west virginia department of environmental protection

Division of Water and Waste Management
601 57th Street, SE
Charleston, WV 25304
Phone: 304-926-0495 / Fax: 304-926-0463

Harold D. Ward, Cabinet Secretary
dep.wv.gov

MEMORANDUM

To: Dr. Mark Sarver, Executive Director, Water Development Authority
Meredith J. Vance, Director, Environmental Engineering Division, BPH

From: Katheryn Emery, P.E., Program Manager
Sewer Technical Review Committee

Date: October 21, 2026

Subject: Town of Meadow Bridge
IJDC Application - 2026W-2824
Water System Improvement Project

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1. This committee has reviewed the preliminary application and engineering report submitted for the above referenced project in accordance with Chapter 31, Article 15A. It has been determined that the proposed project is:

   a. √ Consistent with the intent of the Infrastructure and Jobs Development Act and is the most cost-effective, environmentally sound alternative for solving the water needs in this area.

   b. ___ Not consistent with the Act and may not be the most cost effective, environmentally sound alternative for solving the wastewater needs in this area.

   c. ___ Same as (a) above except that certain issues need to be addressed prior to design and construction as the attached comments indicate.

2. Our recommendation is that:

   a. √ The Funding Committee needs to review the proposed sources of funding to determine the best mix of grant and/or loan funds in accordance with applicable guidelines.

   b. ___ The Funding Committee should recommend that the Council approve the proposed project and its funding plan.

c. ___ The Funding Committee does not need to review the funding assumptions on this project because of deficiencies in the engineering report. The proposed project should be tabled for the consultant to address technical comments.

d. ___ This project should be referred to the Consolidation Committee.

3. Other remarks:

The project proposes to replace waterline, service connections, fire hydrants, and all necessary appurtenances within the Town. The current system is either undersized, leaking or both.

The proposed total cost for this project is $1,250,000, and the Town intends to pursue a USEPA Grant of $1,000,000, a $200,000 governor's match grant, and a $50,000 grant from the Fayette county commission. The proposed monthly rate will be $40.60, approximately 1.11% of the median household income (MHI) in Meadow Bridge for 3,400 gallons.

The BPH memo requests that the project also address the issues with the WTP's well pumps as part of the project.

The project will need to seek a Total Engineering Fee Waiver.

Preliminary Project Ratings:

Public Health Benefits:	0
Compliance with Standards:	10
Operation & Maintenance:	2

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Katheryn Emery, P.E., Program Manager, DWWM

FROM: Chantz Rankin, DWWM

DATE: October 13, 2026

SUBJECT: Town of Meadow Bridge
IJDC Application - 2026W-2824
Water System Improvement Project

RECOMMENDATION

The IJDC Application and Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) prepared by The Thrasher Group, Inc. for the above referenced project has been reviewed and is technically feasible.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Town of Meadow Bridge (Town) owns and operates a water treatment plant (WTP) and distribution system under Public Water System Identification Number (PWSID) #WV3301022 The Town currently serves 253 residential customers in Fayette and Summers Counties. The WTP draws from a groundwater well which has a maximum capacity of 80 gallons per minute (GPM). The Town's distribution system consists of approximately 6.75 miles of water lines, one (1) 100,000 gallon water storage tank, one (1) booster stations, nineteen (19) fire hydrants, a telemetry system, and multiple sampling stations, and all necessary appurtenances.

The project proposes to install approximately 7,500 linear feet (LF) of 6" PVC waterline, 500 LF of 2" water line, fifty six (56) service connection replacements, five (5) fire hydrants, and all necessary appurtenances.

The proposed total cost for this project is $1,250,000, and the Town intends to pursue a USEPA Grant of $1,000,000, a $200,000 governor's match grant, and a $ 50,000 grant from the Fayette county commission. The proposed monthly rate will be $40.60, approximately 1.11% of the median household income (MHI) in Meadow Bridge for 3,400 gallons.

NEED FOR PROJECT

The Town's water system includes multiple sections of aging galvanized waterline that are undersized, leaking, or both. These areas contribute to water loss and limit the Town's ability to properly serve their customers. This project will address the deficient waterlines by replacing them with appropriately sized waterlines allowing the Town to reduce water loss and ensure adequate water service.

DEFICIENCIES/COMMENTS

- Using the Combined Application the Total Engineering Fees appear to be outside of the ASCE Curves.

