

**THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COMMISSION  
DISTRICT BOARD**

555 Main Street  
Hartford, Connecticut 06103  
Monday, January 12, 2026

**PRESENT:** Commissioners John Avedisian, John Bazzano, Richard Bush, Alberto Cortes, Dimple Desai, William DiBella, David Drake, John Gale, Joan Gentile, Gary Johnson, Diane Lewis, Maureen Magnan, Dominic Pane, Chris Tierinni, James Woulfe and District Chairman Donald Currey (16)

**REMOTE ATTENDANCE:** Commissioners Andrew Adil, Kyle Anderson, Peter Gardow, Christian Hoheb, Byron Lester, Jacqueline Mandyck, Pasquale J. Salemi, Alvin Taylor and Calixto Torres (9)

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Avery Buell, James Healy, Mary LaChance, Michael Maniscalco, Bhupen Patel and New Britain Special Representative Michael Carrier (6)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Citizen Member Linda Russo  
Scott W. Jellison, Chief Executive Officer  
Christopher Stone, District Counsel  
John S. Mirtle, District Clerk  
Kelly Shane, Chief Administrative Officer  
Christopher Levesque, Chief Operating Officer  
Jonathan Perugini, Chief Financial Officer/ Director of Finance (Remote Attendance)  
Jamie Harlow, Director of Human Resources  
Sue Negrelli, Director of Engineering  
Dave Ruddy, Director of Operations  
Robert Schwarm, Director of Information Systems (Remote Attendance)  
Tom Tyler, Director of Facilities  
Nick Salemi, Communications Administrator  
Carrie Blardo, Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer  
Victoria Escoriza, Assistant Administrative Officer and Special Assistant  
Kevin Sullivan, IT Consultant (Remote Attendance)  
Elizabeth Tavelli, Independent Consumer Advocate (Remote Attendance)

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by District Counsel Christopher Stone at 5:31 PM

**ROLL CALL AND QUORUM**

The District Clerk called the roll and informed District Counsel that a quorum of the Commission was present, and the meeting was declared a legal meeting of the District Board of The Metropolitan District of Hartford County, Connecticut.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Those in attendance stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

***Without objection, agenda item #7 “Swearing in of New Commissioners” was moved forward prior to the election of Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.***

**SWEARING IN OF NEW COMMISSIONERS**

The District Clerk swore in Commissioner Alberto Cortes of West Hartford and Commissioner Edwin Vargas of Hartford.

***Commissioner Torres entered the meeting remotely at 5:35 PM***

**ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON**

Christopher Stone, District Counsel, called for the election of the Chairperson. Commissioner Gentile placed Commissioner Donald Currey’s name in nomination, Commissioner Woulfe seconded the nomination.

There being no further nominations, the nominations were closed. Commissioner Donald Currey of East Hartford was elected Chairperson of the District Board of The Metropolitan District for 2026 and 2027 by majority vote of those present. Commissioner Taylor opposed. Chairman Currey assumed the Chair and thanked the Commission for their nomination and votes.

***Commissioner Anderson entered the meeting remotely at 5:41 PM***

**ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRPERSON**

Chairman Currey called for the election of the Vice Chairperson. Commissioner Lester placed Commissioner William A. DiBella’s name in nomination, and the nomination was duly seconded by Commissioner Drake.

There being no further nominations, the nominations were closed. Commissioner William A. DiBella of Hartford was elected Vice Chairperson of the District Board of The Metropolitan District for 2026 and 2027 by unanimous vote of those present. Vice Chairman DiBella thanked the Commission for their nomination and votes.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

***On motion made by Commissioner Gale and duly seconded, the meeting minutes of December 8, 2026 were approved.***

**PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS**

No one from the public appeared to be heard.

**INDEPENDENT CONSUMER ADVOCATE COMMENTS & QUESTIONS RELATIVE TO AGENDA ITEMS**

Independent Consumer Advocate Elizabeth Tavelli did not have any comments.

**REPORT FROM DISTRICT CHAIRMAN**

District Chairman Currey reminded Commissioners to submit their conflict of interest disclosure forms, and he also stated that himself and Vice Chairman DiBella will serve on the MetroHartford Alliance Board.

**REPORT FROM CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Chief Executive Officer Scott Jellison congratulated Chairman Currey and Vice Chairman DiBella on their re-elections and thanked them for their support of MDC staff.

**REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNSEL**

District Counsel Christopher Stone did not provide a report.

**APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION  
FOR THE YEARS 2026 - 2027**

To: District Board

From: District Chairman

January 12, 2026

The Chairman hereby appoints the following Commissioners to the Committee on Organization for 2026 and 2027 and until their successors are appointed and qualified:

John Avedisian  
Clifford Avery Buell  
Richard Bush  
Donald M. Currey\*  
William A. DiBella

John Gale  
Peter Gardow  
Joan McCarthy Gentile  
Byron Lester  
Domenic Pane

\*ex-officio

**RECESS**

At 5:43 PM, Commissioner Vargas made a motion to recess the District Board meeting to enable the Committee on Organization to prepare its report on appointments for 2026 and 2027. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously.

**RECONVENE**

At 5:50 PM, Commissioner Vargas made a motion to reconvene the District Board meeting. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously. The District Board meeting reconvened.

**COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION  
APPOINTMENTS FOR THE YEARS 2026-2027**

To: District Board

January 12, 2026

From: Committee on Organization

At a meeting of the Committee on Organization held on January 12, 2026, it was:

**Voted:** That pursuant to the Charter of The Metropolitan District, the Committee on Organization recommends to the District Board the following Citizen Members appointments for the years 2026-2027 and until their successors are appointed and qualified:

|                   |               |                  |
|-------------------|---------------|------------------|
| Linda King-Corbin | Hartford      | Board of Finance |
| Linda Russo       | East Hartford | Board of Finance |
| Awet Tsegai       | East Hartford | Board of Finance |
| Sharon Murray     | West Hartford | Board of Finance |

**Further**

**Voted:** That the Committee on Organization recommends to the District Board the following Bureau, Committee, and Board appointments for the years 2026 and 2027 and until their successors are appointed and qualified:

**Water Bureau**

|                                     |                      |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Andrew S. Adil                      | Byron Lester         |
| Kyle Anderson                       | Diane Lewis          |
| Avery Buell                         | Jackie Mandyck       |
| Alberto Cortes                      | Dominic Pane         |
| <i>Donald M. Currey *Ex-Officio</i> | Pasquale Salemi      |
| Dimple Desai                        | Christopher Tierinni |
| John Gale                           | Edwin Vargas         |
| Peter Gardow                        |                      |

**Bureau of Public Works**

John Avedisian

James Healy

John Bazzano  
Richard Bush  
*Donald M. Currey \*Ex-Officio*  
William DiBella  
David Drake  
Joan Gentile

Gary Johnson  
Maureen Magnan  
Bhupen Patel  
Alvin Taylor  
Calixto Torres  
James Woulfe

**Board of Finance**

Andrew Adil  
*Donald M. Currey \*Ex-Officio*  
Jackie Mandyck  
Pasquale Salemi

Linda King-Corbin  
Linda Russo  
Awet Tsegai  
Sharon Murray

**Personnel, Pension & Insurance Committee**

John Avedisian  
*Donald M. Currey \*Ex-Officio*  
Dimple Desai  
David Drake  
Joan Gentile  
Byron Lester

Maureen Magnan  
Dominic Pane  
Bhupen Patel  
Alvin Taylor  
Christopher Tierinni  
Edwin Vargas

**Committee on MDC Government**

Kyle Anderson  
John Avedisian  
John Bazzano  
Avery Buell  
*Donald M. Currey \*Ex-Officio*  
Peter Gardow

James Healy  
Gary Johnson  
Maureen Magnan  
Christopher Tierinni  
Calixto Torres  
James Woulfe

**Internal Audit Committee**

Andrew Adil  
John Avedisian  
*Donald M. Currey \*Ex-Officio*  
Diane Lewis  
Jackie Mandyck

Dominic Pane  
Alvin Taylor  
Christopher Tierinni  
Edwin Vargas

**Community Affairs**

Kyle Anderson  
John Bazzano  
Avery Buell  
*Donald M. Currey \*Ex-Officio*  
Byron Lester

Diane Lewis  
Maureen Magnan  
Jackie Mandyck  
Calixto Torres  
Edwin Vargas

**Commission on Regional Planning**

Alberto Cortes  
*Donald M. Currey \*Ex-Officio*

Gary Johnson  
Byron Lester

Dimple Desai  
William DiBella  
David Drake

Jackie Mandyck  
Bhupen Patel  
Pasquale Salemi

**Strategic Planning Committee**

Andrew Adil  
John Avedisian  
Richard Bush  
Alberto Cortes  
*Donald M. Currey \*Ex-Officio*  
William DiBella  
John Gale  
Joan Gentile  
James Healy

