

Illinois Water Authority Association

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MAY 2026 NEWSLETTER

Quarterly Board & Member Meeting Scheduled for June 4, 2026

The Association's Quarterly Board Meeting is scheduled for June 4 at Avanti's Restaurant in Bloomington. Dinner costs will be covered by the Association. Attorneys and members of all water authorities are also invited. The agenda for the evening is printed on page 5. Dinner begins at 5:00 pm and the business meeting begins at 6:00 pm.



From the Chair

Data centers – something to keep our eyes on

The Illinois Water Authority Association – your organization – is diligently monitoring legislation that directly affects groundwater supply and quality. We are closely watching legislation regarding the addition of data centers across the Illinois landscape. Currently Illinois has 139 data centers at various scales, with 123 in the planning stages – more data centers than any other state.

Data centers are known to depend on a large amount of water as a cooling resource. Counties and municipalities across Illinois are voting on resolutions that will slow down the development of data centers until appropriate water use studies have been conducted.

Several pieces of legislation have been introduced in Illinois and are at various stages of working their way through the legislative process. HB5513 requires (among other things) an impact assessment of water usage. SB3830 requires data centers to maintain and report water consumption data. SB4004 specifically addresses the Mahomet Aquifer. IWAA retains a legislation tracker consultant to make sure we don't miss anything and that we are informed on the status of pertinent legislation. It is one of the values of membership in IWAA.

It's always good to be ahead of the curve as we face more efforts that may not be in the best interest of our groundwater resources.

It doesn't stop at data centers. We continue to stay on top of proposed legislation that applies to the sequestration of CO₂. IWAA will keep you updated on how your group can help protect groundwater resources in Illinois.

Illinois passed legislation, SB1723, that prohibits CO₂ activity above, under or through a Sole Source Aquifer, of which the Mahomet Aquifer has been designated. The permit requests for the injection wells filed with the US EPA by the company have not been terminated or withdrawn at this time.

Regarding the CO₂ sequestration project in the southwest corner of McLean County, Alysium, the current owner of the project, has terminated the leases and payments with landowners that signed on to the project. Landowners agreed to let Heartland Greenways - now Alysium - use their brine filled pore space to inject supercritical CO₂ into it for storage.

Illinois Water Authority Association Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2026
(to be voted on and approved by the members attending June 2026 meeting)

Call to Order: Chairman Susan Adams called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call and guests: Susan Adams; Jim Todd, Menard County Water Authority; Gary and Ann Williams, Allin Township Water Authority; Russell and Theresa Benjamin and Raul Martinez, Southeast McLean County Water Authority; Dean and Phyllis Hudson, South Ross Township Water Authority; Mary Auth, Executive Administrator. Attending by Zoom: Mike Funk, Mt. Hope/Funks Grove Water Authority; Jerry Elliott, Sugar Grove Water Authority; Mark McGrath, Attorney.

Approval of Agenda: A motion to accept the agenda was made by Jim Todd and seconded by Dean Hudson. Motion passed.

Minutes of December 4, 2025 meeting: Motion was made to accept the minutes by Jerry Elliot and were seconded by Raul Martinez. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report was given by Mary Auth. The balance of the Treasurer's report was \$68,280.71. A year-to-date cash flow and approved budget for 2026 was also given. Motion was made by and seconded, to accept the report. Motion carried. Mary passed out the financial reports.

Select Water Authority to do Financial Review: Northern Logan County was suggested to do the yearly Financial Review. A motion was made by Russel Benjamin and seconded by Jim Todd to have Northern Logan County do the Review. Motion carried.

Attorney's Report: Mark McGrath made an observation about the water shortage in Bloomington and water authorities need to watch because of the drought.

Illinois Ag Legislative Day: March 24, 2026 will be Ag Day starting at 8:00 am. A motion was made for the IWAA to sponsor \$225.00 by Raul Martinez and seconded by Russel Benjamin. Motion passed.

