

**HASTINGS UTILITY BOARD  
AGENDA**

**Airport Conference Room - Hastings Municipal Airport  
3300 W 12th Street  
April 9, 2026  
9:00 AM**

**ROLL CALL:**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

**MOTION TO ADOPT CURRENT AGENDA FOR April 9, 2026 REGULAR MEETING.**

**PUBLIC NOTICE** - Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Tuesday, April 7, 2026. Pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute Section 84-1412, the public is advised that a copy of today's agenda and all reproducible written material which will be discussed at today's meeting is located at the back of the Council Chambers. Also, a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted on the south wall of the Council Chambers which is accessible to members of the public.

**MANAGER'S COMMUNICATIONS:**

**BOARD CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS:**

**BOARD MEMBERS' COMMUNICATIONS:**

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. All Consent Items.
  - (a) Approval of the minutes of the Hastings Utility Board Meeting of March 12, 2026.

**REGULAR AGENDA:**

2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.
3. General Business.
  - (a) Finance
    - i. Budget Schedule
  - (b) Production
    - i. Electric Production Outage

- (c) Operations
  - i. Discussion on Live Data in the Field
- (d) Administration
  - i. Sewer Billing Error/Correction
- (e) Other

4. Possible Closed Session (if necessary or requested).

**ADJOURN:**

The Hastings Utility Board reserves the right to enter into an executive session at any time during the meeting, in accordance with the Nebraska Open Meetings Act, even though the closed session may not be indicated on the agenda. It is the intention of the Hastings Utility Board to take up the items on the agenda in sequential order. However, the Hastings Utilities Board reserves the right to take up matters in a different order to accommodate the schedule of the Utility Board Members, persons having items on the agenda, and the public.

CITY OF HASTINGS, NEBRASKA  
MINUTES OF UTILITY BOARD REGULAR MEETING  
Thursday, March 12, 2026

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a Regular Meeting of the Utility Board of Hastings, Nebraska was conducted Airport Conference Room - Hastings Municipal Airport 3300 W 12th Street, on March 12, 2026.

**ROLL CALL:**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by Bill Hitesman with the following members present: Jeanette Dewalt, Scott Kvols, Regg Rutt. Derek Zeisler, Jaci Higgins, Brandan Lubken, Larry Consbruck, Erik Nielsen, Larry Fox, Micah McCaffery, Noel Neinhueser, Steve Huntley, Kyle Patten, Karl Block, Jesse Oswald. Absent: Susan Meeske, Jay Beckby, Mark Funkey

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

Bill Hitesman led the group in the recital of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.

**MOTION TO ADOPT CURRENT AGENDA FOR March 12, 2026 REGULAR MEETING.**

Moved by Kvols, Second by Rutt to adopt the current agenda for the March 12, 2026, regular meeting. Roll call: Ayes: Bill Hitesman, Jeanette Dewalt, Scott Kvols, Regg Rutt. Nays: None. Absent: Susan Meeske. The motion carried.

**PUBLIC NOTICE** - Official Notice of the Regular Meeting was published in the Hastings Tribune on Tuesday, March 10, 2026. Pursuant to Nebraska Revised Statute Section 84-1412, the public is advised that a copy of today's agenda and all reproducible written material which will be discussed at today's meeting is located at the back of the Council Chambers. Also, a current copy of the Nebraska Open Meetings Act is posted on the south wall of the Council Chambers which is accessible to members of the public.

**MANAGER'S COMMUNICATIONS:**

Wanted the Board to know that we are still looking for potential generation sources for the future. We are investigating what Phase III of our solar farm would look like. Good news is that Hastings sits on more capacity than what we need.

**BOARD CHAIRMAN'S COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**BOARD MEMBERS' COMMUNICATIONS:**

None.

**CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:**

Willis Hunt speaks his opinion about city growth and utilities.

## CONSENT AGENDA:

### 1. All Consent Items.

- (a) Approval of the minutes of the Hastings Utility Board Meeting of February 12, 2026.

Moved by Dewalt, seconded by Kvols to approve the minutes for the meeting of February 12, 2026. Roll Call: Ayes: Hitesman, Dewalt, Kvols, Rutt. Nays: None. Absent: Meeske. Approved.

## REGULAR AGENDA:

### 2. Unfinished Business of Preceding Meeting.

### 3. General Business.

- (a) Finance

- i. Virtual Audit Presentation from AMGL.