Gary Johnson  
Byron Lester  
Diane Lewis  
Jackie Mandyck  
Dominic Pane  
Bhupen Patel  
Pasquale Salemi  
Christopher Tierinni

**Committee on Technology**

Andrew Adil  
Richard Bush  
Alberto Cortes  
*Donald M. Currey \*Ex-Officio*  
William DiBella

David Drake  
Peter Gardow  
Joan Gentile  
Gary Johnson  
Alvin Taylor

**Further  
Voted:**

The Committee on Organization ratifies the following appointments by the District Chairman made in accordance with MDC Bylaws §§ B3m and B6h:

**General Policy & Planning**

Andrew Adil  
John Bazzano  
Donald Currey  
Dimple Desai  
William DiBella

James Healy  
Bhupen Patel  
Pasquale Salemi  
Calixto Torres

**Ethics Advisory Board\***

Dimple Desai  
Bhupen Patel  
Christopher Tierinni

Peter Gardow \*Alternate  
Joan Gentile \*Alternate

\*District Chairperson not an ex-officio member.

Respectfully submitted,

  
John S. Mirtle, Esq.  
District Clerk

***On motion made by Commissioner Gale and duly seconded, the report was received and resolution adopted by unanimous vote of those present.***

**DISTRICT CLERK  
SERVICE OF 2026 TAX WARRANTS**

To: District Board

January 12, 2026

From: District Clerk

Pursuant to the Charter of the District, Section 3-13, the District Clerk reports that Tax Warrants for Fiscal Year 2026, drawn by the Chairman of The Metropolitan District, in favor of the Treasurer have been served on the following:

Town Clerk Andrea DiStephan, Bloomfield  
Town Clerk Kelly Bilodeau, East Hartford  
City & Town Clerk Eric Lusa, Hartford  
Town Clerk James Krupinski, Newington  
Town Clerk Sandra Merrill Wieleba, Rocky Hill  
Town Clerk Leon Davidoff, West Hartford  
Town Clerk Sue Schroeder, Wethersfield  
Town Clerk Scott Nolan, Windsor

Receipts for these tax warrants have been received and are on file in the Office of the District Clerk.

Respectfully submitted,



John S. Mirtle, Esq.  
District Clerk

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO 1996 AGREEMENT FOR WATER SUPPLY BETWEEN  
TOWN OF PORTLAND AND THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT**

To: District Board

January 12, 2026

From: Water Bureau

At a meeting of the Water Bureau held on January 5, 2026, it was:

**Voted:** That the Water Bureau approves the agreement that was put before the Water Bureau, as amended, and transmitted to the Town of Portland.

It is recommended that the District Board approve the following resolution:

**BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Board of Commissioners of The Metropolitan District hereby authorizes the Chief Executive Officer, or his designee, to execute the attached First Amendment To 1996 Agreement for Water Supply Between Town Of Portland and The Metropolitan District regarding the terms, conditions, and specific obligations under which the District will provide drinking water to the Town of Portland, the full terms of which are set forth in the attached First Amendment.

Respectfully submitted,  
  
John S. Mirtle, Esq.  
District Clerk

***On motion made by Commissioner Adil and duly seconded, the report was received and resolution adopted by unanimous vote of those present.***

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO 1996 AGREEMENT FOR WATER SUPPLY BETWEEN  
TOWN OF PORTLAND AND THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT**

**THIS FIRST AMENDMENT TO 1996 AGREEMENT FOR WATER SUPPLY BETWEEN TOWN OF PORTLAND AND THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT** (the “First Amendment”) entered into as of the \_\_\_\_\_ day of January, 2026 by and between the TOWN OF PORTLAND, a municipal corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State Connecticut, acting herein by Michael Pelton, its First Selectman, duly authorized (hereafter “Portland” or the “Town”), and THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT, a municipal corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Connecticut, having its principal place of business in Hartford, Connecticut, acting herein by Scott W. Jellison, its Chief Executive Officer, duly authorized (hereafter the “District”).

