



# **Detroit Water and Sewerage Department Meeting Minutes - Final Board of Water Commissioners**

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Wednesday, October 15, 2025

2:00 PM

To attend by phone call one of these numbers:  
+1 301 715 8592, +1 312 626 6799, +1 267 831 0333  
Use Meeting ID: 815 7263 5118  
Use Passcode: 482262021

To attend online: <https://cityofdetroit.zoom.us/j/81572635118>  
Use Passcode: 482262021

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## **BOWC Meeting**

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Vice Chair Blackmon called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

### **2. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 3 - Commissioner Linda Forte, Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon and  
Commissioner John Henry Davis

**Excused:** 1 - Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner Jane Garcia and Chairperson Michael Einheuser

### **3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Vice Chair Blackmon requested approval of the amended agenda.

Item No. 10B, 2025-246 and 2025-247 was removed from the agenda; submittal of a revised copy of Item 10E; Item 10A, Recognition of Lane Coleman was moved up on the agenda, and Item 10G, Easement Encroachment Permit was added.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Linda Forte, seconded by Commissioner John Henry Davis that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Vice Chair Blackmon requested approval of the minutes of September 17, 2025.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch that the minutes be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

### **5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes per speaker)**

a. Rosie Coleman of 20220 Gilchrist came before the board about flooding in home.

- b. Diana Hill of 20250 Gilchrist came before the board about water in her basement.
- c. Sebrena Moore of 20224 Gilchrist came before the board about a claim she filed back in 2024.
- d. Tina Wixon 20226 Gilchrist came before the board about a plumbing issue.
- e. Beulah Walker with Hydrate Detroit was representing residents whose claims were denied. She said the sewer system belongs to DWSD and GLWA.
- f. Cindy Darrah asked how much was paid in overtime to employees during the Southwest 54 Inch Water Main. She also asked how much credit she would receive for a dry well.
- g. Cecily McClellan with We the People of Detroit (WTPOD), stated that they had met with Mr. Phillips last month on the criteria of the new H2O Program. She said there was no discussion about the implementation. She said there was no outreach of the transition or enrollment. She said Promise Pay is a collection agency. She assumed that residents in the \$18 program would rollover to the new program. Ms. McClellan said there is a need for clarification on how the program will operate.
- h. Gwendolyn Howard asked what the application process was for this new program. She said is the Lifeline Plan inactive. She asking for clarification on the Lifeline Plan and the new H2O Program. She also asked if there was a cap on the number of enrollees and what is the income eligibility.
- i. E. Allen of 2766 Webb Street asked if the department would investigate a sinkhole from back in May 2025 after a service line was replaced in April of 2024. He said the sinkhole is forcing residents to park there vehicles in the berm, because cars have falling in the hole.
- j. Norrel Hemphill, Legal and Policy Manager with WTPOD is asking the department to allow constituents to chat with the public through the Zoom feature, which is currently enabled. She also has concern that public comment is being structured in an attempt to minimize what can be discussed by the constituents. Ms. Hemphill stated that Promise Pay is a debt collector and if that 12% would be capped.
- k. Demeeko Williams with Hydrate Detroit thanked Beulah Walker and the flood victims that spoke today. He asked what is the criteria for when it's the Department responsibility to provide relief. He also said there was no indication of a third party in the Lifeline H2O program. Mr. Williams stated that he would continue to advocate for the residents.

## 6. COMMUNICATIONS

**There were none.**

Commissioner Kinloch arrived at 2:19 p.m.

**7. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS**

Vice Chair Blackmon recognized former Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick for her dedication and contribution as a United States Representative and advocacy for the City of Detroit.

The department recognized former Board of Water Commissioner Lane Coleman. Director Gary Brown stated that it was a privilege to have worked with Lane for more than 9 years. He said it was a pleasure being a friend and neighbor. The Detroit City Council presented Mr. Coleman with a testimonial resolution thanking him for his gratitude and service to the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) and the entire City of Detroit. Mr. Coleman said that it had been a pleasure to work with DWSD and he had learned a lot from his colleagues. Director Brown on behalf of the DWSD presented Mr. Lane Coleman with an exemplary service certificate in appreciation of outstanding leadership, dedication, and service for the City of Detroit. Leigh Coleman, his wife, thanked the department for having him and stated that he enjoyed his time with the department.