We have Marci from AMGL on video conference, and she walks through the Utility audit with us.

- ii. Q1 Financial Update

Jaci discusses the fiscal year 2026 quarter one financial and operating report.

**Electric Department** — Payment in Lieu of Tax moved to a dividend fee and is reflected in a decrease in revenue and expenses. Longer than normal fall outage (compliance driven) leading to less generation and higher expenses, making the most of the long outage.

**Gas Department** — Payment in Lieu of Tax moved to a dividend fee and is reflected in a decrease in revenue and expenses. Very mild fall with low gas usage. Mild fall allows for an "extended" construction season.

**Water Department** — Payment in Lieu of Tax moved to a dividend fee and is reflected in a decrease in revenue and expenses. Wet late summer into fall, reducing the usage for yard watering.

- (b) Production

- (c) Operations

i. Water Outages Update

There have been some water main breaks the past few weeks.

We are not sure if it is the reason for the water main breaks, but on March 1st we had a 4.1 magnitude earthquake that happened 30 miles south of Hastings.

Tuesday, March 3rd at 3 am, we had a water main break on the intersection of 13th and Baltimore. Thank you to the utilities dispatch for catching it so quickly.

- Impacted about 27 customers. Got back up at 7 pm

March 6, 4 pm, water main break on D and Emerson. Had to cut the valve out and put in a new structure. Wanted to thank the neighbor that gave the workers sandwiches at 2 am. They finished at 4 am.

Special thanks to everyone. Dispatch, police department, locators, and water staff.

ii. PCF Virtual Presentation

Brandan gives a "tour" of the Pollution Control Facility (PCF), Waste water treatment facility.

Pollution Control Facility (PCF)

- Commissioned in 1980 \*Rotating Biological Contactor (RBC) from 1980 to 2002. \*

- Trickling filter from 2002 to 2014 \* Activated sludge 2014 to present

- 3.4 million gallons per day

Primary Treatment

- Influent raw water is screened to remove debris 1/8" or larger.

- Water portion of waste is pumped once, gravity does the rest.

- Grit removal removes settleable inorganic solids.

- Primary clarification removes settleable organic solids.

Primary Sludge Treatment

- Settleable organic solids from primary clarification transferred continuously to anaerobic digestors.

- Pathogens destroyed and solids digested by anaerobic bacteria. Large organic molecules broken into simpler compounds.

- Byproducts include biogas (40%) and class B fertilizer (60%).

- Biogas (Biosolids Application)

- EPA regulates many biosolids constituents (metals, nitrogen). Annual Biosolids reporting required.

- PCF staff responsible for biosolids land application and field organic loading.

- About 2.5 million gallons per year land applied each year.

Final Treatment (Activated Sludge)

- Microbiological life suspended in solution and provided oxygen to enhance growth.

- Microbes consume remainder of soluble organics leaving clean water.

- Microbial life in activated sludge treatment is diverse and plant specific.

- Aging sludge must be wasted to keep the system productive and healthy.

- Waste activated sludge (WAS) is stored and concentrated on lagoons at PCF.

Trucked to Maxon Lagoons for final disposal.

What's new? - New Digester Covers - RBC Conversion - West Basin Commissioning

What's NExt? - UV Sterilization - Nitrate & Phosphorus Removal - Lagoon Overhaul

(d) Administration

i. Share the Warmth Update

Karl gives an update on Share the Warmth. Will be doing something new that we have not done before. Share the Warmth will be part of the Give Hastings Day on May 7th.

(e) Other

4. Possible Closed Session (if necessary or requested).

**ADJOURN:**

Motion to adjourn by Dewalt, second by Kvols. Roll Call: Ayes: Hitesman, Dewlt, Kvols, Rutt. Nays: None. Absent: Meeske. Adjourned at 10:20 am.

APPROVED:

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Board Secretary

# WEC Spring Outage

- 20 March – 1 May
  - 7-Year Turbine Overhaul
  - Turbine Valve Overhaul
  - Bottom Ash Recirculating System Installation
- 24 April – 8 May
  - Precipitator Repairs
  - Coal Pulverizer Preventative Maintenance
  - B-Circulating Water Pump Repairs





# Steam Turbine Overhaul - Overview

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# What is a Steam Turbine?



