

# APRIL 2026 - ANNUAL NEWSLETTER



**To our over 3,200 members, the Board of Directors, we would like to share current and past year news about your water utility.**

## ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE

The Annual Membership Meeting of your water utility is Monday, June 8, 2026. The meeting, held in the Corporation Office and Treatment Plant located at 4735 W Carlos Folger Drive, Columbus, Indiana starts at 7:00 p.m. The Board invites all Members to attend.

The meeting provides an opportunity to learn about the corporation's financial results, other 2025 accomplishments and for the future goals.

You will also have an opportunity to meet the Board of Directors and to participate in the election of one Director.

The Board is comprised of five fellow volunteer members of the Corporation. The current members of the Board are:

Bradley J. Vacketta	President
Joseph L. Lohmeyer	Vice President
Eric C. Schneider	Treasurer
Michael Foushee	Secretary
Ian Kohen	Director

This year, there is two (2), three-year term vacancies to be filled. Director Lohmeyer and Director Foushee have expressed the intention to submit a nomination for reelection.

Nomination for the Board of Director's requires filing the NOMINATION FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS form at the Corporation Office on or before 4:00 p.m. Friday, May 15, 2026.

The Board meets regularly on the second Monday of each month to review the preceding month's performance, to reevaluate and adjust in place plans and programs and consider future activities for your water utility.

In addition to attendance at the regular monthly Board meetings, Directors should be available to attend special meetings and to carryout specific assignments made by the President of the Board.

It is also desirable for the Board Member to bring to the Board skills and knowledge that will both expand and/or augment those of the previously elected Board Members.

Within the ten days following the annual meeting the Board of Directors elects, from their ranks, the Corporation Officers.

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**Southwestern Bartholomew Water Corp.**

**4735 W. Carlos Folger Drive**

**Columbus, Indiana 47201**

**Phone: 812-342-4421**

**Monday - Friday**

**7:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**After Hours (Emergency Only)**

**Calls are forwarded to 24 hr. call center.**

## **SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS UPDATE**

In the summer of 2024, renovation began to the Ogilville multi-leg storage tank. This renovation included sand blasting, new welds, new safety climbing device, refurbish the catwalk, interior and exterior coatings, driveway, land restoration, and a new fence. The project was completed spring 2025. SWBWC has a system improvement project planned and is in the financing stages.

The improvement project is planned to replace two (2) below ground booster stations, plant replacements and/or rehabilitation of pumps and softeners, and MPRV (master stations for pressure regulation).

## **LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY/REPLACEMENT**

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has mandated a Lead Service Line Inventory and is ongoing for Public Water Suppliers watermains and service line material. A link on the website will take you directly to the survey to see current results. Currently, no lead piping has been found in SWBWC system or service lines from the meter to the customer. SWBWC will continue to evaluate and investigate per Federal Requirements. SWBWC has continued to meet or exceed all Federal and State requirements for water quality.

## **WEBSITE – swbwc.com**

Customers can pay their water bill online, send the company an email, customer forms, calendar of upcoming events, boil water advisories, employee, and Board of Directors list. Customers need to set up an online portal for access to their account. Signing up for Auto-draft (ACH) is not available through the website currently. Please contact the office for any issues.

## **PAYMENT OPTIONS**

Auto-Draft

Bill Pay through your Financial Institution

Credit Card Payments – Online at PAYGOV.US via [UtilityBillingSystem.net](https://UtilityBillingSystem.net)

Checks, Cash, Money Order, and Credit Cards are accepted at the office. The credit card company (Paygov) charges a 3% processing fee.

A drop box is available on the front door of the office for your convenience.

If you would like to receive your water bill via email, please provide your email address to the office. There is also the option to sign-up for email on your customer portal. Water bills are mailed on the last business day of each month to allow office staff more time for account review.

## **RATE INCREASE**

Higher operating costs and the need to improve aging infrastructure, SWBWC petitioned the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) for a rate increase to fund these costs. The rate increase is in two (2) phases with the first one being implemented April 1, 2026. The second phase will be implemented when the project is completed. A list of the Phase 1 rate increase is listed on the following page. The rates may also be found on the company website ([www.swbwc.com](http://www.swbwc.com)).

## RATE CHART

Rates effective as of February 18, 2026, as approved by IURC Cause No. 46269.

First 3,000 Gallons	\$14.56 per Thousand Gallons	Minimum bill w/o tax - \$43.68
Next 7,000 Gallons	\$13.56 per Thousand Gallons	
Next 10,000 Gallons	\$11.78 per Thousand Gallons	
Next 40,000 Gallons	\$10.11 per Thousand Gallons	
All Thereafter	\$7.51 per Thousand Gallons	

## SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES

A complete list of charges can be located on the company website ([www.swbwc.com](http://www.swbwc.com)).

- Tap Fee (5/8" Residential meter) - \$2,900.00
  - Membership Transfer Charge - \$50.00
    - Non-Payment Fee - \$75.00
    - General Service Charge - \$30.00
  - General Service Surcharge - \$40.00
  - Returned Check Charge - \$25.00
  - Reinstallation/Lock Charge - \$50.00

## WATERLOSS CHART



## METERS AND METER PITS

Meters, meter pits, and all contents are the property of Southwestern Bartholomew Water Corp. Customers are not authorized to be in the meter pits. Any damages caused to these properties will be charged to the customer and/or the contractor. Customers are encouraged to install an easily accessible shut-off valve for their personal use.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Please update your contact information so that we can effectively contact you for Boil Water Advisories, billing issues, etc... When there is a water emergency, this is the most effective way for SWBWC to communicate the nature of the emergency and the steps to follow. If you would like to be contacted via email or text, please notify the office.

## **811 CALL BEFORE YOU DIG**

Homeowners often make risky assumptions about whether they should get their utility lines marked, but every digging job requires a call even small projects like planting trees and shrubs. The depth of utility lines varies and there may be multiple utility lines in a shared area. Digging without calling can disrupt service to an entire neighborhood; harm you and those around you. Calling 811 before every digging job gets your underground utility lines marked for free and helps prevent undesired consequences. Call before you dig.....It's the Law.

## **2026 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

See website ([www.swbwc.com](http://www.swbwc.com)) for dates each holiday observed.

New Year's Day, Martin Luther King Jr., Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day,  
Labor Day, Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving Day, Day after Thanksgiving,  
Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Years' Eve

\*\*\* As a reminder for after hours and holidays, the call center is to be utilized for EMERGENCIES. Billing questions are for normal business hours as the call center has no available account information.

## **RETIREMENT OF EMPLOYEE**

SWBWC would like to wish Doug Prather well in his retirement and for his 50 years of service to the water corporation.

### **Employees of Southwestern Bartholomew Water Corporation**

**Kimberly "Darlene" Keller – General Manager**

**Rodger Pittman – Superintendent**

**Amanda Doyle – Office Manager**

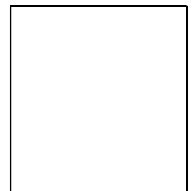
**Dave Allen – Meter Reader/Laborer**

**Braden Allman – Meter Reader/Laborer**

**Heather Lucas – Office/Customer Service**

**Keysha Hodnett – Office/Customer Service**

**SOUTHWESTERN BARTHOLOMEW WATER CORP  
4735 W CARLOS FOLGER DRIVE  
COLUMBUS, IN 47201**



**ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED**