



MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
TALKEETNA SEWER & WATER BOARD

for
SERVICE AREA NO. 36

Andrew Haag, Chair
James Kellard

Jane Steere, Vice Chair

Ryan Sheldon
Vacant

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

Talkeetna Public Library
24645 Talkeetna Spur Road
Talkeetna, AK 99676

Microsoft Teams
Meeting ID: 219 084 064 569
Passcode: Rwkjk6

April 1, 2026
1:02pm-3:01pm

I. CALL TO ORDER

This regular meeting of the Talkeetna Sewer & Water Board for Service Area No. 36 was held on Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at the Talkeetna Warm Storage Building at 25150 S Comsat Road in Talkeetna, Alaska and via Microsoft Teams. The meeting was called to order at 1:02pm by Drew Haag.

II. ROLL CALL

Talkeetna Sewer & Water Board members present and establishing a quorum were:

Mr. Andrew Haag – present and on-time
Ms. Jane Steere – present and on-time
Mr. Ryan Sheldon – present and on-time
Mr. James Kellard – present and on-time

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to adopt the agenda by Jane Steere. Seconded by James Kellard.

No objections, agenda approved as presented.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETINGS

A. Regular Meeting:

Minutes for the February 4, 2026, regular meeting were re-reviewed by the Board with a minor correction to CALL TO ORDER and NEXT MEETING dates. Minutes for the March 4, 2026, regular meeting were reviewed by the Board. Motion to approve the February and March minutes by James. Seconded by Jane.

No objections, minutes approved as presented.

V. STAFF REPORT

A. TSW Supervisor (Amanda Fleming)

- The WWTF Quality Assurance Project Plan has been submitted and under review. All other requirements have been completed.
- Freeze ups are continuing to occur within the Service Area – operators are tracking at least 30 known freeze ups on both water and sewer systems. This does not account for re-freezes. The Utility is working with customers to access curb stops/thaw wires. Service Request fees are being charged when significant work is required to access curb stops; ie. chipping ice, melting ice, chipping gravel. New maintenance issues have been identified along the way. Some customers are running water to prevent freezing/re-freezing both on services and main lines. In these cases, water charges will be adjusted. There is too much risk to encourage all customers to run water. This is a unique winter where frost has exceeded the normal depth and impacting water lines that typically have been well protected. This is expected until end of May.
 - Thaw companies are 10-15 days out. Moore's Hardware rents thaw boxes. TSW owns a thaw box used for main lines and other MSB buildings but may be used in rare cases for customer services. The TSW thaw box is currently broken; waiting for repair parts.
 - Future considerations; making sure thaw wires are available, copper pipe for services, installing in-line thaw wires, creating looped water lines.
- FY26 revenues are trending at 75% which is on trend for being at 75% of the FY. Water revenues are slightly elevated compared to historical numbers while sewer revenues and other fees are down.
- No update to the grease requirements. Amanda sent out a letter to all commercial accounts notifying them of the upcoming changes in fall 2025, but will plan to send out a reminder notice before July 1.
 - *Drew brought up the idea of utilizing social media. Group discussed the importance of correcting misinformation while also directing people to the MSB website, TSWB meeting schedule, or Amanda directly. Amanda requested to not tag her personal Facebook profile but listing her work cell or work email was appropriate and encouraged. Amanda indicated there are general messages that could go out on the main MSB website.*

- B. MSB Engineer (Mike Campfield) – not present.
- Update via Amanda – there is no new update to the request for the DNR parcels. Land conveyance can take a long time to get through all the internal and external review processes. Ryan confirmed this in addition to changes with Commissioner. He encouraged writing to representatives to ask for a speedier review process.

VI. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

- A. Andrea Larson reaffirmed her opposition with the MSB pursuit of acquiring DNR parcels 3 & 4 on Front St. She wrote a letter to DNR; she stated she will email that letter for the Board to review.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. **Service Area Rule & Rate Changes** – Amanda brought up the potential for a general service fee that is not dependent on seasonal changes such as certifying a backflow device. The other consideration is building size limitations.
- *Amanda will email the current Service Area Rules for review.*
- B. **Land Acquisition for New Headworks and Storage Tank Project** – see update from MSB Engineer.
- C. **Request to Review Headwork Sites; resolution** – A motion to approve the attached draft resolution by Jane. Seconded by James.

