Isaiah Fuller, Mike Graft, Al Green, Jayda Monteiro.

Also present at the meeting were: Robin Shrader, Director; Pat Pinkerton, Assistant Director of External Operations; Chad Guyer, Assistant Director of Internal Operations; Kyle Persinger, Attorney; Tiffany Snyder, Accounting Billing Coordinator; Misty Humphries, Secretary; Jessica Barnett; Robert Barnett; Ebony Davis; and Eric Peters.

CONSIDERATION OF AGENDA ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS

There were none.

ELECTION OF 2026 CHAIRPERSON

Mr. Graft nominated and moved to elect Kristy Barney as Chairperson for the remainder of the 2026 term. Reverend Green seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The votes were as follows: Dr. Batchelor, yes; Mr. Faw, yes; Mr. Graft, yes; Reverend Green, yes; Dr. Monteiro, yes. Motion carried. Ms. Barney accepted and thanked the board for the nomination. She then appointed Reverend Green to serve as the Vice Chairperson for the remainder of the 2026 term. (Mr. Fuller had not yet arrived for the vote.)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Graft moved, seconded by Reverend Green, to approve the minutes of the July 30, 2026 meeting. A roll call vote was taken. The votes were as follows: Dr. Batchelor, yes; Mr. Faw, yes; Mr. Graft, yes; Reverend Green, yes; Dr. Monteiro, yes; and Ms. Barney, yes. Motion carried.

FINANCIALS

Mrs. Snyder presented the July, 2026 financials. Mrs. Snyder reported that sales were steady. All utilities were above or in line with prior years. The Water sales increased over last June as expected after the January 1st rate increase. Mrs. Snyder then discussed insurance costs. She said the liability insurance cost was much lower in June. A refund was received from the large annual payment made in May. As for sewer, expenses decreased overall mainly due to lower insurance, chemical, and electrical costs. Mrs. Snyder said that sewer did have some additional maintenance and software expenses in the month. Water continues to feel the financial position. The \$1.8 million loan from sewer is being held in the Water Operating fund. Mrs. Snyder reminded the Board that without the loan, the operating balance would be \$293,000. Mrs. Snyder recapped that the Board had previously approved to gradually increase the required reserve balances for each of the utilities. She explained that this would be done over time rather than creating a large financial impact all at once. As the recommended balances are



reached, excess funds can be moved into Depreciation funds, which will help achieve our goal to make sure each utility has adequate funds for future needs. Mrs. Snyder then reminded the Board that the sewer bond received in December 2025 for \$10.5 million was specifically for the Long Term Control Plan and was held in the restricted account known as the Sewer Construction fund for those project costs. Mrs. Snyder summarized that Water and Stormwater ended the month with a gain while Sewer and Solid Waste had losses largely related to the planned bond payments, project costs, and the Solid Waste loan repayment to Stormwater of \$260,000. Overall, June showed healthy sales, lower expenses in several areas, and continued progress toward strengthening reserves and the financial position. Dr. Monteiro moved, seconded by Reverend Green, to approve the June financials. A roll call vote was taken. The votes were as follows: Dr. Batchelor, yes; Mr. Faw, yes; Mr. Fuller, yes; Mr. Graft, yes; Reverend Green, yes; Dr. Monteiro, yes; and Ms. Barney, yes. Motion carried unanimously.

UPDATE ON PROJECTS

Mr. Pinkerton reported that the biggest project was the 20th & Clark Street CSO 009. Excavation had not started yet as the contractor was waiting on manhole covers to be made and delivered. Those should arrive next week. Mr. Pinkerton stated that beginning on Tuesday, the contractor was going to drop the dewatering wells so that when excavation begins, they can pump the groundwater out and manage it. Mr. Pinkerton said that it's starting to pick up slowly, and then in the next few weeks, we should see a lot of dirt flying out there.

TRANSFERS & PAY REQUESTS

There were no transfer or pay requests.