**RECITALS**

**WHEREAS**, the Town and the District entered into an Agreement dated January 26, 1996, whereby the District agreed to supply potable water to Portland (the “Agreement”), upon certain terms and conditions as more particular set forth therein, and subject to approval of the State of Connecticut Departments of Public Health (“CT DPH”) and the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, formerly the Department of Environmental Protection (“CT DEEP”); and

**WHEREAS**, on June 30, 1997, CT DPH issued a “Sale of Excess Water Permit,” identified as permit #97-01, allowing the sale of excess water by the District to Portland in the quantities set forth in the Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 5, 1999, CT DEEP issued a water diversion permit to the District and Portland, identified as Permit DIV-1996-09 and/or Permit DIV-96-09, and renewed by Permit DIVC-202306582 issued on January 19, 2024, allowing for the



transfer of water from the District's water supply to Portland in the quantities set forth in the Agreement, through January 8, 2049; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 12, 2008, CT DPH issued Sale of Excess Water Permit #SEW 2008-03, allowing the sale of excess water by the District to Portland in the quantities set forth in the Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 15, 2019 CT DPH issued Sale of Excess Water Permit #SEW 2019-02, allowing the sale of excess water by the District to Portland in the quantities set forth in the Agreement, through March 1, 2029; and

**WHEREAS**, the Agreement is set to expire on January 26, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, the Town is currently developing a new drinking water well as an additional water source for the Town Water Department. When fully operational, it is intended to replace, in whole or in part, the supply of water provided by the District under the Agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to supply Portland with water from the expiration of the Agreement to the completion and full operation of Portland's new well, the parties, subject to the approval of each party's boards and commissions of cognizance, desire to modify certain terms in the Agreement, as hereinafter set forth.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, for valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

1. Section 2 of the Agreement shall be deleted and the following shall be inserted in its place:

The term of the Agreement shall continue until June 30, 2028. In the interim, the parties will endeavor in good faith to negotiate a new agreement addressing water supply and/or an emergency interconnection for the Town upon expiration of Agreement. If, prior to December 1, 2027, the parties have not executed a new agreement while acting in good faith, the term of the Agreement shall extend until December 31, 2028. The Town shall have the option to extend the term of this Amendment and Agreement beyond December 31, 2028 until June 30, 2029 by providing written notice to the District before November 1, 2028 to extend the term.

If the term is extended beyond March 1, 2029, commencing upon notice from Portland exercising its option to extend the Agreement term to June 30, 2029, the parties will endeavor to seek an extension or renewal of the Sale of Excess Water Permit #SEW 2019-02 in accordance with the parties' agreement as to the new term and consistent with the obligations set forth in paragraph 3 of the Agreement.

If any permit, required by either the District or the Town for the supply, transmission, diversion and/or sale of water to the Town by the District, is not

renewed or otherwise extended prior to its termination, the termination date of this Agreement shall be automatically modified to the termination date of such permit(s). The District and the Town each agree that they shall seek renewals or extensions of any such permits as may be required so as to allow for the provision of water supply to cover the term of this Agreement and any extension dates. If, however, any such renewal or extension imposes upon the District or the Town obligations or expenses not contemplated in the original permit being renewed or extended, then this Agreement may be terminated by such party which would be required to incur such obligations or expenses, effective on the date the relevant permit expires and upon written notice to the other party, unless the other party agrees, in writing, to take responsibility for such obligations and/or expenses.

2. Section 13 Quantity of Water of the Agreement shall be deleted and the following shall be inserted in its place:

During the Term of this Agreement, the District agrees to deliver and the Town shall purchase the following amounts of water:

- (a) From January 27, 2026 to June 30, 2026:  
Minimum – 400,000 gallons per day, Maximum – 1,100,000 gallons per day;
- (b) From July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027:  
Minimum – 425,000 gallons per day, Maximum – 1,100,000 gallons per day;
- (c) From July 1, 2027 to June 30, 2028:  
Minimum – 437,500 gallons per day, Maximum – 1,100,000 gallons per day;
- (d) From July 1, 2028 to December 31, 2028 (if term extended in accordance with Section 2 of this Agreement):  
Minimum – 450,000 gallons per day, Maximum – 1,100,000 gallons per day;
- (e) From January 1, 2029 to June 30, 2029 (if term extended in accordance with Section 2 of this Agreement, subject to regulatory approval):  
Minimum – 475,000 gallons per day, Maximum – 1,100,000 gallons per day;

