



JOINT WATER/SEWER BOARD OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN AND BUCHANAN TOWNSHIP

MONDAY, AUGUST 17, 2026 – 7:00 AM

CHAMBER OF BUCHANAN CITY HALL - 302 N REDBUD TRAIL, BUCHANAN MI

AGENDA

THE JOINT WATER SEWER BOARD OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN AND BUCHANAN TOWNSHIP, in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, hereby gives notice of a regular meeting to be held in the Chamber of Buchanan City Hall.

* Comments may be submitted in writing at least 72 hours in advance to the City Clerk at clerk@cityofbuchanan.com

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. ***Pledge of Allegiance***
- III. **Roll Call**
- IV. **Approve Agenda**
- V. ***Public Comment - Agenda Items Only***
- VI. **Approve Minutes**
 - [A.](#) *Consider the Regular Meeting Minutes from May 6th, 2026*
- VII. ***Unfinished Business***
- VIII. ***New Business***
 - A. **PFAS Update**
 - B. **Bertrand Extension Update**
 - [C.](#) **Water & Wastewater Reports**
- IX. ***Public Comment - Non-Agenda Items Only***
- X. **Adjournment**



JOINT WATER/SEWER BOARD OF THE CITY OF BUCHANAN AND BUCHANAN TOWNSHIP

WEDNESDAY, MAY 06, 2026 – 7:00 AM

CHAMBER OF BUCHANAN CITY HALL - 302 N REDBUD TRAIL, BUCHANAN MI

MINUTES

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 7:00 AM.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Gordon led in the pledge of allegiance.

III. Roll Call

Present: Cole-Crocker, Swem, Money, Gordon, Murphy

City staff present: City Manager Tony McGhee, City Clerk Kalla Langston, Director of Public Services Mike Baker, Water Operator in Charge Craig Miller, Wastewater Operator in Charge Tom Rodgers, Wastewater operator Terry Burns, Rogers, Compliance/Wastewater Operator Zoey Martin

IV. Approve Agenda

Cole-Crocker moved, seconded by Swem, to approve the agenda as presented. Voice vote passed unanimously.

V. Public Comment - Agenda Items Only

None.

VI. Approve Minutes

A. Minutes: Consider approving the Regular Meeting Minutes from February 2nd, 2026.

Cole-Crocker moved, seconded by Money, to approve the minutes as presented. Voice vote passed unanimously.

VII. Unfinished Business

A. Bertrand Crossing Extension Continued Update

An update was provided regarding funding for the proposed Bertram Crossing utility extension. Approximately \$3 million had been included in the Michigan House budget, with efforts continuing to retain the funding through the state budget process. A separate federal appropriations request for \$2.5 million was unsuccessful; however, Congressman Walberg's office was working to identify approximately \$2.5-\$3 million through another federal agency.

If both funding sources are secured, approximately \$5.5-\$6 million could be available toward construction. Staff anticipated knowing more about the funding by the next meeting. If funding proceeds as anticipated, negotiations with project partners would occur during August and September, engineering would begin in the fall, design would continue through the winter, and construction could begin in spring 2027.

Discussion included the City's available wastewater capacity, water-system capacity, ownership and operation of utilities within Bertram Township, potential transfer of existing Niles-owned infrastructure, a possible emergency interconnection between the Buchanan and Niles water systems, billing responsibilities, future expansion, and the potential for additional utility customers to help stabilize system rates.

****Swem had to leave at 7:30 AM due to prior commitment****

VIII. New Business

A. Water/Sewer Budget Presentation FY 2026-2027

McGhee presented the Water/Sewer Budget for FY 2026/2027, outlining the revenues and expenses. The rate increase will continue to be 8% to keep up with deferred maintenance and new copper line replacement standards. Upcoming projects include the potential Bertrand Crossing expansion, replacing end of life meters and MXUs, and work on the water and sewer pipes under the parking lot at Dewey and Main St.

Gordon moved, seconded by Money to recommend approval of the 2026-27 Water/Sewer Budget to the Township and City Boards. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

B. Water and Wastewater Department Reports

Water Department Report

Staff reported that required EGLE reports were substantially complete and that lead and copper sampling will be conducted this year as part of the City's three-year sampling cycle.

Several water-main breaks occurred during the winter. Staff continues to replace and troubleshoot aging MXU units and meters to reduce estimated billing. Galvanized service lines are also being replaced as issues are encountered. Staff is preparing to abandon and properly seal Well No. 3. The well has not operated since approximately 2017, had elevated manganese levels, and is located near the creek. EGLE is working with the City on the required paperwork. Minor improvements are also planned for both the Moccasin and Front Street water towers following inspections, including ladder-security modifications and changes to overflow piping.