Discussion of the draft resolution prepared by Drew and Amanda. Board reworked several sections to correct typos, clarify goals, and add a section to include contacting representatives and the ARRC to assist in determining land acquisition. The Board discussed at length the importance of preserving historical trails, recognition of Native Lands, flood and visual/auditory concerns while recognizing the need for construction infrastructure that will provide safe, reliable drinking water to the community. The Board reviewed previously considered sites and identified similar concerns with the DNR parcels as with some of those sites, including the current location of the Wellhouse and Arsenic Treatment Plant. The Board discussed pros and cons of owning land vs. leasing land; then purchasing land vs. land conveyance which comes without a cost.

Ryan suggested hosting a special meeting in 15 days to give time for the Board to consider the resolution. Drew suggested that given a community request last month, the resolution should be adopted now to ensure it gets submitted to the Clerk's office in a timely manner.

A motion to approve the resolution with the discussed changes by James. Seconded by Jane. No objections with Jane abstaining, resolution approved.

A motion to reconsider the resolution with the discussed change by James. Seconded by Ryan.

Discussion was re-opened to discuss Jane's position on abstaining. Ryan suggested the 15-day review period again. Board discussion simplifying the resolution however, agreed the history of the MSB and Board review process and funding sources was important. Drew reminded the Board they could consider more resolutions as the process moves forward. James will talk to the ARRC about options for land ownership.

No objections on the motion to approve the resolution with the discussed changes, resolution approved with changes.

No objections with Jane abstaining to approve the original motion to approve the resolution.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. None.

IX. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

A. Drew – Jon Korta asked for a TSWB member to attend the next TCCI meeting. Drew and Jane will attend.

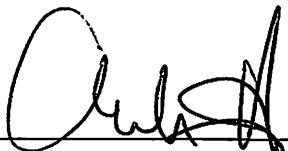
X. NEXT MEETING

A. Regular Meeting: May 6, 2026, 1:00pm, Talkeetna Warm Storage & Teams

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn James. Seconded by Jane.

No objections, meeting adjourned at 3:01pm.



Mr. Andrew Haag, Chair

ATTESTED:



Ms. Amanda Fleming, Board Administrative Support

Board Sign - In 4/1/26

Andrew Haag

Jane Steere

James Kellard

Ryan Shields

Vacant

Andrew Haag

Jane Steere

James Kellard

Ryan Shields

Vacant

On Teams

[Faint handwritten notes]

4/1/26
Date

Talkeetna Sewer & Water Board for Service Area No. 36

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION SIGN-UP SHEET

Please print your name, email address, phone number, and subject you wish to speak about.

When speaking to the board, state your name for the record and the subject you wish to speak about.

NAME (PLEASE PRINT)	E-MAIL ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER	SUBJECT
Andrea Larson	andrea@skyblueent.com	(907) 227-3784	Water Upgrade

