

Illinois Water Authority Association

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September 2026 NEWSLETTER

Quarterly Board & Member Meeting Scheduled for September 3, 2026

The Association's Quarterly Board Meeting is scheduled for September 3 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 – Susan Adams

As I talk about carbon sequestration and challenges this process creates for communities and water resources, it might be important to provide a bit of a background on why Illinois Water Authority Association (IWAA) is paying attention.

Storing carbon dioxide CO₂ deep underground carries specific risks related to groundwater safety, rock stability and environmental health. It's the risk to groundwater safety that most concerns IWAA. If CO₂ leaks from deep storage formations into shallow freshwater aquifers, it lowers the water's pH (making it acidic). Acidic water can dissolve underground minerals and cause toxic heavy metals—such as manganese, zinc, and strontium—to leach out of the sediment and into drinking water. The industrial process of capturing CO₂ requires large amounts of water, which can stress local water supplies. (Source: ScienceDirect.com)

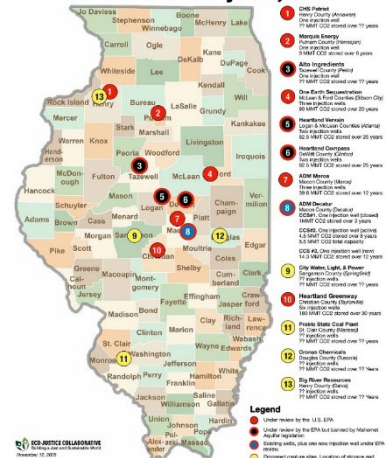
In Illinois, several companies and ethanol plants have, or are in the process of developing proposed carbon dioxide pipelines connecting their facilities to a CO₂ sequestration injection well.

All local Illinois Water Authorities should also be diligent in monitoring potential carbon storage in their areas. The map shows where discussions on storage are being considered. Note that in central Illinois, there has been a successful disruption to protect the Mahomet Aquifer.

Thus far, Illinois Senate Bill 1723 was signed into law by Governor Pritzker on August 1, 2026. The bill amends the Environmental Protection Act so that no person shall conduct a carbon sequestration activity over a sole-source provider of water.

CO₂

Planned CCS Projects, Illinois



CALL FOR IMMEDIATE ACTION

Support HB 5786 – Give your state representative a call or send an email asking them to support and become a co-sponsor of HB5786. This bill will ban eminent domain in Illinois for CO₂ pipeline (only) permits, allowing landowners the power to negotiate to protect property rights, to support farmland productivity, and to improve the safety of CO₂ pipeline routes. 82% of Illinois voters polled oppose the use of eminent domain for CO₂ pipelines (July 2024 poll commissioned by BOLD Alliance and conducted by Embold Research). Political support is bipartisan.

Your help is important, use this link to find your representative:

<https://www.illinoispolicy.org/maps/illinois-house/>

Illinois Water Authority Association Meeting Minutes
June 4, 2026
(to be voted on and approved by the members attending September 2026 meeting)

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

Roll Call and guests: Susan Adams, single member; Jim Todd, Menard County Water Authority; Gary/Ann Williams, Allin Township; Mike Funk, Mt. Hope/Funks Grove; Dean/Phyllis Hudson, South Ross Township; and guest Amanda Pankau, Mahomet Valley Water Authority. By Zoom, Jerry Elliot, Sugar Grove; Tom Cross, Northern Logan, and Mark McGrath.

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

Welcome of new membership: Southeast McLean County was officially welcomed to IWAA.

Minutes of March 5, 2026 meeting: Motion was made to accept the minutes by Dean Hudson and were seconded by Mike Funk. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's report was given by Mary Auth. The balance of the Treasurer's report was \$65,917.98. A year-to-date cash flow and approved budget for 2026 was also given. Motion was made by Dean Hudson and seconded by Mike Funk, to accept the report. Motion carried. Mary passed out the financial reports and a comparison budget.

Attorney's Report: Mark McGrath requested that members go to the IWAA website and check out information on data centers. It is a webinar from Prairie Rivers Network.

Mahomet Valley Water Authority: Guest Amanda Kau introduced herself. She works for Prairie River Network.

Amendment: A motion was made by Gary Williams that any Water Authority that becomes inactive (non-member), and decides later to become a member again, going forward is not required to pay past dues. Motion was seconded by Jerry Elliot. Motion carried.

Illinois Ag Legislative Day: March 24, 2026 was Ag Day. Susan attended IALD and stopped by 21 offices and visited 3 legislators. She left information concerning CO2 pipelines and CO2 sequestration, and why to oppose it. (SB2842)

Mary to put on the webpage news of the IWAA website. She also has a website concerning what's happening with ISWS and new data centers. 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 20, 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. On April 16, 2026, Don Osborn and Susan Adams were invited to testify at a hearing on Groundwater Governance.

Illinois State Fair AG breakfast: Breakfast is at 8:00 August 14, 2026. You can request admission tickets from Mary. Also, a motion was made by Jim Todd and seconded by Mike Funk to sponsor \$300.00 toward Illinois State Fair Ag Day. Motion passed.