Public Service Commission of West Virginia

201 Brooks Street, P.O. Box 812
Charleston, West Virginia 25323

Phone: (304) 340-0300
Fax: (304) 340-0325

October 7, 2026

Mark Sarver, Chair
Water Development Authority, Executive Director
Katheryn Emery, P.E., Program Manager
CWSRF & DWTRF, Division of Water and Waste Management, WVDEP
Meredith Vance, Director
Environmental Engineering Division, WVBPH

Re: Public Service Commission Staff Review Comments
Application No. 2026W-2824
Meadow Bridge, Town of – Water System Improvements
Infrastructure Preliminary Application

As requested, the Technical Staff of the Public Service Commission of West Virginia has completed its review of the above-referenced Infrastructure application. In light of Technical Staff's comments enclosed herewith, we are recommending the application be:

__X__ Forwarded to the Funding Committee

_____ Forwarded to the Consolidation Committee

_____ Returned to the Applicant

Please advise if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Brandon Crace

Brandon Crace
Engineering Division

Enclosures

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION STAFF
TECHNICAL REVIEW

DATE: October 7, 2026

PROJECT SPONSOR: **TOWN OF MEADOW BRIDGE – (WATER)**

PROJECT SUMMARY: The Town of Meadow Bridge is proposing to install new water mains, which will replace approximately 7,200 feet of existing undersized and leaking water mains.

PROPOSED FUNDING:

CDS Funds	$1,000,000
CDS Match	200,000
Fayette County Comm. Grant	50,000
Total	$1,250,000

CURRENT RATES:

$33.48	3,400 gallons (Min. Bill based on 4,000 gal.)
$33.48	4,000 gallons (Min. Bill based on 4,000 gal.)

PROPOSED RATES:

$40.60	3,400 gallons (Min. Bill based on 4,000 gal.)
$40.60	4,000 gallons (Min. Bill based on 4,000 gal.)

Application No. 2026W-2824

RECOMMENDATION:
__X__ Forward to the Funding Committee
____ Forward to the Consolidation Committee
____ Return to the Applicant

FINANCIAL: Bob Cadle

1. Current rates ($33.48 for 4,000 gallons: Minimum Bill) are below the rates attributable to 1.25% ($45.57), 1.50% ($54.69), 1.75% ($63.80), and 2% ($72.92) of the Median Household Income (MHI). Increasing current rates to 1.25%, 1.50%, 1.75% and 2.0% of the MHI would provide additional revenues of $59,849, $104,958, $150,067 and $195,176 respectively.

2. Using Scenario 1, the preferred funding package consisting of a Congressionally Directed Spending Funds of $1,000,000, a Congressionally Directed Spending Funds Match of $200,000, and a Fayette County Commission Grant of $50,000, proposed rates ($40.60 for 3,400 gallons) will provide a cash flow surplus of $10,497. The Town has no current debt.

3. There is no Scenario 2 given the project funding is fully committed.

4. Notes to Comments:

   A. Staff's detailed adjustments are listed on Attachment A for Scenario 1 (Preferred Funding Package). Staff did not include an Attachment B for Scenario 2 (Loan Package) as all grant funds were pledged.

   B. Staff prepared the attached Cash Flow Analysis utilizing information from the Annual Report for the Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2025, and the Applicant's Cash Flow Statement submitted with the application.

   C. Because proposed funding is based on all grant funding, the Applicant is requesting a waiver of the Rule 42 Exhibit requirement.

   D. It should be noted that the Town passed an ordinance to increase its water rates in 2018. The Town's current Phase 2 rates ($33.48 for 4,000 gallons) is the Town minimum bill and is based upon 4,000 gallons of usage. The aforementioned ordinance also included Phase 3 rates ($35.84 for 4,000 gallons), which are effective upon project completion or commencement of debt service, whichever occurs first. The project sponsor included the Phase 3 rates at Going Level.

   E. Staff notes the Applicant's cash flow analyses include Pre-Project or Proforma rates of $40.60 (for 4,000 gallons). Staff included these rates in its analysis.

   F. Senate Bill 234, effective June 12, 2015, required water and sewer utilities that are political subdivisions of the state to maintain a cash working capital reserve in an amount of no less than one-eighth (1/8) of actual annual operation and maintenance expenses. It should be noted that the cash flows provided by the project sponsor include funding for the 1/8 cash working capital reserve. Staff accepted that amount in its analyses. However, this amount may be reviewed by the Commission in future filings in accordance with Public Service Commission General Order 183.11.