	FY18 Actual	FY19 Actual	FY20 Actual	FY21 Actual	FY22 Actual	FY23 Actual	FY24 Actual	FY25 To Date	FY26 To Date	FY26 Adopted	FY27 Projected	FY28 Projected	FY29 Projected
Total Revenues	\$538,100.78	\$1,460,772.84	\$1,061,549.06	\$989,254.36	\$2,202,242.36	\$1,406,601.80	\$2,001,986.52	\$1,477,945.85	\$1,096,745.54	\$1,438,000.00	\$1,466,760.00	\$1,496,095.20	\$1,526,017.10
Total Expenditures	(\$315,567.96)	(\$362,107.71)	(\$1,892,244.11)	(\$808,145.68)	(\$751,864.47)	(\$1,031,477.12)	(\$946,904.01)	(\$1,320,811.72)	(\$783,353.36)	(\$1,048,615.80)	(\$1,100,640.07)	(\$1,115,510.12)	(\$1,130,702.58)
	\$222,532.82	\$1,098,665.13	(\$830,695.05)	\$181,108.68	\$1,450,377.89	\$375,124.68	\$1,055,082.51	\$157,134.13	\$313,392.18	\$389,384.20	\$366,119.93	\$380,585.08	\$395,314.53
Projected Revenues									\$1,096,745.54	\$1,438,000.00	\$1,466,760.00	\$1,496,095.20	\$1,526,017.10
Projected Expenditures								(\$1,320,811.72)	(\$783,353.36)	(\$1,048,615.80)	(\$1,100,640.07)	(\$1,115,510.12)	(\$1,130,702.58)
Capital Projects								(\$14,023.38)	(\$18,130.00)	(\$25,000.00)	(\$85,000.00)	(\$25,000.00)	(\$25,000.00)
Loan - Principal payment								(\$337,254.06)	(\$331,313.00)	(\$336,823.50)	(\$336,303.00)	(\$341,369.00)	(\$346,511.00)
Actual adjustment to fund balance 6/30	\$222,532.82	\$1,098,665.13	(\$830,695.05)	\$181,108.68	\$1,450,377.89	\$375,124.68	\$1,055,082.51						
Projected adjustment to fund balance at end of FY								(\$180,119.93)	(\$17,920.82)	\$52,560.70	\$29,816.93	\$39,216.08	\$48,803.53
Actual fund balance 6/30	(\$236,952.10)	\$861,713.03	\$31,017.98	\$212,126.66	\$1,662,504.55	\$2,037,629.23	\$3,092,711.74						
Projected fund balance at end of FY								\$2,912,591.81	\$2,894,670.99	\$2,965,152.51	\$2,994,969.44	\$3,034,185.52	\$3,082,989.05
WTP Loan Interest Payment										(\$605.30)			
WTP Loan Principal Payment										(\$5,510.50)			
WWTF Loan Interest Payment										(\$108,841.64)	(\$103,851.07)	(\$98,785.34)	(\$93,643.30)
WWTF Loan Principal Payment										(\$331,313.00)	(\$336,303.00)	(\$341,369.00)	(\$346,511.00)
Capital Funds Returned to Fund	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$756,926.00	\$21,707.08	\$486,645.88	\$1,977.00	\$134,498.40				
Corrected Actual Revenues w/o Cap Project Returns	\$538,100.78	\$1,460,772.84	\$1,061,549.06	\$989,254.36	\$1,445,316.36	\$1,384,894.72	\$1,515,340.64	\$1,475,968.85	\$962,247.14				
Fund Balance w/o Cap Project Returns	(\$236,952.10)	\$861,713.03	\$31,017.98	\$212,126.66	\$905,578.55	\$2,015,922.15	\$2,606,065.86	\$2,910,614.81	\$2,760,172.59				
Sales Tax Revenues	\$163,591.04	\$1,083,732.41	\$667,123.68	\$596,972.98	\$1,034,675.93	\$928,250.93	\$1,055,472.88	\$1,030,556.17	\$575,076.96				
Rates & Fees Revenues	\$369,539.27	\$372,417.83	\$387,724.13	\$378,257.49	\$396,649.02	\$448,877.15	\$453,258.21	\$431,494.11	\$343,976.28				
Interest on Investments	\$146.00	\$221.00	\$499.00	\$258.00	\$1,625.00	\$4,311.00	\$4,241.00	\$4,157.00	\$0.00				
State PERS Relief	\$1,533.47	\$4,401.60	\$6,202.25	\$13,765.89	\$12,366.41	\$3,455.64	\$2,368.55	\$5,129.57	\$0.00				
Other Revenues	\$3,291.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$756,926.00	\$21,707.08	\$486,645.88	\$4,632.00	\$42,772.00				
Totals	\$538,100.78	\$1,460,772.84	\$1,061,549.06	\$989,254.36	\$2,202,242.36	\$1,406,601.80	\$2,001,986.52	\$1,475,968.85	\$961,825.24				
Totals minus Other	\$534,809.78	\$1,460,772.84	\$1,061,549.06	\$989,254.36	\$1,445,316.36	\$1,384,894.72	\$1,515,340.64	\$1,471,336.85	\$919,053.24				