Consideration of bills: Attorney Mark McGrath (\$952.00), Mary Auth-Admin (\$871.06), Auto Owners Ins, (\$656.00) and Avantis (\$286.89). A motion was made by Mike Funk to pay the bills, and it was seconded by Dean Hudson. Motion carried.

Other Business: Susan Adams reported we need to simplify updating the website. Updating the site will be about \$1,100. Since it is not in the budget, Mary offered to have the cost taken out of her budget. A motion was made by Mike Funk, not to exceed \$1,200 for the update. It was seconded by Jim Todd. Motion passed. A request of each Water Authority was made to give information (History) on their Water Authorities. E-mail to Mary.

Next Meeting: September 3rd meeting will be at Avantis at 5:00 p.m. and the meeting at 6:00.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Dean Hudson and seconded by Tom Cross to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm

Upcoming Dates of Interest		
September 3	Avanti's Bloomington	Membership Meeting
November 5	Via phone conference	Executive Committee
December 3	Avanti's Bloomington	Membership Meeting
February 4, 2027	Via phone conference	Executive Committee
March 4, 2027	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 September 3, 2026 membership meeting.

Illinois Water Authority Association

Financial Report

Period: June 1, 2026 - July 31, 2026

Checking account balance as of May 31 , 2026			\$	24,845.94
Receipts				
			\$	
6/15/2026	Deposit - Dues Susan Adams	55.00		
6/15/2026	Deposit - Dues Danvers	1,100.00		
6/15/2026	Deposit - Dues Allin Twnshp	1,100.00		
6/22/2026	Deposit - Dues Menard	1,100.00		
6/30/2026	Deposit - Interest	3.61		
6/26/2026	Deposit - Dues Mackinaw Valley & South Ross	2,200.00		
7/9/2026	Deposit - Dues Mt.Hope/Funks Grove	1,100.00		
7/20/2026	Deposit - Dues No. Logan	1,100.00		
7/30/2026	Deposit - Dues Sugar Grove and Russell Allison	2,200.00		
7/31/2026	Deposit - Interest	4.85		
	Total Receipts		\$	9,963.46
Disbursements/Expenses				
6/3/2026	Check 1361 - Mary Auth	611.31		
6/1/2026	Check 1362 - McGrath Law Office	952.00		
6/8/2026	Check 1363 - Avantis	286.89		
6/22/2026	Check 1364 - Creative Resources	850.00		
6/26/2026	Check 1365 - Ag Resources Fund (State Fair)	300.00		
7/14/2026	Check 1366 - Mary Auth	406.75		
7/31/2026	Check 1367 - Auto Owners	630.72		
	Total Disbursements		\$	4,037.67
Checking account balance as of July 31, 2026			\$	30,771.73
Assets (CDs)	BoP Minier #19517 15mo 3.55% 3/1/27	\$ 10,177.80		
	BoP Miner #19233 15mo 3.5%			
	12/22/2026	10,264.07		
	Alliance #423 18mo 3.40% 04/10/2027	10,257.19		
	Alliance #297 18mo 3.90% 01/21/27	10,680.32		
	Total CDs		\$	41,379.38
TOTAL FUNDS AVAILABLE			\$	72,151.11

**Illinois Water Authority Association
Quarterly Membership Meeting
September 3, 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 – Potential members
4. Roll Call -
5. Minutes of June 4, 2026 Meeting - **<ACTION>**
6. Treasurer's Report - Donald Osborn
7. 2026 Year-to-Date Cash Flow
8. Nominating Committee for Vice Chairman, Secretary and Director at Large
9. Request/Report from Mark McGrath **<ACTION>**
10. Comments from visitors
11. Update on MAC & RWSPC - S J Adams
12. Update on 104th General Assembly & Legislation – Susan Adams
13. Consideration of Bills for Payment –McGrath, Mary Auth & others **<ACTION>**
14. Other Business – Worker's Comp Insurance
15. Executive Administrator Comments – Mary Auth
16. Next Quarterly Meeting – December 3, 2026 at Avanti's in Bloomington at 5:00 pm
17. 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=jasS00iBTiWhdzYXoqtO3SaawyYiri.1>

Meeting ID: 886 9291 1422
Passcode: 295352

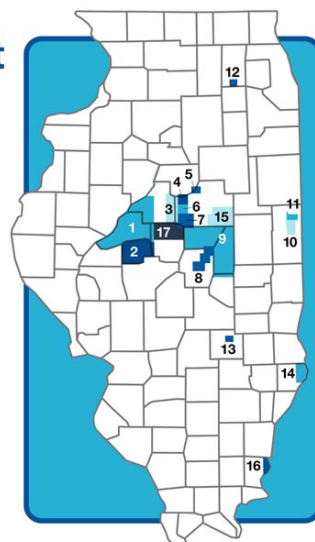
What is the Illinois Water Authority Association?

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)



Join us for the December meeting, when we will hear from Jerry Elliott of Sugar Grove Water Authority about the challenges his group encountered when they introduced “reasonable use” of water rule.

Deep Aquifer System Overview in Northeastern IL

