

MEETING OF THE COMMISSION
ISLE OF PALMS WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
MAY 13, 2026

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the Agenda was posted on Wednesday, May 6, 2026, at City Hall, the Commission Office, and provided to *The Post and Courier*. The meeting was held on Wednesday, May 13, 2026, at the Commission Office, 1300 Palm Boulevard on the Isle of Palms, SC.

Chairman Hooper called the meeting to order at 8:36 a.m. following the Finance Committee meeting.

Attending were Chairman Bob Hooper, Vice Chairman Jeff Forslund (via phone), Secretary Donald Smith, Commissioner Jay Leigh, Commissioner Curtis Helfrich, PE, General Manager Chris Jordan, Special Projects Administrator Bill Jenkins, Operations Manager Shorty Meade, Comptroller Helena Stickles, CPA, Engineer Mark Yodice, and Attorney Jennifer Blumenthal.

As there were no corrections offered to the minutes of the regular meeting of April 15, 2026, the minutes were approved as presented.

As there were no citizens present, Chairman Hooper dispensed with the reading of the Chairman's Statement.

Special Projects Administrator Jenkins began the Manager's Report. He reported that the new service lines are being connected to the meters at Fairway Dunes Villas, and cleanup has begun. Water mains at Beach Club Villas have been flushed, but pressure tests have been failing. As soon as the leak is located, the bacteriological sampling will be done.

The Permit to Construct for the Duneridge Lane Water Main Replacement project was issued back in February. The project will be put out for bid in September 2026.

Secretary Smith asked if project bids have been trending lower. Engineer Yodice responded that many companies are bidding on projects, which helps lower costs.

General Manager Jordan added that staff has been pressuring the contractor for the Fairway Dunes project to achieve completion prior to the SCIIP grant deadline. While staff received positive feedback from RIA regarding the deadline, they will continue to put pressure on the contractor to finish the project.

General Manager Jordan reported that the IOPWSC has submitted its discharge permit renewal for the Forest Trails facility. He stated that three operators recently passed five certification tests.

Comptroller Stickles delivered the Financial Report. She shared data from InvoiceCloud relating to on-time payments, digital payments, customers who have adopted paperless billing, and the number of customers on autopay. The IOPWSC has a 98.5% on-time payment rating.

Comptroller Stickles stated that the Commission earned \$16,265.00 in interest income at a rate of 3.88%.

Revenues for April 2026 were \$130,515.00 over budget. Expenses were \$32,265.00 under budget, resulting in a positive net revenue of \$162,779.00. FY26 continues to outperform FY25 in revenues by \$171,000.00.

Under New Business, Commissioner Helfrich made a motion to recommend the FY27 budget as presented to the Finance Committee. Secretary Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Secretary Smith noted that the FY27 budget does not include any efforts to expand sewer on the island. He would like to see more effort put into such projects. General Manager Jordan will bring options for smaller projects to the Commissioners for consideration. Engineer Yodice remarked that the Sewer Basin N project could be completed in phases.

Discussion ensued as to whether the Commission could increase rates after the new fiscal year begins. Attorney Blumenthal answered in the affirmative but noted that any increase needs to be based on real numbers and recommendations.

There being no further business to discuss, Secretary Smith made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Leigh seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 a.m.



Robert W. Hooper, Jr., Chairman



Date