Janet T. Mills
Governor

Sara Gagné-Holmes
Commissioner



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Minutes of Meeting #168
May 6, 2026

The Maine Public Drinking Water Commission (DWC) held its 168th meeting on May 6, 2026, in person at Yarmouth Water District, Yarmouth and via Zoom.

Present Were:

Members: Brian Tarbuck (Zoom), Jeff LaCasse, Carol White, Matt Reynolds, Lee Worcester (Zoom), Amy Lachance (DWP Director), Eric Gagnon, Jim Leighton (Zoom), and Jim Willis (Commission Clerk) by Zoom.
Non-members: David Welch, DWP, Bob Gardner
Members Not Present Were:

Time: Carol called the meeting to order at 9:00 AM.

A. RECURRING BUSINESS:

- Approval of Minutes, Meeting #167, Nov 19, 2025
  - Minutes from November 19, 2025, meeting were approved as written.

- SFY 2026 AFM Fee Collection Status – D. Welch
  - David Welch from the Drinking Water Program (DWP) updated the Commission on the collection status of the Alternate Funding Mechanism (AFM). To date, the DWP collection rate is slightly below previous years. There was discussion on how to collect past due AFM.

  - David gave an update on how online credit card payments are going.

- DWP Financial Report – D. Welch
  - David presented current financial information showing that spending is on target from previous years. David did state that raising the AFM fee has helped cover the increase in staff costs. David also stated that we are currently looking to increase Maximum base fee to $100.00 in the statute so we can adjust AFM fees as needed going forward.

- DWP General Updates (DWSRF, Staffing, PFAS)
  - Current staffing levels were discussed. Amy stated that the DWP will be fully staffed. Amy discussed pushing to make the 11 temp positions permanent.

- Amy gave an update on SRF, and Lead service line update.

- Legislation and Rulemaking Update
  - Amy gave an update on the draft PFAS rules.
  - Amy gave an update on legislation during the current session, including bills impacting PFAS legislation.

- Public Drinking Water Commission Annual Report
  - Carol presented draft report to the DWC members to review and email any changes. Carol stated the plan is to approve the final draft at the September Meeting.
- Update on DWC membership
  - Carol discussed we currently have one vacant seat (Seat 9). Bob Gardner will be submitting his paperwork/application to the governor's office.

- Bangor Water District complaint
  - Jeff LaCasse asked if the DWC could discuss a recent complaint from a customer with the Bangor Water District. Amy discussed the issue with the DWC.

- Public Water System Items for Discussion - Public Comment
  - None

Meeting Dates for 2026
Wednesday September 9, 2026, 9:00 AM (Augusta and via zoom)
Wednesday November 18, 2026, 9:00 AM (Augusta and via zoom)

Meeting Adjourned at 10:45 AM