G. Senate Bill 234 (2015) required, pursuant to WV Code 24-2-4b (b), that municipally operated utilities shall consider a reasonable plant-in-service depreciation expense for rates and charges. The project sponsor should take this into consideration when preparing its Rule 42. Municipals that do not provide for a reasonable depreciation expense risk delays in Certificate of Convenience and Necessity filings if rates are determined to not be sufficient.

H. The cash flow provided by the project sponsor shows a Per Books and Going-Level deficit. The Town should carefully evaluate its revenue requirements before pursuing an ordinance rate increase in order to ensure that rates are sufficient to provide a reasonable surplus and meet coverage requirements.

ENGINEERING: Brandon Crace

1. Pursuant to House Bill 2742 passed in the 2025 Legislative Session, this project will not require a Certificate of Convenience and Necessity from the PSC.

2. Scope: The Town of Meadow Bridge is proposing to install new water mains, which will replace approximately 7,200 feet of existing undersized and leaking water mains. The proposed project scope includes: mobilization, erosion and sediment controls, pre-construction video recording, 7200 LF of 6-inch PVC water main, 500 LF of 2-inch PVC water main, 230 LF of 6-inch HDPE water main (directional drill), 170 LF of 12-inch steel casing (bore & jack), 600 LF of 3/4-inch polyethylene service line (bore & jack), 690 LF of a 3/4-inch polyethylene service line (open cut), 2-inch MJT gate valve (with box & lid), eighteen (18) 6-inch MJT gate valve (with box & lid), 35 LF of 2-inch polyethylene service line (bore & jack), 90 LF of 2-inch of 2-inch polyethylene service line (open cut), 2-inch post flushing hydrant assembly, 5 cut & cap existing 2-inch waterline, 3 cut & cap existing 4-inch waterline, 2 cut & cap existing 6-inch waterline, 5 fire hydrant assemblies, 3 test pits, 6 connections to existing 2-inch existing waterline, 3 connections to existing 4-inch waterline, 5 connections to existing 6-inch waterline, 520 LF of Type B trench restoration, 1600 LF of Type C trench restoration, 7200 WVDOH inspection fees, and necessary appurtenances. The estimated construction cost is $910,700 (includes 9.77% construction contingency), and the estimated total project cost is $1,250,000.

Need: The PER indicates that the existing water system is comprised of aging galvanized water mains, which are described as undersized, leaking, or both.

Customer Density: This project is an upgrade project; therefore, customer density will remain unchanged.

Cost per Customer: Based upon the estimated total project cost is $1,250,000, and having approximately 253 customers, the cost per customer will be approximately $4,941. However, the cost per customer in terms of proposed borrowing is $0, as the proposed funding is 100% grant.

3. Project Alternatives: The PER evaluated two (2) alternatives: Alternative #1 – Water Distribution System Improvements, and Alternative #2 – "Do Nothing". The PER indicates that Alternative #1 was selected by the Town of Meadow Bridge, "…because it best addresses the deficiencies in the existing water systems…".

4. Consolidation: There are no consolidation opportunities presented by this project.

5. Operation and Maintenance (O&M) Expenses: The PER did not include a detailed breakdown or discussion of anticipated changes to O&M expenses, but does state "Operation and Maintenance expenses are not expected to increase as a result of this project".

6. Engineering Agreement: The application includes information to determine compliance with West Virginia Code §5G-1-1, *et seq*. Total technical services (engineering) costs for the project are $215,000, which is equal to 23.61% of the construction cost of $910,700 (includes 9.77% construction contingency).