The Vice Chair called for recess at 2:54 p.m.

The Vice Chair returned from recess at 2:57 p.m.

**8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was none.

**9. APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA (Items 9A-M)**

Vice Chair Blackmon requested approval of the consent agenda.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that the Consent Agenda be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**A. [2025-224](#)**

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Amendment No. 2 for DWSD Contract 6002342 with CDW Government LLC utilizing the MiDeal cooperative contract #071B6600110 for the purchase of standardized and as needed technology commodities and services; by adding \$500,000.00, for an amended total contract amount not-to-exceed \$5,500,000.00 with no change to the statement of work, term end date or terms & conditions.** This also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Welch and Gosine

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**B. [2025-225](#)**

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit Water Sewerage Department **approve Amendment 3 to DWSD Contract No. 6003769 (LS-1906) with Bush Seyferth, PLLC for Legal Services for Representation in Litigation Related to the June and July 2021 Rain Events; by adding \$150,000 for an amended total contract amount not-to-exceed \$1,200,000.00 with no change to the statement of work, term end date or terms & conditions.** This authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Welch and MacGriff

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**C. [2025-226](#)**

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Amendment 1 with DWSD Contract 6005862, with Safety Zone Holdings, for Traffic Barricades and Cones, by adding \$56,500.00 in funding, for a total amended contract amount not-to-exceed \$219,000.00. No changes to the scope of work, terms & conditions, or expiring date of 1/30/26.** This also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Welch

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**D. [2025-227](#)**

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Amendment No. 1 to DWSD Contract 6006561, with Pronto Pest Management, Inc., to provide pest control services, by adding \$25,000.00 in funding and extending the term by (6) six months, for a total amended contract amount not-to-exceed \$115,000.00 and a new term ending 3/31/26. No changes to the scope of work or contract terms and conditions.** This also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Welch

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**E. [2025-228](#)**

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve DWSD Contract 6007448 with ETNA Supply Company, Contract 6007449 with Ferguson Waterworks, and**

**Contract 6007450 with Motor City Pipe & Supply; for the as-needed purchase of Repair Clamps of various sizes, for a combined total contract amount not-to-exceed \$670,220.00 and a term of one year. The BOWC also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.**

**Sponsors:** Welch

**Attachments:** [bid tab repair clamps 537440](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**F. [2025-229](#)**

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve DWSD Contract 6007461 (PC-822) with L. D'Agostini and Sons, Inc. for the Brightmoor Green Infrastructure Project; for a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$2,212,644.00 and a term of one (1) year. This also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.**

**Sponsors:** Welch

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**G. [2025-230](#)**

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve DWSD Contract 6007462 (PC-817A) with Anglin Civil, LLC for the Minock Park Green Infrastructure; for a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$912,142.08 and a term 760 days. This also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.**

**Sponsors:** Welch

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**H. [2025-231](#)**

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve DWSD Contract 6007467 with Systems and Software for the upgrades and project implementation of new hardware/software, configurations to the enQuesta CIS solution; for a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$480,000.00 and a term of 3 years. This also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.**

**Sponsors:** Welch and Gosine

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

- I. [2025-232](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve DWSD Contract 6007468 with Systems and Software for the hardware/software licensing, configuration and upgrades of the enQuesta CIS solution; for a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$3,750,000.00 and a term of 3 years.** This also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.
- Sponsors:** Welch and Gosine
- A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**
- J. [2025-233](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve DWSD Contract No. 6007471 with Cadillac Asphalt, LLC for Patch Material; for a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$290,000.00 and a term of one (1) year.** This also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote
- Sponsors:** Welch
- A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract be approved.. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**
- K. [2025-234](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve DWSD Contract 6007473 (DWS-975A) with Major Contracting Group, Inc. for Green Stormwater Infrastructure Softscape Maintenance in the City of Detroit; for a total contract not-to-exceed amount of \$2,934,000.00 and a term of four (4) years.** This also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.
- Sponsors:** Welch
- A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**
- L. [2025-235](#) The City of Detroit Board of Water Commissioners authorizes the Director to approve a **Development Reimbursement Agreement with Henry Ford Health System, for water and sewer infrastructure improvements, for a total contract not to exceed amount of \$2,500,000.00 and a term of (1) year.** This also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.
- Sponsors:** Welch and Smalley
- A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by**

Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract be approved.. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

**M.**      [2025-245](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department **authorizes the settlement agreement in *Mohamad Olabi v. City of Detroit*, Wayne County Circuit Court Case No. 23-012983-NI and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.**

**Sponsors:**            Branch Penson

**Attachments:**        [250929 Olabi - Signed Settlement Release COD](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Case Settlement, Other be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**10.**       **NEW BUSINESS**

**A.**       **Recognition of Former Board of Water Commissioner Lane Coleman**

This item was moved up on the agenda.

