

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEETING MINUTES**  
**September 9, 2025**  
**7:00 P.M.**  
**CHERRY VALLEY & ROCHDALE WATER DISTRICT**  
Hybrid

**I. CALL TO ORDER** – Chairman Shocik called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

The following were in attendance:

|                                 |                           |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| John Shocik                     | 2 - attending subscribers |
| Robert Jones                    | 0 - online subscribers    |
| Michael McCormick               |                           |
| Benjamin Morris, Superintendent |                           |
| Jennifer Wood, Treasurer        |                           |
| Cheryl Balkus, Clerk            |                           |

**II. District Member Forum** – There were no questions or comments from the attending audience or the board members. Commissioner McCormick motions to close the forum. Seconded by Chairman Shocik. All in favor. Approved.

**III. APPROVE MINUTES**

July 15, 2025, Meeting Minutes – Commissioner McCormick motioned to approve the July 15, 2025, minutes. Second, by Commissioner Jones. All in favor. Approved.

**IV. FINANCE**

**A.** Approve 7/21/2025, 7/24/2025, 7/28/2025, 8/4/2025, 8/11/2025, 8/18/2025, 8/25/2025, 9/1/2025 & 9/8/2025 warrants.

Commissioner Mc Cormick motions to approve all the above warrants. Second, by Commissioner Jones. All in favor. Approved.

**B.** July bank transfer –Commissioner McCormick motions to approve \$57,504.44 from the water checking account to the sewer checking account. Second by Commissioner Jones. All in favor approved

**C.** August bank transfer –Commissioner McCormick motion to approve \$71,090.38 from the water checking account to the sewer checking account. Second by Chairman Shocik. All in Favor. Approved.

**V. Administrative**

**A.** 8-12 Comins Rd – Per Superintendent Morris this property requires a whole new service as it is connected to the Mill. The applicant wanted the district to pay for it up front and pay the district overtime. The applicant tried to barter with the contractors, and those licensed approved contractors who did not want to entertain this. This is an expensive tie-in that he did not want to put the district in a position to do this practice and requires that the applicant pay all fees up front. When the applicant was informed that he would be required to pay all fees up front he requested his \$300.00 application fee that he paid to be refunded. Commissioner McCormick motioned to approve the refund of the \$300.00. Seconded by Commissioner Jones. All in favor. Approved.

**B.** 12 Denny Place – Per Superintendent Morris the district received a call July 30, 2025, at 1:00 am reporting that she came home from work and had water in the basement. The

fire department was toned out to pump out and thought water pipe in house broke. It was not her service it was the main. It is a very narrow rd. and about 7 feet from the homes. The Main did not shut down, needed to isolate neighborhood, slowed it down and pumped out the basement of approximately a foot of water. The shut off was dug out, replaced pipe and had service restored. The homeowner has made a request to be paid for losses and what she had to purchase to dry out (fans, dehumidifiers) and last request to pay the electric bill. The customer is a very reasonable customer and explained to her that in the Rules & Regs that the district is not liable unless it was intentional. Her letter claims it is intentional because we should have replaced a pipe for the 1940's. Per the Superintendent explained that her request would need to be brought to the board. We had reached out to the district insurance company and did not believe that it would be covered on the district's end. Per Chairman Shocik feels that it should not be covered. Commissioner McCormick motions to pass this over and table it and should be discussed in person with this person. Per the Superintendent a previous issue like this years ago occurred at a different location and the board ruled to deny the claim due to rules and regulations. Per Chairman Shocik wants to be respectful to them to discuss either face to face or via online. Commissioner McCormick motions that we reach out to the customer and arrange to either have a meeting face to face or online when the customer schedule can accommodate. Seconded by Chairman Schocik. All I favor. Approved.

- C. Meter Fee Policy – A policy has been presented to the board regarding a non-communication of meters. The breakdown is for charges will be if there is a refusal to change the meter and would fall under the Rules & Regulations to have as a written document. This is to make the customer aware that they will incur an additional cost by refusing to change the meter/transmitter. Commissioner Jones motions to accept the meter fee policy. Second by Commissioner McCormick. All in favor. Approved.

## VI. Operations –

Per Superintendent Morris he is getting prices on contractors to replace the remaining pipe on Denny Place of the 100 feet and tying the houses in. The district may need it to have as a special warrant article for next year's annual meeting. Will see where we are at in the spring and perhaps may not need to do a special article if we have the funds in the budget to do it. 100 ft of plastic pipe 2–3-day project \$12,000 - \$13,000 with us buying materials and with subs would be a higher price.

The district has received a water quality complaint in N Oxford. The complaint began in winter months of yellow water. We have been flushing the area, and this is a temporary fix. Another report in July from the same homeowner still claims yellow water. The Superintendent confirmed seeing it and did water quality testing to ensure correct amount of phosphate in these early 1900 pipes. To make a replacement for these pipes would be very costly for the district and an option is to install an automatic flusher that has a timer and determines times and how long and could help us alleviate this every couple of days. Initial investment would be a lot but going every 2 days or replacing all pipes in this area would be astronomical. The flow fill would be most desirable since we need to go through Oxford. They are redoing sewer lines on a couple of streets and there is the thought process that they could replace the water main. The current line is 6 inches and would need to be upgraded to 8 inches. The approximate feet of pipe would be 2,000 ft over \$400.00 per ft, added to this is valves, fittings etc.. There is a 600-house development going on in the Oxford area where Oxford Rochdale will be receiving sewer and we may be able to jump in to have a conversation about us being involved with them to share costs or pay for material if they will do the replacement of our main service line. This will

be ongoing.

Working with Tata & Howard regarding the transmission line through the swamp. Have traced out the line from the leak to 56 and started working on the Lexington Ave way to the office. It has been very challenging taking all operational staff a lot of time to stake it.

Lead & Copper sampling has been completed & submitted.

Vac excavation is the next step to identify lead services.

- VII.** Date of Next Meeting: Commissioner McCormick motions to hold the next meeting Tuesday, hybrid, October 7, 2025, at 7:00 pm at 148 Henshaw St. Leicester MA. Seconded by Chairman Shocik. All in favor. Approved.

- VIII.** Adjournment: Commissioner McCormick motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Chairman Shocik. All in favor. Approved. The meeting was adjourned for 8:11 pm.