

1                                   **Curran-Gardner Townships Public Water District**  
2                                   **3384 Hazlett Road | Springfield, Illinois | 62707-2522 | 217.546.3981**  
3                                   **Tuesday, May 13, 2025 | 6:00 p.m. | Special Budget Meeting**  
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5   Members: Chairman James Mitchell, Vice Chairman Mike Irwin, Trustee Eric Oschwald, Trustee  
6   Bill Moss, Trustee Mark DiMarzio, Trustee Jim Mayes, Trustee Wayne Benanti, Operations  
7   Manager Aaron Smith, Engineer Max Middendorf, Business Manager Cherril Graff, Treasurer  
8   Stacy Stremsterfer and Secretary Jessica Ryg

9   *Guests:* Todd Folder

10 **I. Call to Order:** Chairman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

11 **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

12 **III. Continued Discussion of the FY26 Budget**

13       **a.) Revenues**

- 14           a. Revenues were increased. This is due to the annual rate structure change,  
15           anticipated water usage/sales and improved revenue collection through other  
16           services, etc. It was finalized at \$2.2 million.  
17  
18           b. Total operating income was annualized at approximately \$2.6 million. It includes  
19           funds received from water sales, service charges, connection fees, penalties, etc.  
20

21       **b.) Operating Expenses**

- 22           a. These are the funds spent on the day-to-day operation of the district such as  
23           salaries, benefits, insurance, utilities, chemicals, maintenance, third party  
24           expenses, administrative expenses.  
25

26           In accordance with other local water board trustees, the possibility of a monthly  
27           trustee stipend was discussed. The Board discussed how their role is critical in  
28           overseeing the management, policy and financial stewardship of the district. Their  
29           responsibilities often require significant time, specialized knowledge and  
30           accountability to the public. It was noted that a possible stipend could provide  
31           funds for trustees ongoing commitment, including preparation, constituent  
32           communication and committee work. Funds could support recruitment, retention  
33           and the continuity of experienced trustees. It could ensure that service on the  
34           board was accessible to a broader range of community members, not just those  
35           who can afford to volunteer a significant amount of their time without pay.  
36

- 37           b. Operating Expenses: All expenses were reviewed based on their anticipated year-  
38           end result. Some expenses were reduced compared to the previous year or for

budget tightening. Others were increased based on foreseeable expectations. Tariffs were discussed due to their uncertainty about purchasing essential materials and how those proposed increased prices could directly impact the new budget.

- c. Total operating expenses were budgeted to be approximately \$2 million.
- d. Debt Service was discussed. These are payments the District makes to cover the principal and interest due on bonds. These payments are transferred monthly to the appropriate bond account to meet the bi-annual interest payments and annual principal payments. Anticipated debt service (including contribution to the Short Lived Asset account is \$558K

*Noted: The Debt Service may need to be amended pending the Illinois EPA SFR loan and loan forgiveness program.*

- e. Capital Expenses were discussed. These expenses include the cost associated with major infrastructure projects and long-term asset acquisitions. Some of these expenses include water main replacements, meter replacements, well/pump rehabilitation, possible booster pumps, SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system upgrades, specialized equipment, vehicles/trucks, and other upgrades or expansions/extensions.
- f. It was agreed to budget the following Capital Expenditure:
  - i. Two Defibrillators
  - ii. New zero turn Bobcat mower
  - iii. Village of Curran Highway Crossing
  - iv. Security camera (from short lived asset account)
- g. Note: The Capital Expenditure budget may need to be amended to cover any unforeseen items throughout the year and if funds are available.

It was clarified that the cellular read modulars have been paid for and no longer need to be budgeted.

## **V. Recommendations**

It was recommended to propose the FY26 Budget for approval.

**VI. Adjournment** A motion was made by Vice Chair Irwin to adjourn. The motion was second by Trustee DiMarzio. The board adjourned at 6:58 p.m.