MEETING OF THE COMMISSION
ISLE OF PALMS WATER & SEWER COMMISSION
AUGUST 19, 2026

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the Agenda was posted on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at City Hall, the Commission Office, and provided to *The Post and Courier*. The meeting was held on Wednesday, August 19, 2026, at the Commission Office, 1300 Palm Boulevard on the Isle of Palms, SC.

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

Chairman Hooper called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

As there were no corrections offered to the minutes of the regular meeting of July 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 stated that the Fairway Dunes Villas Water Main Replacement project is nearly complete, but staff is having difficulty getting Coastal Utilities to complete the punch list. The State is being flexible with the Commission on the deadline to allow the project to be completed before applying for reimbursement.

He also reported that the IOPWSC received three requests to tie into the sewer system after septic tank failures. Staff worked with SCDES to fast track those requests.

General Manager Jordan reported that flows have slowed now that school is back in session.

Referencing General Manager Jordan's mention of Thorn Run Partners in the meeting packet, Chairman Hooper stated that the Commissioners will discuss this partnership further at the September meeting. He would like to discuss whether the Commission has gained or will gain any value from this arrangement.

Comptroller Stickles delivered the Financial Report. She reported that the Commission earned $17,033.00 in interest last month. Revenues for July 2026 were $238,558.00 over budget, and expenditures were $51,713.00 over budget, resulting in a positive net revenue of $186,845.00.

She also reported that the Commission received a check from the Rural Infrastructure Authority in the amount of $747,009.00 on August 10.

Engineer Mark Yodice delivered a presentation to the Commissioners regarding the expansion of the R/O plant and gravity sewer across the island.

The cost to expand the R/O plant to the extent where the Commission could possibly not need to purchase water from the Charleston Water System is estimated to be $16.3 million. Additionally, Mr. Yodice pointed out that obtaining permitting for such an expansion could prove very difficult, if not impossible, with regard to drawing nearly five times the water currently pulled by the Commission.

He noted that there would be lower maintenance costs and more control over the cost of water when there is a single water system. However, a single water system could be detrimental in a drought or storm situation. He suggested considering how the Commission might reduce its reliance on Charleston Water System.

Mr. Yodice then reviewed the basins across the island for sewer expansion, noting those locations where the Commission already houses a pump station and the estimated costs for expansion in each basin. The cost projections do not include land acquisition and the cost of adding a pump station in those places where a pump station does not currently exist. He also pointed out the number of customers that could potentially tie in at each basin.

Vice Chairman Forslund suggested that Commissioners consider the environmental, economic, and operational impacts of pursing the expansion in any of the basins.

Chairman Hooper asked the Commissioners to consider Mr. Yodice's presentation and be prepared to discuss the matter further at the September meeting. He also asked General Manager Jordan and Mr. Yodice to bring their recommendations for the optimal place to begin the expansion. Chairman Hooper would like to know the viable costs of the proposed project, the costs associated with pulling the maximum amount of water permitted through the current R/O system, and the corresponding reduction in cost of water from Charleston Water System.

There being no further business to discuss, Commissioner Helfrich made a motion to adjourn. Vice Chairman Forslund seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 a.m.

Robert W. Hooper, Jr., Chairman

Sep 16 2026

Date