QUOTE APPROVAL IVANHOE STORM SEWER

Mr. Pinkerton recalled that quotes went out for Ivanhoe Drive storm sewer. Several pictures in the slides depicted the area from earlier in the year before the larger rains were received. Mr. Pinkerton explained that the route in red was the proposed route for running the storm sewer and putting the inlets in on Ivanhoe Drive. Mr. Pinkerton said the water does drain. It takes a long time to work down Ivanhoe so this would speed things up for them a little bit. Quotes were sought from three contractors. Bragg Excavating quoted \$118,684; Keith Sullivan quoted \$103,298; and Dave's Excavating squeaked in a little lower at \$103,257.53. Mr. Pinkerton recommending the project to the low quoter Dave's Excavating. Mr. Pinkerton said that this project was not budgeted this year, but with the loan repayment from Solid Waste to Stormwater, there is money to cover it. At the end of the year, we'll have to have a budget increase to balance everything out. Cash wise, Mr. Pinkerton said the Utility was good and could cover the project. Mr. Graft asked on the 462 linear feet of 8" PVC pipe with bedding would there be such a large difference in price? Mr. Pinkerton said it depends on where they are putting their costs and getting their backfill and bedding from in a lot of cases. Mr. Pinkerton said for 37 years, he's not been able to make a whole lot of sense out of contractors' costs and how they work them in. But typically, if somebody is sitting at \$93.55 per foot, they would not be the low bid overall. Mr. Pinkerton said the difference was made up on the 48" manholes. Mr. Graft moved, seconded by Reverend Green, to approve the quote submitted by Dave's Excavating. A roll call vote was taken. The votes were as follows: Dr. Batchelor, yes; Mr. Faw, yes; Mr. Fuller, yes; Mr. Graft, yes; Reverend Green, yes; Dr. Monteiro, yes; and Ms. Barney, yes. Motion carried unanimously.

MARION UTILITY SERVICE BOARD MEMBERS

MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS (4-YEAR TERMS)

Al Green (7/2023-7/2027) Isaiah Fuller (7/2024-7/2028)
Jayda Monteiro (7/2025-7/2029) Larry Batchelor (7/2026-7/2030)

CITY COUNCIL APPOINTMENT (4-YEAR TERMS)

