East Haddam Water Pollution Control Authority
Municipal Office Complex

Regular Meeting Minutes
September 21, 2026

1. Call to Order

   Chairman Lord called the meeting to order at 7:01pm.

2. Attendance

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

3. Minutes

   Motion by Mr. Casner to approve the July 20, 2026 minutes as presented. Seconded by Mr. Blaschik and unanimously approved.

4. Discussion

   a. Clean Water Ops Report –

      Mr. Abramczyk provided an update. They are now in possession of the new actuator; it is scheduled for installation on 11/9 due to the coordination needed.

      A new influent meter has been installed, replacing the temporary meeting. It has been working flawlessly since installation.

      There was a bit of an issue with the UV System. In late July, it was noted there was a problem which was not readily evident. One bank of the bulbs flooded, which meant the system was not at full capacity. The permit was missed in July due to this issue. There are bulbs on site to replace. About a week after the first repair, there was a second repair needed. The 2nd issue was more easily noticed, but given the partial array of UV running at the time, the permit was not met for a second month in a row. Mr. Abramczyk discussed with DEEP and is not expecting further follow up. There was also a toxicity rate issue as well, but the 2nd test conducted passed. All components and system are now working as designed. There are no backup materials for the UV system due to the repairs. The UV season is ending soon. In the spring, Mr. Abramczyk will request approval to purchase a full set of UV parts so that they are on the shelf in case of a breakage. There is not really a price fluctuation based on the season/timing. Mr. Abramczyk noted the equipment is fragile so he would like to wait until next season to purchase. The components are sleeves, bulbs and ballasts – there are 10 ballasts and 20 bulbs. Ms. Kneeland would like to have 2 full sets on hand. This year they went through 14 sleeves, 1 ballast and 11 bulbs. The system is now on and fully functioning. It is all about exposure to the light and intensity of the light. They run hot all season long. They have acquired UV bulb cleaner, which removes the algae buildup on the sleeves. Keeping the

bulbs clean is very very important as they are fragile. There is newer technology which moves the bulbs out of the water and is easier to maintain. But it is a big expense to fully replace the UV system, like $70,000 to $100,000. There are very few players in that market.

There were some potential contaminant inflow. They have been seeing some sheetrock and construction debris about a week ago. It has not seen since then. Discussion ensued related to if the debris is out of the pipe; a grinder pump will pass cloth but will not pass along things like dry wall.

There were 4 grinder pump calls since June. Three of them were replaced given their age. The fourth one was repaired.

The phone bill amount was discussed, and Mr. Abramczyk noted he will look into other options for the phone to reduce the bill.

b. Budget Discussion –

Mr. Ventres noted there is nothing else to outline.

c. Pump Station Repairs –

Mr. Ventres provided the Doc Road Pump Station update. There were 3 bids received, the $10,000 bid was chosen for the pressure treated fence with cedar siding. There was one competitive bid for heavy duty electrical work at $11,900. The downtime is 1 24-hour period. It has to happen early Monday morning when the Goodspeed Opera House show is off. The tank must be pumped down. Everything has to be done by early Tuesday morning. Mr. Abramczyk noted they will have Skips on call in case pumping must be done during the period the power shut off.

A motion was made by Mr. Blaschik to approve the funding for the repairs on the Doc Road Pump Station. Seconded by Mr. Casner and unanimously approved.

Mr. Ventres outlined that the Town should become a member of Connecticut Rural Waste and Wastewater Association. It is about $125 yearly fee. There are grant notices that the Town could potentially apply for.

A motion by Mr. Casner to pay the $125 membership fee for CTRWWA. Seconded by Mr. Blaschik and unanimously approved.

5. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Blaschik at 7:41pm. Second by Mr. Pettinelli and unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon A. Goyette
Recording Secretary