

REGULAR MEETING
EFFINGHAM WATER AUTHORITY

The regular meeting of the Effingham Water Authority was held on Monday, May 11, 2026 at 5:30 p.m., at the Effingham Public Library, 200 N. Third St., Effingham, Illinois. The meeting was called to order by Jim Boos. Roll call was taken, with the following trustees present: Jim Boos and Chris Kabbes. Rob Brown was absent.

(see attached list for others present)

Mr. Kabbes moved to approve the regular meeting minutes for April 13, 2026. Motion seconded by Mr. Boos, motion carried.

Mr. Boos moved to approve the Treasurer's Report for April 2026. Motion seconded by Mr. Kabbes, motion carried.

Mr. Boos moved to approve the list of bills for April 2026. Motion seconded by Mr. Kabbes, motion carried.

Eric Hartmann – Lake Lighting:

Mr. Eric Hartmann addressed the Board regarding lighting and light pollution at the lake. Mr. Hartmann suggested EWA should create regulations regarding the lighting. The Board will take it under advisement. The Friends of Lake Sara will include the issue in their next newsletter.

Jane Thoele – Fireworks:

Mrs. Jane Thoele addressed the Board regarding the fireworks display for this year. The date will be July 3, with a rain date of July 11. They plan to have the fireworks set to music this year. The cost of fireworks is \$30,000 plus \$2,500 to \$3,000 in expenses. Mr. Kabbes moved to donate \$1,750 this year. Motion seconded by Mr. Boos, motion carried.

Connor & Sophie Kabbes – Garage Variance:

Mr. Connor Kabbes addressed the Board requesting a variance to move the garage for better access to the property. The Board will set a special meeting to look at the property before making a decision.

Kevin Hoene – Lot 2 Suggs Variance:

Mr. Kevin Hoene addressed the Board regarding setbacks on their lot to allow building a house on the property. The Board will set a special meeting to look at the property before making a decision.

Scott Ealy – Blessing of Fleet; Beach Volleyball Tournament:

Mr. Scott Ealy addressed the Board regarding holding beach volleyball tournaments Memorial Weekend or around the 4th of July. Mr. Ealy also addressed the Board regarding the Blessing of the Fleet. This is the third year for the procession and Mr. Ealy requested that it be an annual event occurring the first Sunday of June. Fr. Michal Rosa of Sacred Heart Church has agreed to bless the boats this year on Sunday, June 7, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.

Property Sold at Tax Sale:

Lease 155 property has been redeemed from the tax sale. Mr. Kyle Boose informed the Board that the lessee is in default of the lease based on Article 3 of the Lease. Their office will proceed with legal proceedings.

Court One Cleanup letters are also being prepared.

Non-Agenda:

Ms. Donna Salvage informed the Board that Howard Janis requested to donate a boat to the Friends of Lake Sara; however, they did not accept the offer. Their next meeting is June 13. Ms. Salvage requested to be on the agenda in August.

Sami Childerson with IDNR informed the Board that they have a preliminary meeting on May 19 regarding the property that will be reserved. They will be surveying the property and have a final meeting in September to finalize the reserves. The Board is to decide on names for the three properties.

The city used 39,700,000 gallons of water in April 2026.

Attorney:

Mr. Kyle Boose reported that he had nothing additional to add.

Lake Superintendent:

Mr. Mike Dirks reported the water is 1" above normal pool and that he processed five (5) building permits.

Office Manager's Report:

Mrs. Sue Verdeyen reported that she processed two (2) lease transfers with one cancelling and one (1) amendment in April 2026.

The meeting was adjourned by Mr. Boos at 6:40 p.m.

Chairman

Secretary