MAC Update and 104th General Assembly: The new director of ISWS, Dr. Jenna Shelton, will be put on the webpage news of the IWAA website. She also has a website concerning what's happening with ISWS and new data centers. She was scheduled to appear at the meeting, but could not attend. Mac is waiting on the Water Survey.

Legislative Review 104th General Assembly: Nothing new is happening now, but Susan Adams is receiving updates from Creative Resources and watching for legislation that would affect water authorities or the Water Use Act of 1983. There are several bills which are being kept track of. Three bills are being worked on to ban CO2 storage and protecting the aquifer (HB3614, SB0182, and SB1723). On May 20th, SB1723 was passed by both houses. This bans carbon sequestration – the process of capturing and storing carbon by injecting it underground, within an area that overlies, underlies, or passes through a USEPA designated sole-source aquifer. The Mahomet Aquifer is the only aquifer in Illinois with such a designation. The Governor signed into law SB1723, which banned CO2 from Sole Source Aquifer, but not recharge areas.

Consideration of bills: Attorney Mark McGrath (\$633.50), Mary Auth-Admin (\$709.20), Creative Resources (\$425.00) and Avanti's (\$359.39). A motion was made by Russel Benjamin to pay the bills, and it was seconded by Dean Hudson. Motion carried.

Other Business: Susan Adams shared that the Illinois Water Authority Association is dedicated to maintaining local authority and management of groundwater resources. There is a concern about planned CCS Projects.

Next Meeting: June 4th meeting will be at Avanti's at 5:00 p.m. and the meeting at 6:00.

Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.

2026 Dates of Interest		
June 4	Avanti's Bloomington	Membership Meeting
August 6	Via phone conference	Executive Committee
August 13-23	Springfield	Illinois State Fair
September 3	Avanti's Bloomington	Membership Meeting
November 5	Via phone conference	Executive Committee
December 3	Avanti's Bloomington	Membership Meeting

Bloomington serves as a central point for most of the membership, thus Avanti's will continue to be used for the membership meeting. If anyone within the membership suggests an alternative location, it will be investigated. Avanti's Italian Restaurant is located at **3302 East Empire Street, Bloomington**

Zoom, Zoom Zoom. Again for the June meeting we are setting up a Zoom call. An electronic invitation will be going out to those who have an email address on file with IWAA. But in the meantime, here is the link to the June 4 meeting. This will be the same link for every meeting from now on.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88692911422?pwd=jasS00iBTiWhdzYXogtO3SaawyYiri.1>

Meeting ID: 886 9291 1422

Passcode: 295352

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Updated financial statement will be available as a hard copy at the June 4 membership meeting.

Illinois Water Authority Association

Financial Report

Period: February 28, 2026 - April 30, 2026

Checking account balance as of December 1 2025 **\$ 27,477.53**

Receipts

		\$	
	Deposit -		
3/31/2026	Interest	4.55	
	Deposit -		
4/30/2026	Interest	4.22	
	Total Receipts		\$ 8.77

Disbursements/Expenses

3/3/2026	Check 1354 - Mary Auth	220.00	
3/9/2026	Check 1356 - Avantis	359.39	
3/10/2026	Check 1355 - Mary Auth	220.00	
3/31/2026	Check 1358 - Auto Owners	656.00	
4/7/2026	Check 1357 - Illinois Ag Fund	225.00	
4/16/2026	Check 1359 - Mary Auth	329.75	
	Total Disbursements		\$ 2,010.14

Checking account balance as of February 28, 2026 **\$ 25,476.16**

Assets (CDs)	BoP Minier #19517 15mo 3.55% 3/1/27	\$ 10,087.53	
	Bop Miner #19233 15mo 3.5% 12/22/2026	10,174.31	
	Alliance #423 18mo 3.40% 04/10/2027	10,170.74	
	Alliance #297 18mo 3.90% 10/21/27	10,577.14	
	Total CDs		\$ 41,009.72
	TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE		\$ 66,485.88

