

**UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Thursday, February 19, 2026**  
**8:30 – 10:00 am**  
**1300 Market Ave SW**  
**AGENDA**

1. Approval of Minutes – January 15, 2026
2. Public Comments on Agenda Items
3. Approval of Agenda
4. UAB History Presentation (Jernberg/Verbrugge)
5. Updates
  - a. 2026 Water/Sewer Report (January) – McCaul
  - b. Wyoming Sludge/RNG (Ouzts)
  - c. Kent County Community Action CY25 Summary (Giffel)
6. Public Comments
7. Items from Members
8. Next Meeting – March 19, 2026
9. Adjournment

**UTILITY ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Thursday, January 15, 2025**  
**MINUTES**

Members Present

Mark Bennett, Mike DeVries, Samarhia Giffel, Jared Grabinski, Wayne Jernberg, Doug La Fave, Doug Matthews, Jeff McCaul, Andrew Meyer, Alison Nugent, James Ouzts, Lindsay Sagorski Munsell, and Tai Verbrugge

Alternates Present

Alan Avitia

Others Present

Kolene Allen, Brent Bode, Zach Gogulski, Alexia Hall, Wayne Harrall, Mark Parsley, Joe Platte, Arden Postma, Dan Taber, and Marc Teitsma

Call to Order

Mr. Jernberg called the meeting to order at 8:33 am.

Approval of Minutes – December 18, 2025

Motion to approve the minutes made by Mr. Devries and seconded by Ms. Giffel.

MOTION CARRIED.

Public Comments on Agenda Items

There were no public comments.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda made by Mr. La Fave and seconded by Mr. Ouzts.

MOTION CARRIED.

2025 Water and Sewer Comprehensive Master Plan

Representatives from Fishbeck provided a presentation titled *Grand Rapids Metropolitan Area, Comprehensive Master Plan Updates 2025*.

Members asked questions and discussed the information presented. No action was taken.

A copy of the presentation is on file.

## Updates

### 2025 Water/Sewer Report)

Mr. McCaul presented the Water/Sewer Report for CY 2025.

A copy of the report is on file.

### City of Grand Rapids Staffing Updates

- Mr. Verbrugge announced that Alexia Hall has accepted a position as Financial Analyst II in the City's Engineering Department. The vacancy is currently posted on the City's website if anyone is interested in applying.
- Mr. Jernberg announced that he has accepted the position of Utilities Director. This new role oversees the Water System, Environmental Services, and Energy, Lighting and Communications. Mr. Matthews added that this new position will be able to focus on and elevate conversations around utilities along with the public works director.

### Utility Advisory Board Subcommittee

Mr. Jernberg stated that, in response to some comments made by the Mayor during the Rate Study presentation last month, some City staff met with Eric DeLong to discuss the history of the UAB and its policies. At this time, we do not plan to create a subcommittee.

Mr. DeLong will attend the February meeting to provide a brief history of the Board. Understanding the origins of the Board, our contracts, and how they have evolved over time is important for all community leaders, as it helps us remain focused on our mission and continue the traditions that guide our work.

Regular attendance, collaboration, and consistent representation from each community at monthly meetings is essential to effective governance.

### Quarterly Financial Update

Water revenue is outperforming by approximately \$2M and should continue to improve due to the rate increase. Expenses are slightly under budget but on target.

Sewer revenue is coming in slightly below projections. While billed volume is higher than last year, it has not reached anticipated levels. The rate decrease directed by the rate study is beginning to be reflected in financial results. In addition, the cost of natural gas commodities has declined. Overall, sewer revenue is approximately \$2 million below expectations. Sewer expenses are healthy and as projected.

Mr. Matthews stated that active discussions are underway to optimize digester operations and increase processing volume. He identified opportunities for growth, including the partnership with the City of Wyoming, as well as the potential to accept concentrated waste from agricultural and food industry sources.

### Chair/Vice Chair discussion

Mr. Jernberg announced that Darrel Schmalzel will be leaving the Utility Advisory Board due to his retirement from City of Walker. His position as Vice Chair will need to be filled.

A motion was made to appoint Doug La Fave as Vice Chair by Mr. DeVries and seconded by Mr. Jernberg.

MOTION CARRIED.

### Public Comments

There were no public comments.

