

NEGAUNEE-ISHPEMING WATER AUTHORITY
SPECIAL MEETING
June 26, 2025
WATER TREATMENT PLANT

CALL TO ORDER:

A special meeting of the Negaunee-Ishpeming Water Authority was held on Wednesday, June 26, 2025 and was called to order at 9:07 a.m. by John Jackson.

MEMBERS PRESENT: James Bertucci, Paul Gravedoni, John Jackson, Kristen Mariuzza
(via Zoom) and Tony McGrath

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Kristy Basolo, Plan B Publishing
Jake Forchini, NIWA plant manager
Ryan Morgan, GEI
Markus Maddock, City
Brad Wootke, City
Brian Fabbri, GEI
Robert Wils, NIWA

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Paul Gravedoni made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. James Bertucci seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

TEAL LAKE PROJECT:

The group made a plan to survey and get coordinates for the City of Ishpeming to start their prep work.

Ryan Morgan went over the project plans with the board, including the drawing and the plan to avoid school land and other areas of concern. Brad Wootke from the City of Ishpeming said they hit rock while boring a four-inch hole in Al Quaal in some areas, and noted the ravine next to the school will need to be bored to get the necessary coverage.

Brian Fabbri said the plans will avoid pavement throughout Al Quaal. It was discussed that the City requested NIWA level off the area by the grand stands. Tony McGrath had questions about where the well house will be.

The board discussed timelines, and Ryan said the goal is still to get the project done this year. The City asked if they should restore the roads from current construction going on or if they should wait until NIWA's project is done.

Ryan went over the well house piping detail and specs, and said the design was set to accommodate another well going into the same well house in the future if needed. Tony asked

questions about the location of the blow-off valve and where the staff would want it for access. Kristen Mariuzza asked that the design allows for maintenance so the NIWA staff can easily reach the necessary valves. Tony noted the staff will need to be able to drain the stagnant water in the line, and there will need to be a screen on the end of line to prevent anything from going into it.

Tony asked GEI for static pressure (psi) calculations when the well is off as the state will require those calculations. He asked Ryan to confirm the necessary minimum pressure with state.

Kristen asked about how the pipe coming into the plant maintains pressure due to the elevation change. The board had concerns about that and suggested adding a check valve. The board asked again for Ryan to check with EGLE about this and to get it in writing.

Ryan went over the building specs, noting the piping is wrong on the building spec drawing as they have since been updated. Jake noted they need a floor drain and a heater. He wants to have a door that swings in; Ryan is looking into if that's a code issue. Jake asked about emergency lighting and Ryan said that was included. The board noted the siding should match the bathroom and outbuilding in that area, not the lodge. Jake noted the interior walls need to be waterproof. Kristen and Jake asked about outlets; Ryan said he will reach out to Talsma Controls to make sure that's included. It was confirmed that the structure will have no windows and a solid door for security reasons.

Jake asked about a back-up power supply; Ryan said he will look into it.

Robert Wils asked for a gate valve in the middle of the line to isolate sections for any possible repairs, using whatever the code suggests for valves.

Tony asked if the state gives permission to proceed or can NIWA go out for bids without permission. Ryan said the only thing they need to move forward is the permit. Tony asked when a realistic time is to expect a bid opening, and Ryan and Brian said September.

Kristen asked if Ryan will go over the project plans in advance with EGLE to make the permitting process smoother. Ryan said he is trying to get a meeting with Tom at EGLE to do that.

James Bertucci asked if there is a way to do what work is needed under Deer Lake Road while it is torn up so it doesn't have to be repaved later. Jake noted that the Deer Lake Road project is behind schedule, so that's in NIWA's favor.

Tony encouraged Jake to call a special meeting if necessary to keep things moving forward with this project.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **TALSMA CONTROLS RADIO REPLACEMENT QUOTE**—Tony McGrath made a motion to take the Talsma Radio Quote off the table. James Bertucci seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

The board looked at the updated quote and discussed that the City of Negaunee is interested in purchasing three of the old cards at \$1,000 a piece. The City of Ishpeming uses a different system. The board discussed the proposal briefly.

Tony McGrath made a motion to approve the radio upgrade proposal from Talsma Controls in the amount of \$44,730 and to sell three cards to the City of Negaunee for \$3,000 total. Kristen Mariuzza seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT:

James Bertucci made a motion to adjourn at 10:32 a.m. Tony McGrath seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Prepared by Kristy Basolo, recording secretary

Approved and respectfully submitted by James Bertucci Secretary/Treasurer