

MEMORANDUM

To: All Councilmembers

From: CURO By: Jared Reese

CC: Justyn Hawkins and Anita Curran

Date: 11/19/2025

RE: The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans Meeting 11/19/2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans Board of Directors met on 11/19/2025. The complete packet for the meeting can be found [here](#).

Executive Director Report

Power Complex

SWBNO installed Turbine 7, and tested the equipment to ensure its optimal performance. SWBNO scheduled the power complex ribbon cutting for December 16th.

SWBNO updated the schedule for SFC2 and SFC3. The testing and start-up of SFC2 began right after SFC1 completed its 30-day test. SWBNO stated that SFC2 and SFC3 would be ready for use in January 2026.

Environmental Initiatives

Dr. Chalk and Director Tyler Antrup started a program with funds from the River Network's grant. SWBNO used the funds to create "trash blooms" and plant trees planting along the Florida Avenue canal. SWBNO prescribed a burn and prairie planting in this area and developed an implementation plan for a public awareness campaign.

Water Service Line Inventory

SWBNO updated the water service line inventory, an annual requirement from the EPA's lead and copper rules. The utility sent letters to all customers about their water line materials.

The company used existing plumbing records to tell customers about service line materials. SWNO only sent letters to unverified or lead water lines. The inventory map on the website used computer modeling to make educated guesses for unknown service line materials. Customers who received a letter did not need to replace their water line immediately. However, the utility recommended actions customers could take.

SWBNO encouraged customers to request a lead test kit online at swbno.org/projects/lead-awareness or by calling 52-WATER if they were concerned about their water quality. Customers with a lead service line on their property replaced it so SWBNO coordinated to replace the public side of the line at the same time.

City Reimbursement Status and JIRR Program

SWBNO partnered with the Department of Public Works on major infrastructure projects, such as the Joint Infrastructure Recovery Road (JIRR) project, Max Pave, and other bond projects. The utility paid \$235 million towards projects with DPW since the partnership began. SWBNO completed and had in process over 100 JIRR projects, which all projects cost \$65 million total. As of the meeting date, SWBNO paid \$4.7 million of the \$87.5 million currently owed to the city. The utility paid an additional \$7 million in November and processed another \$8 million by the end of December.

SWBNO had the funds to cover the sewer work with money awarded back in 2022. However, the utility still waited for additional funds from GOHSEP and FEMA. DPW said the city agreed to cover water-related costs until grant funding became available to SWBNO, which allowed SWBNO to continue work, and make payments to contractors.

Board Action

The Board declared a vacancy on the Board of Directors for Council District B. The vacancy received advertisement over the next 30 days twice in the Advocate and other media.