### Items from Members

- Mr. Verbrugge has copies of the Final Rate Study if anyone would like to grab a copy from him today.
- Ms. Nugent reported that Caledonia's pump station is done and they are waiting for warmer weather to drain their north well and flush their hydrants before switching to Grand Rapids system.
- Mr. DeVries stated that when the original contract was established in 1989 or 1990, as well as during the first several renewals, reaching agreement required considerable time and effort. He noted that contract renewals now occur automatically every five years, a process made possible by the work of the Utility Advisory Board and the trust that has been built over time. He thanked the Board for its continued work and dedication.
- Mr. Harrall (Grand Rapids Township) was attending his first UAB meeting. He stated that he recently heard a U of M professor present on climate change highlighting increased temperature, increased water levels and how those have the potential to impact the intake in Lake Michigan.

### Next Meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2026.

### Adjournment

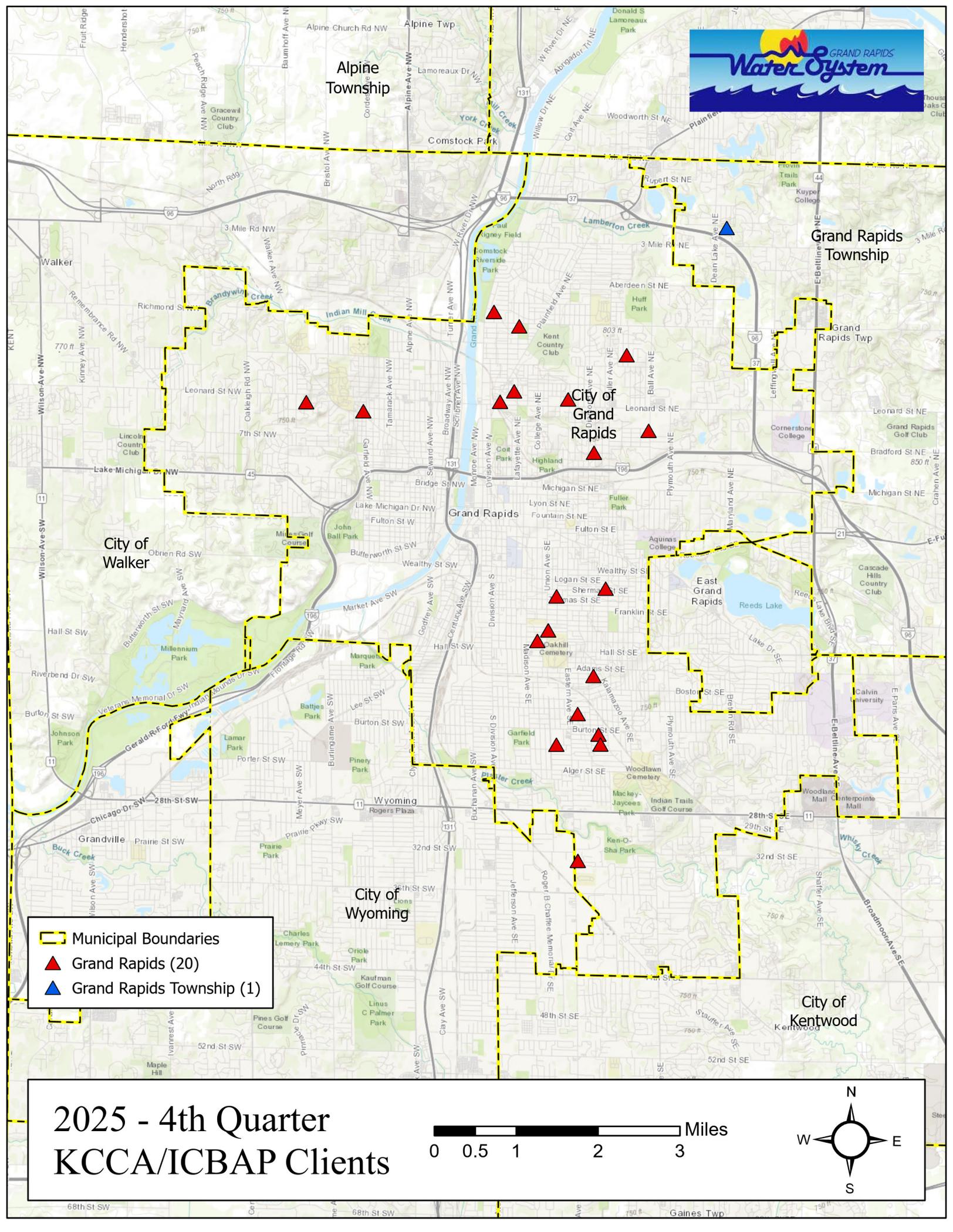
The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 am.