Converts high-pressure, high-temperature steam from the boiler into mechanical energy (rotational shaft power)



Drives the electrical generator, turning mechanical energy into electricity




Acts as the central energy conversion step between the boiler (heat source) and generator (power output)



# Steam Turbine Overhaul

- Planned maintenance activity
  - 7-year schedule
- Restores efficiency and reliability
- Prevents unexpected failures



# Why Overhauls Are Needed

- Wear and tear on internal components
- Thermal stress and fatigue
- Efficiency loss over time
- Vibration or performance issues

# Disassembly Work

- Removal of turbine casing
- Extraction of rotor
- Dismantling of buckets and seals
- Tagging and documenting parts
- Cleaning of components



## Inspections - Common Problems Identified

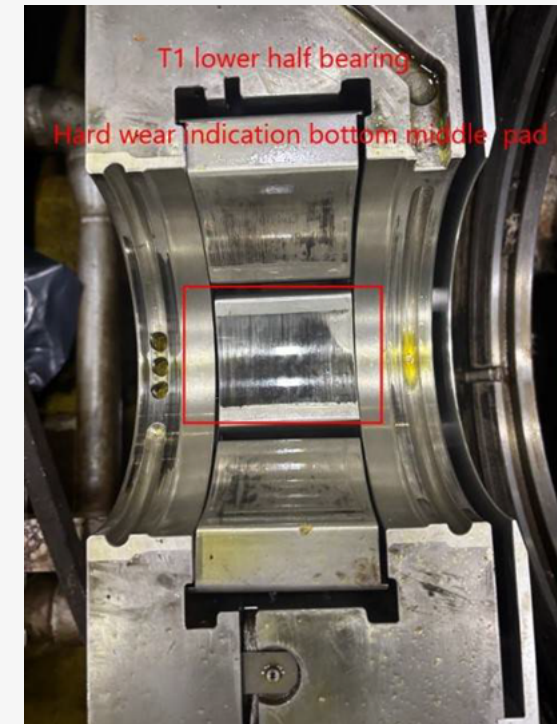
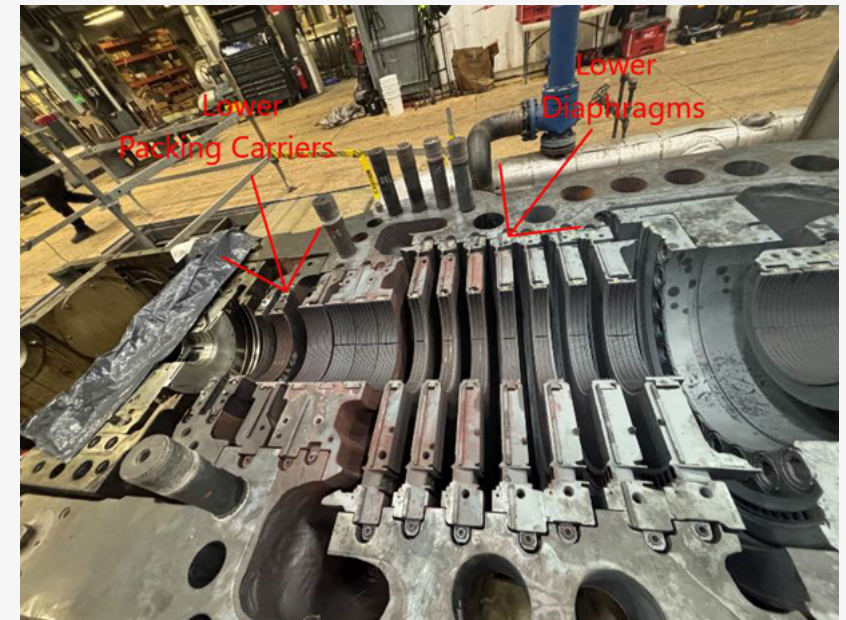
Blade erosion or damage

Seal degradation and steam leakage

Bearing wear

Rotor imbalance

Corrosion and deposits





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## Repair and Replacement

- Blade repair or replacement
- Seal and gasket replacement
- Bearing refurbishment or replacement
- Rotor balancing
- Surface cleaning



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## Reassembly and Alignment

- Reinstallation of rotor
- Proper alignment of shaft and casing
- Seal installation
- Clearance verification

## Testing and Startup

- Startup checks and monitoring
- Vibration and temperature checks
- Performance verification
- Leak checks

## Benefits of Overhaul

- Improved efficiency
- Extended equipment life
- Reduced downtime risk
- Enhanced safety & reliability