**B.**       [2025-246](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit Water Sewerage Department **1) Approves the Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2025-2030 between the DWSD and the Teamsters State, County and Municipal Workers, Local 214; 2) Authorizes the Director to execute the Agreement,** and authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:**            Jones and Branch Penson

**There were none.**

**C.**       [2025-247](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit Water Sewerage Department **1) Approves the Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2025-2029 between the DWSD and the Association of Professional Inspectors; 2) Authorizes the Director to execute the Agreement,** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:**            Jones and Branch Penson

**Attachments:**        [Memo to BOWC APCI 10.13.25 \(003\)](#)  
                                 [APCI FULL TA PACKET 2025 \(003\)](#)

**There were none.**

**D.**     [2025-248](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit Water Sewerage Department **1) Approves the Collective Bargaining Agreement for 2025-2029 between the DWSD and the Utility Workers of America, Local 504; 2) Authorizes the Director to execute the Agreement**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:**       Jones and Branch Penson

**Attachments:**     [Memo to BOWC.UWUA](#)  
[UWUA FULL TA PACKET 2025](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**E.**     [2025-249](#)

The Board of Water Commissioner for the City of Detroit Water and Sewerage Department **approves the updated salary ranges for the classifications of a.) Electrical Instrumentation Control Technician 1, 2 and 3; b.) Field Service Technician MBTC 1; and c.) Maintenance Technician MBTC**, and authorizes the Director to take such action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:**       Jones

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner John Henry Davis that this Resolution, BOWC be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**F.**     [2025-250](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit Water Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve DWSD Contract No. 6007509 with Promise Network, Inc. dba Promise for Third-Party Vendor Administration of the Lifeline H2O Affordability Program, for a term of one year, with a (1) year option to renew. This is a zero-cost contract for applicant processing services only. The vendor will be paid independently by the Great Lakes Water Authority via WRAP (Water Residential Affordability Program) funds by retaining 12% per application processed.** This also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:**       Welch and Phillips

**A motion was made by Commissioner Linda Forte, seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**G.**     [2025-254](#)

**Detroit Water and Sewerage Department Easement Encroachment Permit**

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and



Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **enter into an Easement Encroachment Permit with AMS Regent Court, LLC and AMS Regent Court 2, LLC, respectively**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Office of the General Counsel

**Attachments:** [GLWA GEEP 2504 Permit Request \(Easement Encroachment\)](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Linda Forte, seconded by Commissioner John Henry Davis that this Contract, Real Estate Easement be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**11. DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**A. [2025-251](#) Director's Report**

**Sponsors:** Brown

**Attachments:** [Board Report - Metrics - 10152025](#)

**There were none.**

**12. COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Kinloch state that Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick was a strong advocate for the City of Detroit and would absolutely miss her leadership.

**13. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR**

**There was none.**

**14. OTHER MATTERS**

Scott MacGriff, General Counsel announced that Nikkiya Branch Penson last day with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department will be on Friday, October 17, 2025. He thanked her for her contributions and that she will definitely be missed.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

Vice Chair Blackmon requested a motion to adjourn.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Linda Forte, seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.**

### **How to Make a Request for Public Comment**

**You may provide your public comment via Zoom link:**

**<http://cityofdetroit.zoom.us/j/81572635118>**

**During the public comment section for each committee meeting, raise your hand using the Zoom hand icon on your desktop or mobile device, or if calling into the meeting by phone, press \*9 to raise your hand (press \*6 to unmute when called upon)**

**We respectfully request that you maximize your three minutes by sharing all your comments/questions at one time. You will only be called upon once for public comment during the same committee meeting, full board meeting, or hearing.**

**Once the Chair closes public comment, there will be no other public comments accepted and all the attendees will remain muted for the duration of the meeting**