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BOARD ATTORNEY

Kyle Persinger

HIGH SCHOOL TANK WEATHER CAMERA

Mrs. Shrader said this was an unusual request. Mrs. Shrader asked the Board if they were familiar with Ryan Hall, Y'all on YouTube. Mr. Graft said he was one of the most accurate weather channels out there. Mrs. Shrader explained for those that hadn't heard of him, that Ryan Hall hosts a channel on YouTube called Ryan Hall, Y'all which is also his tagline. Mrs. Shrader said Mr. Hall does a good job of providing weather information. He'll give periodic updates when big things are coming, but then he'll also go live when there are massive storms occurring. She said last week, we were the focus of a lot of attention in Indiana because of the storms that were occurring here. He has weather cameras that he voluntarily places all over the United States, but he is located in southeastern Kentucky. Mrs. Shrader said if someone volunteers to host a camera site, he will take care of the equipment, and then he will provide the installation for it. Basically, he just needs somewhere to plug it in, so a power source. Mrs. Shrader reached out to him and explained that we have several water towers that overlook the flatlands here in Indiana that provide views for quite a distance as well as a taller Water Administration building. Mr. Hall is interested in installing a camera here. Mrs. Shrader said because we are a public entity and we belong to the folks, that's your decision, not mine. Mrs. Shrader said she wanted to ask the Board's permission for him to install a camera. It's a few minutes of our time in communicating with him, but there's no expectation or liability on our part. It's his camera. It's his equipment. If we were to have an event in our area, there's a good chance we would end up on his broadcast at least panning from the camera that he's got installed here, because there are very few, if any, in the central Indiana area that he has. Ms. Barney asked if he would have to have electricity and who would pay for the electricity. Mrs. Shrader said electricity would be needed, but it's a small camera that would have minimal costs. Mrs. Shrader compared it to plugging in a cell phone for charging. Mr. Graft said he would assume Mr. Hall has a secondary app that can be downloaded, and he may even offer that to us in exchange for that usage. Mr. Graft tracks with this guy, and he's definitely worth following. Mrs. Shrader agreed and added that especially when some of these larger storms have rolled through. Mrs. Shrader remarked that Mr. Hall has folks on the ground, and then he taps into these cameras that he has, as well as public access cameras that might be like interstate cameras, that sort of thing, to help broadcast. Dr. Monteiro asked if Mr. Hall owns the footage. Mrs. Shrader answered yes, but she thought it was just a live feed when clicked on. She also clarified that it would be separate from our network. Our IT Coordinator, has been looking at the security situation, and he has his own internet connection that is separate. This would prevent someone from accessing our system through the camera. Mrs. Shrader said we are basically providing a place for him to put it. Dr. Monteiro asked what the benefit was for us to see his live feed of what's happening with the weather. Mrs. Shrader said should we get a tornado warning here and he's live, chances are he's going to show that feed which we could benefit from. Mr. Graft said even if we don't, if you choose not to, I would suggest that there's Bam on the internet. These guys are right more than they're wrong. Mr. Graft didn't know what they are doing different, but they are right. Dr. Monteiro asked if could we have access to the camera in case if Mr. Hall were going live somewhere else. Mr. Graft said it was a live feed or app, if we subscribe to it, we will see the camera footage. However, Mr. Hall also offers a premium package that goes into more in depth. Mr. Graft continued that if Mr. Hall is willing to give us that, it might be something to look at so that the guys out in the street can better be prepared for what's happening. Mrs. Shrader said that there had not been discussion about that, but she was happy to ask Mr. Hall as he's been good to talk to. Mr. Fuller asked if there was a preference for the camera location. Mrs. Shrader said the Water Administration Building would

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be the easiest, but none of the water tanks were an issue either. If Mrs. Shrader had to guess, the High School tank and Butler Street tanks were her first guesses because they have the larger span, but a preference had not been confirmed. Mr. Graft moved, seconded by Reverend Green, to approve the placement of a weather camera. A roll call vote was taken. The votes were as follows: Dr. Batchelor, yes; Mr. Faw, yes; Mr. Fuller, yes; Mr. Graft, yes; Reverend Green, yes; Dr. Monteiro, yes; and Ms. Barney, yes. Motion carried unanimously.

SENIOR LEADERSHIP REPORTS

M. Humphries, Assistant Director of Administration

Mrs. Humphries said welcome to the new Board members. She explained that part of her position is to serve as the Board's Secretary. Mrs. Humphries asked the Board to reach out to her, should they have any questions or receive any questions. She said that she was also the Board's contact should they have any questions from customers. Mrs. Humphries then stated that the safety, communications, accounting and billing, human resources, administrative, and customer service workgroups were the teams that she works directly with. Each month, Mrs. Humphries will bring the Board news about at least one of those workgroups if not more. This month, Mrs. Humphries let the Board know that our Communications Specialist, Sherry Loshnowsky, was beginning to work on the quarterly newsletter. With that, Mrs. Loshnowsky would be reaching out to each member via email with a few questions as she was going to include a meet the Marion Utility Service Board piece in the newsletter.

