East Haddam Water Pollution Control Authority
Municipal Office Complex

Regular Meeting Minutes
May 18, 2026

1. Call to Order

   Chairman Lord called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

2. Attendance

   Members Present: Chairman Andrew Lord, Richard Fiala, Bob Casner
   Members Absent: Edward Blaschik, John Russell, Richard Pettinelli
   Others Present: Jim Ventres, Katherine Kneeland

3. Minutes

   Motion by Mr. Casner to approve the March 16, 2026 minutes as presented. Seconded by Mr. Fiala and unanimously approved.

4. Discussion

   a. Clean Water Ops Report –

      Ms. Kneeland provided an update on the SBR actuator valve issue which has been going on for over a year. She outlined the work done to fix it for about a year and a half. Clean Water Ops has lost confidence in the vendor they were using and have requested a full refund for the valve. They are also looking at other companies that can fix the issue. The valve is key to switching over from one tank to the other as needed. Mr. Lord asked for feedback if there is anything that he can do as the Chair of the WPCA to get this issue resolved.

      She noted the inline probe was replaced as it had broken.

      The influent flow meter was reading very high numbers, so that was recalibrated which did not fix the issue. There is a temporary unit that is working and a new part has been ordered. The SBR building roof was repaired. The roof will be replaced on the other building, as it now has a leak.

      There is potential contaminated influent with increased amount of ammonia. Discussion ensued as to what could be causing this change, and what projects are underway in the Village now. Ms. Kneeland provided an overview of what can be done to address the ammonia; there is not a concern as to missing the permit levels. Mr. Ventres will be pulling the permits tomorrow and will reach out to the contractors to see if he can figure out the source of the issue.

Dock Road pump station needs fencing work to address a number of issues. Mr. Ventres reached out to a few contractors to get the work done, but he has not received a phone call back.

Ms. Kneeland is going to get the heater and water heater looked at in the building.

She reviewed the grinder pump issues from March through May. Mr. Lord asked that these be added to the log tracking the grinder pump issues.

b. Budget Discussion –

Mr. Ventres outlined that everything asked for in the budget was maintained.

c. East Hampton/Colchester WPCA Request –

Mr. Ventres sent the letter, which has received quite a bit of attention across East Hampton. Mr. Ventres has been receiving phone calls around creating a sewer avoidance district in East Hampton. There is a sewer avoidance policy across much of East Haddam, outside of the area that already has a sewer. There is no plan to expand the existing sewer district.

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Casner at 7:38pm. Second by Mr. Fiala and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon A. Goyette
Recording Secretary