



BOARD OF WATER COMMISSIONERS MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

Medford Police Department Prescott Room
219 S. Ivy Street, Medford, Oregon 97501

The regular meeting of the Medford Water Commission was called to order at 12:25 p.m. on the above date at Medford Police Department's Prescott Room, with the following commissioners, staff, and guests present:

Chair Jason Anderson; Commissioners John Dailey, Bob Mylenek, Brian Sjothun, and David Wright.

General Manager Brad Taylor, Executive Administrative Assistant Amber Furu, Finance Manger Beau Belikoff, HR Manager Tanya Haakinson, Engineering Manager Brian Runyen, IT Manager Kris Stitt, Water Operations Manager Dan Perkins, Senior Capital & Special Project Manager Andy Huffman, Water Resources & Customer Service Manager Julie Smitherman

Guest(s): Attorney Mark Bartholomew, Medford City Council Liaison Garrett West, City of Central Point City Manager Chris Clayton, Central Point Councilor Rob Hernandez, Eagle Point Councilor Lena Beach, Michael Shultz*, Eagle Point Irrigation District Shelby Snow* (*Via Zoom)

3. Comments from the Audience
None.

4. Approval or Correction of the Minutes of the Last Regular Meeting of February 18, 2026

Motion: Approve the minutes of the last regular meeting as presented.

Moved by: Mr. Dailey

Seconded by: Mr. Wright

Roll Call: Commissioners Anderson, Dailey, Mylenek, Sjothun, and Wright voting yes.

Motion carried and so ordered.

5. Resolution No. 2016, A RESOLUTION Awarding and Authorizing the General Manager to Execute an Agreement with Hunter Communications for Fiber Network Connectivity Service, Not to Exceed \$212,220.00

A proposal was reviewed to enter into a new three-year agreement with Hunter Communications for continued fiber network connectivity across Medford Water facilities. The agreement includes renewed services at Robert A. Duff Water Treatment Plant, Big Butte Springs, and the Point of Entry, along with new internet and high-speed EPL connections at the Medford Water Operations Center and the Roxy Ann site to support SCADA communications and resiliency needs. Connections at the Annex, Conrad, and Rossanley stations will remain on a month-to-month basis for up to 18 months until they can be phased out. The total estimated cost for the agreement is \$212,220, with authorization requested for up to a 25% contingency.

Commissioner Anderson asked how the planned internet connection at Capitol Hill fits with future development at that site; Stitt confirmed the design has accounted for it. Additional clarification was provided on how the three-year terms apply, with each line beginning its term once it is installed and active. Commissioner Mylenek asked about the overall cost, noting that the increase appears minimal. Stitt confirmed this understanding and also indicated that pricing from both Hunter and Spectrum has decreased slightly in recent renewals. Additional clarification was provided regarding the month-to-month services at the Annex, Conrad, and Rossanley stations, which will continue for up to 18 months until those connections can be phased out.

Motion: Approve Resolution 2016.

Moved by: Mr. Dailey

Seconded by: Mr. Mylenek

Roll Call: Commissioners Anderson, Dailey, Mylenek, Sjothun, and Wright voting yes.

Motion carried and so ordered.

6. Leadership Team Reports

- General Manager Brad Taylor
 - Upcoming Board Schedule – April 1 – Revenue Bonds; April 15 – SDCs, CLAs, Special Services; May 6 – Budget; May 20 – Capital Project Updates

7. Propositions and Remarks from the Commissioners

Commissioner Sjothun noted he would be out of town on April 15. Taylor advised that they would review the April meeting schedule to determine whether an adjustment is possible and explained that the 90-day notice requirement for SDCs limits scheduling flexibility, with the public hearing still targeted for early August. Commissioner Mylenek thanked Taylor for his recent presentation at Rotary and noted the positive response it received. Commissioners expressed strong support for continued community outreach and encouraged expanding presentations to additional groups, with interest in participating directly when appropriate. Further discussion focused on the potential value of engaging a dedicated lobbyist to support federal and state advocacy efforts, and staff agreed to prepare options and cost information for future consideration. The Board also discussed Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) funding and emphasized the importance of positioning projects strategically should the program reopen. Commissioner Dailey inquired about reviewing demand-forecast assumptions and the timing for master-plan materials, and staff indicated draft sections will be shared soon and noted a May 14 workshop with an open invitation to commissioners.

8. Adjourn

There being no further business, this meeting was adjourned at 12:49 p.m. The proceedings were recorded and are on file along with the complete agenda of this meeting.



Amber Furu
Assistant Clerk of the Commission