P. Pinkerton, Assistant Director of External Operations

Mr. Pinkerton reported that it had been a little busy over the last two weeks. He reminisced that back in the 1990s when we had just taken over Stormwater, we would get 1-1.5" of heavy rain in a day, and 60 phone calls in a one day period for drainage complaints would come in. Starting nine days ago, we got over three inches the first day, and over the last nine days, we've had over nine inches of rain. Mr. Pinkerton said the last tally he had on complaint calls was only 40 complaint calls over the last nine days. There's been a lot of improvements over the last 20-some years. That being said, there are still some areas that need some work. Mr. Pinkerton said that there would be some review of areas. Specifically, taking a look at what can be done better at 40th & Harrison, 45th & Landis, and 10th & New Jersey. The areas in West Marion that will be reviewed are west of Miller between 9th & 16th. The sanitary sewer in that area was very loaded. But really, across the board, the entire City, all of the systems were pretty much full for a number of days. Mr. Pinkerton said he thought the crew did very well, and the system really handled it for as much as had during that time. He knew City crews were out as much Utility Crews. When Boots Creek is full, there's not a lot you can do. Mr. Pinkerton continued that like every time we have a system that is surcharged like that, over the next year, there will be some sinkholes. The first sinkhole to present itself was at 5th & Nebraska. When the system gets full, a lot of times what happens is the water will force its way out of cracks and crevices in the system. When the flow goes back down, it all starts coming back in and brings sand and gravel with it. That one was just a couple of days ago, and they got that dug up and repaired. It is back in concrete now and paved tomorrow. Another sinkhole was believed to be on 30th Street, but it was a false alarm. Mr. Fuller asked if the street just fell in with no weight, or cars, driving over it. Mr. Graft said the report came from AEP. Mr. Graft called the Board's attention to the lower left on the picture, and pointed out that AEP was putting in a new pole. AEP crews were up in the air, and they saw it starting to develop while they were in the air. AEP then started using their barrels to block everything off. Mr. Graft said by the time we got there, it literally collapsed while we were standing in front of it. Mr. Graft commented that a lot of people

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don't realize that the streets like this, if you look under the asphalt, are brick and under brick is nothing but sand. That was how roads were built back in the day. They filled everything up with sand, laid the brick pavers down, and then added more sand. So , when a small hole develops in any of the system, it's washing away nothing but sand. There is no real material. Mr. Pinkerton stated that in that part of town, there's a lot of sand and gravel anyway and that's just river wash down there. Mr. Fuller asked if the road itself, the brick road, was it just that much lower. Mr. Fuller saw a video and it looked like an access tunnel. Mr. Graft said it was undermining it. Mr. Pinkerton explained that was where the sand and gravel had been washed down into the sewer. Mr. Graft said when we were walking, literally walking around the area itself when it finally collapsed, we realized that we were walking over a void. It could have given away under our feet. Mr. Graft gave kudos to the Utility guys that responded immediately. We had an excavator we made a phone call to immediately, they started blocking everything off, and got equipment down there. Mr. Graft said we are very fortunate as the City of Marion to have the people that we've got working, and the people that are willing to stop whatever they are doing to come and take care of something like that. We should be very thankful. Mr. Fuller asked if it was refilled with sand. Mr. Graft answered no, stone was used. Dr. Monteiro cautioned against entering high water and areas closed due to flooding. Mr. Graft mentioned that a young man was swept away in Anderson. Mr. Pinkerton added that even with areas that are not filled with seemingly high water, there could be a manhole lid off presenting more danger than obvious. Mr. Graft reiterated a thank you to the guys and kudos again. Ms. Barney thanked Mr. Graft for his comments. She added that we would not be where we are without the people.

C. Guyer, Assistant Director of Internal Operations

Mr. Guyer said at plants, there wasn't anything as near interesting as sinkholes to speak about, and he is thankful for that. Mr. Guyer then reported that since the 12th, the Wastewater plant's been running at 17 million gallons per day, which was up from the average of about 6 million gallons per day. The plant is definitely getting a good flushing. The crews are doing their jobs well and handling the volume. The volume did start tapering off yesterday, and then we got that shower, and it bumped right back up to 17 million gallons. Mr. Guyer stated that the water side had an event when storms started. The power flickered, and then when the generator went to switch, the main breaker failed. The plant ended up running on generator power for three days before a new breaker arrived and was changed out. The financials for this month will reflect this as it cost us some diesel fuel and downtime. Other than that, Mr. Guyer said the plant was doing well. Ms. Barney asked if the plant was prepared for that. Mrs. Shrader said yes, the generator kicked on and did what it was supposed to do. Mr. Guyer said that unfortunately, right before AEP arrived to switch us back over, the fill truck was there to fill the generator, and it was down to about a quarter of a tank. By filling, enough turbulence was created that the generator sucked air. The plant was down for about 45 minutes. AEP was called and they responded within 10 minutes to put the plant back on the grid. Ms. Barney asked if there were other breakers and if so, should they be checked. Mr. Guyer said it was the main breaker. There are breakers everywhere, but this was the one that would be influenced. Since it was pulled, Mr. Guyer said it would be inspected and if possible, serviced and refurbished so it will be on the shelf and available moving forward. Ms. Barney said that was a good proactive plan.