The Board discussed fluoridation. Staff advised that the City is not considering discontinuing fluoride treatment at this time. Water-loss figures have improved significantly. Recent levels were approximately 10-12%, compared with historical figures that at times approached 40%. Staff attributed the improvement to more accurate metering, proactive leak detection, and continued infrastructure improvements.

Wastewater Department Report

Staff reported that wastewater operations remain stable despite wet-weather conditions and routine lift-station maintenance issues. Recent mercury and PFAS testing was discussed. PFAS testing showed approximately 15.2 parts per trillion compared with a referenced water-quality standard of 12 parts per trillion. The landfill was identified as the known contributor currently being evaluated. The State is expected to require establishment of a local PFAS limit through the industrial pretreatment program. New PFAS-treatment equipment was being installed at the landfill, with startup anticipated shortly. Staff will continue coordinating with the landfill and the State and monitoring future sampling results. Staff also reviewed wastewater flows, treatment performance, nutrient levels, and utility consumption. Overall treatment numbers were reported as improving despite seasonal and weather-related fluctuations.

IX. Public Comment - Non-Agenda Items Only

None.

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 AM by Chairperson Gordon.

WATER REPORT FOR THE JWSB AUGUST 2026

The Water Department has remained busy over the past several months, completing a variety of projects to improve and maintain the city's water system.

Our crews have continued flushing hydrants, installing new water lines, and replacing outdated galvanized water service lines. We are also installing a new type of water meter for selected residents. These meters include a built-in remote electronic shutoff valve, which will be especially beneficial for duplexes and other properties with multiple meters served by a single water line. This technology allows staff to remotely activate or deactivate water service from the office, eliminating the need to travel to individual properties.

The pothole identification program has now been completed. We successfully identified approximately 85% of the homes in town, which will assist us in completing our CDSMI program requirements.

We have also completed this year's monitoring schedule required by EGLE. The results of these samples, along with current water production and chemical usage reports, are enclosed for your review.

Well #3 is scheduled to be permanently plugged and abandoned later this year. Once that work is complete, the well house will be demolished, and the site will be restored and prepared for grass.

Finally, we are continuing to replace water meters and MXU radios throughout the system to improve accuracy and ensure that all water usage is properly accounted for.

Water Gallons Pumped Compared to Gallons Billed Monthly

		2026		
Starting Date	Ending Date	Gallons Pumped	Gallons Billed	% Lost
12/30/2026	1/28/2026	9.172	8.03	12%
1/29/2026	2/25/2026	10.049	7.49	25%
2/26/2026	3/26/2026	7.894	7.138	10%
				#DIV/0!
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	Total	27.115	22.658	16%

main break

MONTHLY OPERATION REPORT

DATE	WELL PUMP					CHLORINATION OF WELLS					SUMMARY OF FLUORIDATION				
	1-A	3	4-A	5	TOTAL	WATER	CL ₂ Applied		CL ₂ Residual mg/L		23%	FLUORIDE	Applied	Sys Res	P.T. Res
	MGD	MGD	MGD	MGD	MGD	mil. lbs.	lbs.	mg/L	FREE	TOTAL	lbs.	lbs.	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L

MARCH

TOTAL	6.01	0.01	2.92	0.01	8.94	74.57	81.5				303.4	69.8			
AVG	0.43	0.01	0.32	0.01	0.29	2.41	3.5	#DIV/0!	0.88	0.9	13.2	2.3	#DIV/0!	1.1	
MAX	0.939	0.006	0.746		0.939	7.831	8.7	#DIV/0!	1.10	1.1	31	7.13	#DIV/0!	1.2	
MIN	0.215	0.006	0.230		0.000	.000	0	#DIV/0!	0.72	0.7	7.2	0	#DIV/0!	1.0	

APRIL

TOTAL	3.12	0.01	5.39	0.01	8.51	70.99	78.7				268.2	61.7			
AVG	0.39	0.01	0.36	0.01	0.27	2.29	3.6	#DIV/0!	0.93	1.1	12.2	2.0	#DIV/0!	1.0	
MAX	0.829	0.006	0.889		0.889	7.414	9.3	#DIV/0!	1.26	1.4	30	6.9	#DIV/0!	1.2	
MIN	0.007	0.006	0.241		0.000	.000	0	#DIV/0!	0.53	0.7	2.8	0	#DIV/0!	0.7	