**Water/Sewer UAB Report  
January 2026**

<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Contractor</b>	<b>Award Date</b>	<b>Substantial Completion Date</b>	<b>Final Completion Date</b>	<b>Water Fund Authorized NTE Amt</b>	<b>Sewer Fund Authorized NTE Amt</b>	<b>Est. Year for Rates</b>	<b>Integrated (Y/N)</b>
Flooring Improvements at WATER RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING	EV Construction Co.	1/13/2026	3/20/2026	4/20/2026	N/A	\$ 181,000.00	2026	Y
Replacement of the Motor Control Center at the NORTH PRIMARY CONTROL BUILDING (Increase to Contract)	Newkirk Electric Associate, Inc. dba Lakeland Electrical Services	5/9/2023 1/13/2026 (increase)	9/30/2026	10/30/2026	N/A	\$ 645,885.00	2026	Y
Procurement of Electrical Switch Gear for the Replacement of North-South UV Disinfection at the WATER RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY	The Kendall Group dba Kendall Electric, Inc.	1/13/2026	2/1/2028	3/1/2028	N/A	\$ 553,733.00	2028	Y
Procurement of UV Equipment for the Replacement of North-South UV Disinfection at the WATER RESOURCE RECOVERY FACILITY	Trojan Technologies Corp.	1/13/2026	2/1/2028	3/1/2028	N/A	\$ 3,047,500.00	2028	Y

**Kent County Community Action (KCCA)**  
**Water/Sewer Payment Assistance Program**  
**Contract Years 2025 & 2024**  
**Fourth Calendar Quarter - October 1 thru December 31**

	2025		2024	
	Q4	YTD	Q4	YTD
<b>City of Grand Rapids</b>				
ICB Authorized		\$ 153,690.00		\$ 145,662.00
Non-Operating Revenue Authorized		\$ 80,000.00		\$ 80,000.00
ICB Total Funding		\$ 233,690.00		\$ 225,662.00
<b>KCCA</b>				
Total Assistance Award(s)	\$ 6,607.66	\$ 58,052.76	\$ 25,166.99	\$ 103,809.68
Total Administrative Fee(s)	660.77	\$ 5,805.28	2,516.70	\$ 10,380.97
Total ICB Used	\$ 7,268.43	\$ 63,858.04	\$ 27,683.69	\$ 114,190.65
Total ICB Reimbursed	\$ 7,268.43	\$ 63,858.04	\$ 27,683.69	\$ 114,190.65
Q1 Reimbursement	\$ (17,647.53)	\$ (17,647.53)	\$ (23,289.06)	\$ (23,289.06)
Q2 Reimbursement	\$ (20,108.58)	\$ (20,108.58)	\$ (28,632.48)	\$ (28,632.48)
Q3 Reimbursement	\$ (18,833.50)	\$ (18,833.50)	\$ (34,585.42)	\$ (34,585.42)
Q4 Reimbursement	\$ (7,268.43)	\$ (7,268.43)	\$ (27,683.69)	\$ (27,683.69)
ICB Remaining Authorized Funds		\$ 89,831.96		\$ 31,471.35
ICB Remaining Non Operating Funds		\$ 80,000.00		\$ 80,000.00
<b>Demographic Summary</b>				
Household(s) Served	21	202	79	326
Person(s) Served	62	544	214	850
Average Household Size	2.95	2.69	2.71	2.61
Single Head of Family Served	6	90	26	123
Average Assistance Amount	(\$314.65)	(\$287.39)	(\$318.57)	(\$318.43)
Failed Screening Process	5	32	32	79
Denied After Completed Process	0	0	0	2
Repeat Household(s) Served	1	6	15	35
<b>Jurisdiction Summary</b>				
Grand Rapids	20	193	75	311
Cascade Township	0	0	0	0
Grand Rapids Township	1	3	1	4
Kentwood	0	2	1	2
Tallmadge Township	0	0	0	0
Walker	0	4	2	9
Wright Township	0	0	0	0



Alpine Township

Grand Rapids Township

City of Grand Rapids

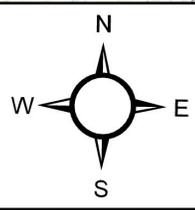
City of Walker

City of Wyoming

City of Kentwood

- ▭ Municipal Boundaries
- ▲ Grand Rapids (20)
- ▲ Grand Rapids Township (1)

# 2025 - 4th Quarter KCCA/ICBAP Clients





Alpine Township

Grand Rapids Township

City of Grand Rapids

City of Walker

City of Wyoming

City of Kentwood

- Municipal Boundaries
- City
- Grand Rapids (193)
- Grand Rapids Township (3)
- Kentwood (2)
- Walker (4)

# CY 2025 KCCA/ICBAP Clients