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Kyle Persinger

R. Shrader, Director

Mrs. Shrader reported that the IWEA (Indiana Water Environment Association) conference is next week. IWEA is the state wastewater group. Mrs. Shrader, Mr. Pinkerton, Mr. Guyer and Mrs. Humphries for a little bit will attend. Several other employees will be there for one to two days. The conference offers continuing education opportunities, opportunities to meet and network with others including utility workers around the state, engineers, and more. For those who hold certifications, that's how we maintain those so it's a great opportunity to get those done on time. Mrs. Shrader then said that we've looked at the damage and headaches that we've had. She wanted to point out, that we are really fortunate. She's spoken to colleagues and friends at Noblesville and Carmel, and they are in it up to their eyeballs. Some of the damage that they've incurred and the emergency repairs that are going on is just crazy. Mrs. Shrader stated that there is only so much you can do to prepare for a 100 or 1000 year storm like that. The quantity of water, and even closer than that, our neighbors in Yorktown, Anderson, and Muncie have been devastated. Mrs. Shrader had one other item to share with the Board. There were binders presented to the Board with a little bit of homework inside. Mr. Graft joked that it was everything you ever wanted to know about a water utility but were afraid to ask. Mrs. Shrader said that was right and explained that there was a lot of information that would be helpful. The binder included a table of contents, glossary of terms, common acronyms, maps, financial reports, and additional materials might be added later. Mrs. Shrader then recommended a walk through at the board members' convenience. She said we would love to host you and give you the VIP service or offer a ride along with solid waste drivers or those flushing hydrants. Mrs. Shrader said for those of you who have been here, we've been talking a lot about this last big Long Term Control Plan project. It's going to be crucial for you all to see the wastewater treatment plant and what's not going well. To understand for yourselves why we need to think about that project the way that we do. It doesn't have to be a lengthy tour. If you have 45 minutes, we will make good use of your time so that you can see as much as we can. Mrs. Shrader also said she would love to meet with the members one on one. Mrs. Shrader tries to meet with City Council members as often as she can as well. Mrs. Shrader said once committees are settled because of the rearranging and the new appointments, meetings will be scheduled as it would be budget time in another six weeks or so. Mrs. Shrader asked that the Board look over the binders as much as they could and to please reach out with any questions. Ms. Barney added that the H2O Community Fund was available. The H2O Community fund supports those in our community that are in need, and the board members could also donate to it through a payroll deduction. Ms. Barney said it was a wonderful internal program that the staff started. She donates to the fund. If a member would like to start donating, they could contact Mrs. Humphries if they wanted to put \$10 or any amount towards the fund. Ms. Barney explained that if someone was struggling or has a hardship, they can easily apply for help online. Ms. Barney said she loves how our team serves our customers that are in need.

BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Mr. Graft said for those that might receive phone calls about people that live along the Mississinewa or anywhere in the flood-protected area, since the low-head dam was removed, the City of Marion has been dealing with the National Flood Protection Agencies to try to get some mapping done. Mr. Graft stated that he know that affects some insurance holders that would love to not pay the rate that they pay for, but obviously, that's what the policy is for, to help reduce that cost for them. Should someone call and report that their area isn't flooding and didn't flood, why

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Kyle Persinger

are they still paying this flood insurance, this is not something that is dictate locally. This comes from insurance companies, but it's offset by the National Flood Protection.

