

**Highway 41 Water Utility (H41WU)**  
**Minutes of the Meeting held Jan 29, 2026**  
**In Office Meeting, Aberdeen, SK**

**Attendance:**

- Mark Schaffel
- Christine Meachem
- Dave Tamney
- Dale Cousin
- Myron Romanchuk
- Blaine Tomolak

Mark Schaffel called the meeting to order at: 7:02 p.m.

**Adopt agenda: Dave Tamney** moved adoption of the agenda as presented, with addition of Network Upgrade quote from Access Communications and efficiencies of monthly billing, seconded by **Dale Cousin**; carried.

**Minutes from last meeting:** Changes to minutes: date for upcoming meeting should be corrected to reflect year 2026, **Dave Tamney** moved adoption of the minutes, **Myron Romanchuk** seconded; carried.

**Financial Report as presented by Christine Meachem:**

*Motion [Motion 01 – 2026] **Myron Romanchuk** made the motion to accept the financial report as presented by Christine Meachem, **Dale Cousin** seconded, carried.*

*Motion [Motion 02 – 2026] to pay the bills: **Dale Cousin** made the motion to pay the accounts payables, **Dave Tamney** seconded, carried.*

**Administrator's Report as presented by Christine Meachem**

**Board Review – Daily Water Testing Logs and Saskatchewan Research Council (SRC) Testing**

*Motion [Motion 03 – 2026] board read the Daily Water Testing and Saskatchewan Research Council testing log records: **Mark Schaffel** made the motion, **Myron Romanchuk** seconded, carried.*

Christine Meachem has spoken with a small utility, south of Highway 5, that would like to amalgamate with H41WU. There are new people who have taken over the organization's financials, and they would like to organize a time to meet with the Board in the near future to present their data. Christine Meachem to follow-up with the utility to request mapping, equipment specifications, engineer specifications, and metering assembly pictures.

The yearly audit of H41WU financials is scheduled for February 11<sup>th</sup>, 2026 with Jensen Stromberg. Christine Meachem has been busy organizing year-end reports and data for the auditors. As of January 2026: PST, GST, and T4s have all been filed for 2025. The H41WU website has been updated with the most current information and water rate increase for 2026.

The audit with the Water Security Agency was January 27<sup>th</sup> and the Annual Notice to Customers will be sent out with the February utility bills.

The Saskatchewan Association of Rural Water Pipelines (SARWP) conference was held in December. Christine Meachem has accepted a Board member position with SARWP.

Two accounts were sent to tax roll at the end of 2025. There are two new owners of accounts #341 and #360 and there has been no contact with the new owners yet. Therefore, the outstanding amounts of these accounts could not be sent to tax roll as 30 days notice to the owner is required prior to year end.

The Ministry of Highways (MoH) has paid H41WU the full amount of reimbursement, as per contract, of \$200,000 for the Highway 5 relocation project.

Christine Meachem and Mark Schaffel will schedule a budget meeting before the next Board meeting in February. The 2026 budget will be presented to the Board in February.

SaskWater would like to schedule a customer engagement meeting for March. Christine Meachem will explore dates available for the meeting. Greg Pohler is no longer with SaskWater and a new H41WU representative will be hired soon.

**Review of Accounts Receivable.**

Overdue notices have been sent and collections are going well.

**Network Upgrade – Access Communications quote: presented by Dale Cousin**

A network upgrade will be required at the Bergheim, Laniwci, and Glenmaur Pumphouses as they utilize aging dial-up modems to upload Truckfill customer data. Dale Cousin has researched options for upgrades and received a quote from Access Communications. Access is offering a fixed wireless service at each pumphouse with a VPN end-to-end network. The main office could also switch to a cable modem internet service. A three-year term price is \$239.80/month plus a one time set-up charge of \$1,500.00. A five-year term price is \$189.80/month and the set-up charge would be waived. Dale Cousin to inquire about auto dialers with Access and will bring more information to the February meeting.

**Maintenance Operator Report: Presented by Blaine Tomolak**

Prep work to prepare for the annual audit was a priority for the first part of January. Pumphouses were cleaned and the Emergency Response Plan and QA/QC policies were updated. The Annual Waterworks Compliance inspection was held on January 27<sup>th</sup> with our Environment Officer Lee Reinhart.

Mapping updates are underway for work completed in 2024 and 2025 to ensure accurate locate requests from Dial Before you Dig.

H41WU decals were applied to the new truck.

Pit Road pump stacks were replaced on both pumps in January to avoid breakdown from premature wear from sediment passing through the pumps causing an occasional grinding noise. Blaine Tomolak to price out an electric motor for the 2026 budget.

A large volume Truckfill user (account #878) has requested 4000M3 of water for summer of 2026. Blaine Tomolak is currently working with SaskWater to plan how to provide such a large volume of water.


There are currently three infill projects expected for 2026 with plans for design and costs underway.

**Safety Update: by Mark Schaffel**

There have been no safety issues to report.

**Next Board meeting is scheduled for, February 26, 2026.**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:08 p.m. by Mark Schaffel.**

Signed by   
Christine Meachem  
Administrator

Approved by   
Mark Schaffel  
Chairperson