The foregoing amounts are based on an average which shall be calculated over a 365 day period in a calendar year; provided, however, that in no instance shall the Town's use of water exceed a maximum draw of 2,000,000 gallons during any twenty-four (24) hour period, a maximum daily draw of 2,000,000 gallons per day or a maximum of 1,384 gallons per minute. The parties acknowledge that there may be times when the amounts used by the Town may either not meet or may exceed the amounts set forth above. If; however, the use by the Town exceeds the amount set forth hereinabove (a) in a manner that results in a violation of either the Diversion Permit or the Sale Permit, (b) results in a hindrance of water supply to District customers located within the District or within a District exclusive service area, or (c) causes damage to the District System or other District facilities used for the supply of water, then the Town

shall be liable for (i) all fines and or penalties that may be assessed by the CT DEEP and/or the CT DPH and all costs or expense of the District incurred in defending or resolving such violations, (ii) for all damages costs, expenses (including attorneys' costs and expenses) and liability that may be assessed against the District by virtue of the hindrance of water supply to District customers, and (iii) for all costs associated within remedying any damage to the District System and/or other District water supply facilities. In addition, the Town acknowledges that the District will be incurring certain expenses in connection with the supply of water to the Town which expenses will not be reimbursed by the Town. The District is willing to incur these expenses based on the understanding that the Town will be purchasing a minimum amount of water from the District and the Town's failure to do so shall cause damage to the District. If the use by the Town does not meet the minimum set forth above calculated over a calendar year, (i.e. 150,600,000 gallons in 2026, 157,425,000 gallons in 2027, 162,425,000 gallons in 2028, 85,975,000 from January 1, 2029 to June 30, 2029) the Town shall pay to the District a sum equal to the difference between the minimum required and the amount actually used multiplied by the rate then in effect for the sale of water to non-member customers; provided, however, that if the minimum amount to be purchased by the Town is not met solely because of use restrictions placed on the Town by the District pursuant to the provisions of Paragraph 18 hereinbelow, then the Town shall not be charged for its failure to meet the minimum requirements to the extent it is caused by the District restrictions.

3. Section 31 Notices of the Agreement shall be deleted and the following shall be inserted in its place:

All notices required to be sent herein shall be sent certified mail, return receipt requested, express overnight mail or delivered by hand to the parties at the following addresses:

If to the District:

Chief Executive Officer  
The Metropolitan District  
555 Main Street  
Hartford, CT 06103

With a copy to:  
District Counsel  
The Metropolitan District  
555 Main Street  
Hartford, CT 06103

If to the Town:

First Selectman  
Town of Portland  
265 Main Street  
Portland, CT 06480

With a copy to:  
Department of Public Works  
Town of Portland  
265 Main Street  
Portland, CT 06480

And shall be deemed given on the earlier of three (3) business days from the date of mailing, the date of actual receipt or the first date of attempted certified mail delivery.

4. Miscellaneous.

- (a) Except as otherwise expressly provided by this First Amendment, all of the respective terms, conditions and provisions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect. It is declared and agreed by each of the parties hereto that this First Amendment and the Agreement be read and construed as one instrument.
- (b) This First Amendment may be executed and delivered in any number of counterparts, each of which shall constitute an original, but all of which when taken together shall constitute but one and the same Amendment.
- (c) The provisions of this First Amendment shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective successors and assigns.
- (d) As to the District, its Water Bureau and Board of Commissioners approved this First Amendment on January 7, 2026 and January 12, 2026, respectively, and as to Portland, its Board of Selectmen approved this First Amendment on December 17, 2025. Absent all necessary approvals by each parties' commissions or boards of cognizance, this First Amendment shall be null and void.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this First Amendment as of the date set forth above.

**TOWN OF PORTLAND**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Michael Pelton  
Its First Selectman

**THE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Scott Jellison  
Its Chief Executive Officer

**Approved as to form and content**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Christopher R. Stone  
Its District Counsel

**OPPORTUNITY FOR GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No one from the public appeared to be heard.

**COMMISSIONER REQUESTS FOR CONSIDERATION OF FUTURE  
AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no Commissioner requests for future agenda items.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 PM.

ATTEST:

John S. Mirtle, Esq.  
District Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Approval

\*\*Video of the full January 12, 2026 District Board meeting is available at  
<https://www.youtube.com/@MetropolitanDistrictCommission>\*\*