Mr. Graft said Code Enforcement with the City of Marion is dealing with a lot of people that are deciding to live in RVs, campers, and whatnot. They are digging up their sewer line, either from their house and then tying into it with their flex pipes. Obviously, there's not way to charge them. If they're not using water, because either it was shut off or they are getting it from other sources, because there are a few people pumping water from the river and using that in their motorhomes to fill their tanks up and run through their filter system....we've actually brought the DNR in as well as the Health Department. Mr. Graft said as long as they can heat the water, even using a camper propane heater and the water coming from Boots Creek, it can be used. Mr. Graft said that he wanted to make sure the Board and Leadership Team knew this was happening and to see if there was anything on this side that would or could prevent that from happening. Mrs. Shrader responded that it is theft as those doing that are stealing services which the ordinance prohibits. Mr. Faw said that it was theft especially if someone was hooked into something that they shouldn't be and likened it to tapping into a neighbor's cable. Mrs. Shrader said unfortunately there always seems to be some theft occurring whether it's water, sewer, or even the meters themselves. Mrs. Humphries said that if address or general location could be sent to her, a service technician could be sent out to make sure that there wasn't damage to our services and to take pictures if possible. Mrs. Humphries said that a minimum charge for sewer could be added to the address. Mr. Pinkerton asked where the bill would be sent to. Mrs. Humphries said the property owner would be contacted. Mr. Graft said unfortunately, he is seeing an uptick in the number of RVs or campers. Ms. Barney clarified that the RVs or campers are on someone's property. Mr. Graft yes, it seems that way. However, there is one location where someone is in an alley. This was by the old water plant on 7th Street. Mr. Pinkerton asked if the houses were abandoned. Mr. Graft said the old brick building was. Mr. Pinkerton said that if someone was hooked up at an occupied home then services could be paid for if they were going through the meter. Mrs. Humphries said that an ordinance also states that no one other than Utility personnel are permitted to connect services. Mr. Faw clarified that someone is hooked into sewer services. Mr. Graft said yes. The sewer line has been visibly dug up, a lift has been added, and the flex hose is inserted to the line. Ms. Barney said that certainly wasn't safe. Mrs. Shrader added that we are ratepayer funded. For those ratepayers that are doing what they are supposed to, this is certainly a disservice because they are paying for that extra treatment that has to be performed. It is theft because someone else is paying for the treatment. Dr. Monteiro said in fairness, if we are going to go after those living in RVs, we should also go after those landlords that are moving meters around. Mrs. Humphries noted that there have been landlords that have moved the meter, lost the meter, and then charged for the cost of the meter. Mrs. Shrader added that Mr. Persinger has also developed a form letter that is sent to those who turn services on illegally, meaning they turn on the services in stead of calling us. A few of those went out this week as well. Mrs. Shrader said that we were trying, but we were not aware of RVs and campers hooking directly into services.

Dr. Monteiro asked if there were manhole covers that disappeared on 38th Street. Mr. Pinkerton said that there were some calls of lids being off but not missing. Mrs. Shrader said that when the system is surcharged, the manhole lids will dance and come off. Ms. Barney said that there was one that was almost completely off at New Life Church. Dr. Monteiro thanked the staff and employees for everything that they do.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

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BOARD ATTORNEY

Kyle Persinger

Ms. Barney welcomed Mr. Batchelor and Mr. Faw as new members and thanked them along with the other members for serving. She said this was a unique Board filled with different requests and situations that may not be heard elsewhere. The Board is sometimes needy depending on what's going on or what season it is, meaning that additional meetings are sometimes needed like at budget time.

The next meeting was scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 3, 2026.

There being no further business before the Board, Dr. Monteiro moved, seconded by Mr. Graft, to adjourn the meeting. A roll call vote was taken. The votes were as follows: Dr. Batchelor, yes; Mr. Faw, yes; Mr. Fuller, yes; Mr. Graft, yes; Reverend Green, yes; Dr. Monteiro, yes; and Ms. Barney, yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:23 p.m.

Reverend Al Green, Vice Chairman
Marion Utilities Service Board

ATTEST



Misty Humphries, Its Secretary

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