7. Deficiencies/Comments:
   - Nothing significant to note.

TOWN OF MEADOW BRIDGE - WATER
CASH FLOW ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED: June 30, 2025
APPLICATION NO: 2026W-2824
October 7, 2026

PREFERRED FUNDING PACKAGE
SCENARIO 1

	Cash Flow Going Level Per Application Before Project	Cash Flow Proforma Per Application with Project	Staff Adjustments		Per Staff Analysis
	1	2	3		4
	$	$	$		$
AVAILABLE CASH					
Operating Revenues	165,697	187,652	(18,459)	(1)	169,193
Other Operating Revenue	-	-	-		-
SB 234 Annual Working Cash Collections			18,459	(2)	18,459
Interest Income & Other Misc.	7	7	-		7
Total Cash Available	165,704	187,659	-		187,659
OPERATING DEDUCTIONS					
Operating Expenses	147,674	147,674	-		147,674
Taxes	6,799	6,799	-		6,799
Total Cash Requirements Before Debt Service	154,473	154,473	-		154,473
Cash Available for Debt Service (A)	11,231	33,186	-		33,186
DEBT SERVICE REQUIREMENTS					
Principal & Interest (B)	-	-	-		-
Other Debt	-	-	-		-
Reserve Account @ 10%	-	-	-		-
Renewal & Replacement Fund (2.5%)	4,143	4,691	(461)	(3)	4,230
Total Debt Service Requirement	4,143	4,691	(461)		4,230
SB 234 Cash Working Capital	18,459	18,459	-		18,459
Remaining Cash	(11,371)	10,036	461		10,497
Percent Coverage (A) / (B)					
*Average rate for 3,400 gallons	$ 35.84	$ 40.60	$ -		$ 40.60
*Average rate for 4,000 gallons	$ 35.84	$ 40.60	$ -		$ 40.60

NOTE: * Minimum Bill based on 4,000 gallons

TOWN OF MEADOW BRIDGE - WATER
CASH FLOW ANALYSIS
YEAR ENDED: June 30, 2025
APPLICATION NO: 2026W-2824

Attachment A
PREFERRED FUNDING PACKAGE
SCENARIO 1

Staff Adjustments

	Adjustment Description		$	Increase <Decrease>
(1)	**Operating Revenues**	**Per Staff Analysis**	**169,193**	**(18,459)**
		Per Application with Project	**187,652**	
	Adjust revenues in accordance with PSC General Order 183.11.			
(2)	**SB 234 Annual Working Cash Collections**	**Per Staff Analysis**	**18,459**	**18,459**
		Per Application with Project	**-**	
	Account for SB 234 (2015) funding pursuant to PSC General Order 183.11.			
(3)	**Renewal & Replacement Fund (2.5%)**	**Per Staff Analysis**	**4,230**	**(461)**
		Per Application with Project	**4,691**	
	Staff used 2.5% of the projection of "Operating & Other Revenues" as the basis of the renewal & replacement fund.			

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Harold D. Ward, Cabinet Secretary
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MEMORANDUM

MEMO TO: Meredith J. Vance
Office of Environmental Health Services
Bureau for Public Health

FROM: Brian D. Bailey BB
Technical Analyst
General Permits & Support Team

DATE: September 30, 2026

SUBJECT: Infrastructure Preliminary Application for the Town of Meadow Bridge (2026W-2824): Water System Improvements in Fayette County, WV.

We have reviewed the above referenced project application information. The Town of Meadow Bridge, discharges its backwash to its WWTP, which is covered under WV/NPDES Permit No. WV0082261, which expires June 20, 2029.

If the Town of Meadow Bridge is considering repairing and painting an existing water treatment plant or storage tanks, then the scope of this project requires precautions to prevent contamination of the waters of the state. Prior to beginning any removal of old paint, the Town of Meadow Bridge should contact Brad Wright or a member of his staff at (304)-926-0499, extension 49746 for guidance in determining whether the paint to be removed is considered a hazardous waste. If so, proper containment and disposal procedures must be followed for the paint and any material associated with the sandblasting. If it is determined that the paint is not hazardous, the Town of Meadow Bridge should contact John Lockhart or a member of his staff at (304)-926-0499, extension 43889 for proper disposal options.

Construction activities with a disturbed area of one (1) acre or greater are now required to register for the NPDES Storm Water Construction General Permit No. WV0115924 that became

effective on April 6, 2024. Projects registered under the previous General Permit No. WV0115100 were automatically provided coverage under WV/NPDES General Permit No. WV0115924. For more information, they may contact Larry Board at (304)-926-0499, extension 43883.

In light of the above, we have no objection to this project as long as the appropriate provisions are taken to assure compliance with Chapter 22, Article 11, of the Code of West Virginia and any associated regulations. The responsible party may contact Mylinda Maddox (304) 926-0499 ext. 43825, should additional information be required.

BDB:mam

cc: Katheryn Emery