MAY

TOTAL	4.49	0.01	5.80	0.01	10.30	85.93	93.1				313.2	72.0			
AVG	0.37	0.01	0.48	0.01	0.33	2.77	4.4	#DIV/0!	0.94	1.0	14.9	2.3	#DIV/0!	1.0	
MAX	0.991	0.008	1.247		1.247	10.400	12.5	#DIV/0!	1.15	1.4	34.4	7.912	#DIV/0!	1.1	
MIN	0.033	0.008	0.019		0.000	.000	0	#DIV/0!	0.54	0.6	5.8	0	#DIV/0!	0.8	

JUNE

TOTAL	5.65	0.01	4.88	0.01	10.55	87.96	92				291.6	67.1			
AVG	0.40	0.01	0.49	0.01	0.35	2.93	4.2	#DIV/0!	0.88	1.0	13.3	3.0	#DIV/0!	1.0	
MAX	1.077	0.010	1.001		1.077	8.982	12.3	#DIV/0!	1.08	1.2	32	7.36	#DIV/0!	1.0	
MIN	0.007	0.010	0.251		0.000	.000	0.4	#DIV/0!	0.71	0.8	6.2	1.426	#DIV/0!	1.0	



WASTEWATER JWSB August 2026

Over the past three months, the facility has managed an exceptionally busy stretch of maintenance, repairs, and operational troubleshooting across nearly every system. Multiple pumping issues were addressed, including repeated alarms and ragging at the Glaser lift station, backflushing and diagnostics at Millpond Pump #1, and intermittent failures in sludge processing that ultimately required manufacturer support and a full pump replacement. Chemical handling saw a major ferrous chloride delivery, hose and outlet repairs, and leak cleanup. Heavy rains triggered extensive cleaning of clarifiers, UV channels, and algae-affected equipment, while the UV system itself experienced several failures—broken wipers, cracked bulbs, overheated electrical components, and a ballast that briefly ignited—prompting fire department involvement and recommendations for improved climate control. Electrical disruptions also affected the north oxidation ditch aerators and the Glaser station during a power outage. Routine and annual tasks were completed as well, including laboratory calibration, fire extinguisher inspections, sludge sampling and landfill renewal, weed control, window cleaning, AC preparation, and two months of high-volume preventive maintenance work orders. Operators also traveled for their D-license exams, flow data was compiled for grant reporting, and multiple inspections identified upcoming needs such as new exit signs, emergency lights, and UV system repairs. Overall, the quarter was defined by persistent equipment challenges, heavy-weather impacts, and steady progress on regulatory, operational, and preventive maintenance responsibilities.

City of Buchanan Wastewater Reporting Aug 2026

	June 2026	May 2026	April 2026	June 2025	
PLANT FLOW					
DAILY AVERAGE (MG)	0.744	0.683	0.748	0.722	
MAXIMUM DAY (MG)	0.889	0.780	1.048	1.188	
GAL/CAP/DAY	169	155	170	164	
FINAL EFFLUENT					
CARB-BOD (mg/l)	3	3	3	2	Regulatory 25 mg/l
SUSPENDED SOLIDS (mg/l)	5	5	6	6	30 mg/l
VOLATILE SOLIDS (mg/l)	3	4	5	4	
PHOSPHORUS (mg/l)	0.88	0.89	0.74	0.81	1.0 mg/l
FECAL COLIFORM / 100 ML	31	4	69	17	200 ct/10
pH	7.2	7.3	7.2	7.3	6.5 - 9.0
DISSOLVED OXYGEN (DO) in mg/l	5.0	4.9	5.1	5.5	3.0 mg/l r
PRIMARY INFLUENT					
FLOW(MG)	0.8150	0.7660	0.8800	0.7370	
SUSPENDED SOLIDS (mg/l)	182.0	197.0	215.0	304.0	
VOLATILE SOLIDS (mg/l)	152.0	161.0	166.0	202.0	
MIXED LIQUOR					
SUSPENDED SOLIDS (mg/l)	5045.0	5237.0	4891.0	4265.0	
VOLATILE SOLIDS (mg/l)	3683	3755	3160	2802	
POWER					
KWH/MG	2,263	2,291	2,070	2,502	
KWH / #CBOD	87.77	90.27	84.17	77.66	
NATURAL GAS (100 CU. FT.)					
	61	203	163	57	
MG	24.438	23.76	26.39	22.104	influent
KWH	55,296	54,432	54,624	55,296	X96
Inf # CBOD	630	603	649	712	

Limit

10 ml

min.