YTD Updated 3/31/26

**MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH
TALKEETNA SEWER AND WATER BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 26-01**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MATANUSKA-SUSITNA BOROUGH TALKEETNA SEWER AND
WATER BOARD RECOMMENDING WATER HEADWORKS SITE OBJECTIVES**

WHEREAS, the Matanuska Susitna Borough (MSB) is actively seeking improvements to the Talkeetna Water System headworks, and

WHEREAS, such improvements require identifying a sufficient site to accommodate the necessary infrastructure to include a treatment facility, backup generator, and storage tank, and

WHEREAS, additional considerations include sites outside of the floodplain, water with arsenic levels below the maximum contaminant level set by the EPA, and near Service Area no. 36., and

WHEREAS, the current headworks, which include a wellhouse, treatment plant, and backup generator, is located at 22111 S C Street, and

WHEREAS, the MSB has received a Legislative grant from the State of Alaska for \$4.75 million to address water line repairs and system upgrades, and

WHEREAS, the MSB has been authorized for a Congressional Directed Spending grant through the Environmental Protection

Agency (EPA) for \$5.1 million pending final approval to address water and sewer system repairs and upgrades, and

WHEREAS, a 2023 study was performed by HDR of potential sites within and outside Service Area no. 36, and

WHEREAS, those sites were excluded due to excessive costs, proximity to active contaminated sites, or proximity to the Susitna River, and

WHEREAS, MSB Land Management investigated additional sites within Service Area no. 36 to include private parcels and other agency lands, and

WHEREAS, additional sites have all been located within the 100-year flood plain, including the current headworks, and

WHEREAS, due to the congestion of parcels and limited vacant land within Service Area no. 36, there is potential to negatively impact residences and businesses via visual, audible, access, and flood water diversion, and

WHEREAS, there are native ruins and gravesites located near potential sites, and

WHEREAS, there is a social walking trail between East and West Talkeetna known as the Bear trail that bisects a potential site, and

WHEREAS, the current headworks is on leased Alaska Railroad Corporation (ARRC) land with a lease set to expire August 31, 2028, and

WHEREAS, a ~140' test well was drilled on a portion of the same parcel leased from the ARRC on E Front Street between S F Street and S G Street which resulted in adequate flow and arsenic results below the maximum contaminate level, and

WHEREAS, initial discussions with the ARRC indicated that the land could not be purchased and a lease would be required, and

WHEREAS, a State of Alaska State Revolving Fund forgivable loan for \$1.5 million requires the land to be owned by the MSB, and

WHEREAS, MSB Land Management identified two parcels owned by Department of Natural Resources (DNR) within the vicinity of the ARRC parcel, and

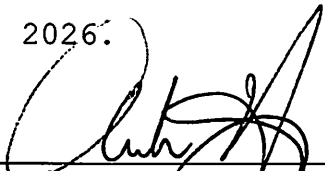
WHEREAS, MSB Land Management has requested these parcels to be transferred to MSB ownership via Public and Charitable Use Conveyances of State Land for the headworks improvements,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the MSB Talkeetna Sewer and Water Board (TSWB) hereby recommends that the MSB identify a suitable headworks location that has the least impact on the community by addressing the visual and auditory impacts, recognition of Native Lands, preservation of social trails, and

address flood water diversion concerns. The TSWB requests further discussions with the ARRC to identify specific terms to lease land for improvements and potential ownership. The TSWB requests such discussions to be reported back to the TSWB for further clarity and conversation.

AND, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the TSWB requests the aid of Representative Kevin McCabe, Senator George Rauscher, and the ARRC in the pursuit of fact finding and help from DNR to assess other possible sites of land acquisition for the townsites needs.

ADOPTED by the Matanuska-Susitna Borough Talkeetna Sewer and Water Board this 1st day of April, 2026.



Andrew Haag, CHAIR

ATTEST



Amanda Fleming, Staff Support

(SEAL)

YES: Andrew Haag, James Kellard, and Ryan Sheldon

NO: None

ABSTAIN: Jane Steere