**Illinois Water Authority Association
Quarterly Membership Meeting
June 4, 2026, 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. CST
Avant's, 3302 East Empire Street, Bloomington, IL**

Registration4:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Dinner5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Business Meeting..... 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Current Membership

* ALLIN TOWNSHIP WATER AUTHORITY	* MT HOPE/FUNKS GROVE WATER AUTHORITY
* DANVERS TOWNSHIP WATER AUTHORITY	* RUSSELL ALLISON WATER AUTHORITY
* IMPERIAL VALLEY WATER AUTHORITY	* SOUTHEAST MCLEAN COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
* MACKINAW VALLEY WATER AUTHORITY	* SOUTH ROSS TOWNSHIP WATER AUTHORITY
* MENARD COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY	* SUGAR GROVE WATER AUTHORITY
* NORTHERN LOGAN CO. WATER AUTHORITY	* SUSAN J ADAMS – ASSOCIATE

Trustees of the above listed member water authorities may be in attendance at this meeting

Current Leadership

Susan J. Adams – Chairperson	Gary Williams – Secretary
Michael Funk – Vice Chairman	Donald Osborn Jr. – Treasurer
Mary Auth – Exec. Administrator Mark J. McGrath - Attorney	

MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to order - Susan Adams
2. Approval of Agenda **<ACTION>**
3. Membership – official welcome to Southeast McLean County Water Authority
4. Roll Call -
5. Minutes of March 5, 2025 Meeting - **<ACTION>**
6. Treasurer's Report - Donald Osborn
7. 2026 Year-to-Date Cash Flow
8. Request/Report from Mark McGrath **<ACTION>**
9. Comments from visitors
10. Illinois State Fair Ag Day Breakfast – August 14, 2026 **<ACTION>**
 - a. Sponsor - \$300 **<ACTION>**
 - b. Tickets to Ag Day breakfast, including admission tickets
11. Update on MAC & RWSPC - S J Adams
12. Update on 104th General Assembly & Legislation – Susan Adams
 - a. IALD – 21 visits to legislative offices, with 3 members available
 - b. Spoke on SB2842 – no eminent domain
 - c. Invited to testify at hearing on Groundwater Governance on April 16
13. Consideration of Bills for Payment –McGrath, Mary Auth & others **<ACTION>**
14. Other Business – Updated website **<ACTION>**
15. Next Quarterly Meeting – September 3, 2026 at Avanti's in Bloomington at 5:00 pm
16. Adjourn

Menu for dinner

Chicken Breast
Caesar Salad
Fudge brownie or cookie

Mostaccioli with original meat sauce
Chef Salad and Caesar Salad

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88692911422?pwd=jasS00iBTiWhdzYXogtO3SaawyYiri.1>

Meeting ID: 886 9291 1422

Passcode: 295352

What is the Illinois Water Authority Association?

The Illinois Water Authority Association (IWAA) is a non-profit, inter-governmental group of water authorities. The Association is dedicated to maintaining local Authority and management of groundwater resources. The Association pursues these objectives through the exchange of ideas on groundwater management and the development of groundwater management plans. Information is reviewed not only from IWAA members, but with other groundwater groups on a state, regional and national level. The Association is active in seeking the adoption of legislation to sustain and improve local groundwater management.

Water Authorities Act

- Regional water authorities
- Broad Powers
- Regulation

- 1 - Imperial Valley
- 2 - Menard County
- 3 - Mackinaw Valley
- 4 - Danvers Township
- 5 - Hudson Township
- 6 - Allin Township
- 7 - Mount Hope
- 8 - Mahomet Aquifer
- 9 - Mahomet Valley
- 10 - Blount Township
- 11 - South Ross Township
- 12 - Sugar Grove Township
- 13 - Effingham (near Effingham PWS)
- 14 - Russell-Allison (2+ Townships)
- 15 - SE McLean County (8 Townships)
- 16 - Shawnee/Gallatin Co. (3 Townships)
- 17 - Northern Logan Co. (8 Townships)

