



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

735 Randolph
Detroit, Michigan 48226
(313) 224-4704 Office
dwsd.legistar.com

Tuesday, June 18, 2024

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

BOWC Regular and Annual Meeting

To attend In Person:
735 Randolph, Detroit, MI 48226, 5th Floor Boardroom

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Einheuser called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: 6 - Commissioner Lane Coleman, Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon,
Commissioner Jane Garcia, Chairperson Michael Einheuser, Commissioner
John Henry Davis and Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Linda Forte

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairperson Einheuser requested approval of the agenda.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by
Commissioner John Henry Davis that the agenda be approved. The motion
carried by a unanimous vote.**

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Einheuser requested approval of the minutes of May 17, 2024.

**A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon, seconded by
Commissioner John Henry Davis that the minutes be approved. The motion
carried by a unanimous vote.**

5. ELECTION AND APPROVAL OF OFFICERS

A. [2024-117](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit Water and Sewerage

Department approves the following officer of Chair for the term of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

Sponsors: Branch

Attachments: [Resolution Chair](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon, seconded by Chairperson John Henry Davis that this Resolution, BOWC be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

B. [2024-118](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit Water and Sewerage Department approves the following officer of Vice Chair for the term of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

Sponsors: Branch

Attachments: [Resolution Vice Chair](#)

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

C. [2024-119](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit Water and Sewerage Department approves the following officer as Board Secretary for the term of July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025.

Sponsors: Branch

Attachments: [Resolution Board Secretary](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch that this Resolution, BOWC be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

D. [2024-120](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit Water and Sewerage Department adopts the FY 2024-2025 Schedule of Board Meetings attached to this motion, and also authorizes the Chairman and the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Branch

Attachments: [FY2024-2025 BOWC Meeting Calendar](#)

A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner John Henry Davis that this Resolution, BOWC be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes per speaker)

a. Faye Chenault Johnson with the National Federation of the Blind came about paying her bill. She said that the automated system does not allow enough time to make a transaction by telephone and going to a Kiosk is not feasible.

- b. Trumilla Miller said that her basement floods every rainfall.
- c. Richard Clay with National Federation of the Blind submitted written correspondence.
- d. Ernest Wells, a landlord with several properties came before the Board about flooding issues. He also wanted a change of address on his account from his business mailing address to his home address.
- e. Steven Hanschu with the National Federation of the Blind asked if the Department could designate a person to keep them informed on the progress of their concerns.
- f. Anthony Dowdell asked for assistance with a property that he no longer owns.
- g. John Scott came to support the citizens of the National Federation of the Blind.
- h. Sabrina Rice, Vice President of the National Federation of the Blind stated that she wanted to pay online, but there are challenges with the visual effects.
- i. Charles and Tamara Johns came about a sinkhole in the alley that they have called about for years that has never been addressed. They also have sewage backup in their basement and received correspondence stating that it was a private problem.
- j. Mac Farr was present on behalf of the Mr. and Mrs Johns and asked if DWSD would work to address their concerns.
- k. Cecily McClellan with We the People of Detroit (WTPOD) asked about the funds for the plumbing. The report of the customer service committee showed that there were 1400 water audits completed. She asked how many resulted in plumbing issues and are they being addressed through the funding program. She also mentioned that the water usage is categorized by groups and that group A indicated 91 percent of the residents used above 6ccf's. She said since 6ccf's is the maximum usage allotted before you are charged an additional fee. She would like to know the number of residents in group A and how many are above the 6ccf's. She also suggested that the Department revisit and perhaps adjust the terms of the water usage.
- l. Gwendolyn Howard with WTPOD echoed Ms McClellan's concerns. She said the website does not reflect the plumbing issues.
- m. Norrel Hemphill, Environmental Law Attorney, asked for data transparency and how the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is being promoted. She is concerned that the YouTube channel had not been updated since 2023, and the Lifeline Dashboard had not been updated also.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

A. [2024-121](#) Receipt of Correspondence

Sponsors: Phillips

Attachments: [Communication - National Federation of the Blind Detroit Chapter](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by Commissioner Lane Coleman that this Communication or Report be received

and filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

B. [2024-122](#)

Receipt of Correspondence

Sponsors: Phillips

Attachments: [BOWC - Mohamed Saaidi - 20-0653.301](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon that this Communication or Report be received and filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

8. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS

There were none.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

10. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA (Items 10A-L)

A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon that this be approved on the Consent Agenda. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A. [2024-99](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Amendment No. 4 to DWSD Contract 6001548 with the Detroit Building Authority (DBA) for the continuation of construction services and support of repairs to DWSD buildings and facilities; by adding \$9,000,000.00, for an amended total contract amount not-to-exceed \$23,000,000.00 and no change to the term ending 6/30/26.** 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 Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

B. [2024-100](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Amendment No. 1 for DWSD Contract No. 6001844 with OHM Advisors to continue providing Green Stormwater Infrastructure Program Management Services; by extending the contract three (3) years for a new term end date of 7/31/27 and adding \$8,000,000.00 for a total amended contact amount not-to-exceed \$20,000,000.00.** 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 Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

C. [2024-101](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve DWSD Contract 6006303 with Superior Information Technologies, LLC d/b/a ANANTICS; for System Simulation & Analytical Services, for a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$324,280.00 and a term 1.5 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 Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

D. [2024-102](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve DWSD Contracts 6006337 with Five Star Energy Services LLC, 6006338 with Inner City Contracting, and 6006339 with WT Stevens; for Full Lead Service Line Replacements at Various Locations Throughout Detroit (Project WS-739); for a combined total contract amount not-to-exceed \$5,000,000.00 (100% reimbursable via ERP/ WINN Grant Funding) and a term of one 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 Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

E. [2024-103](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Amendment 3 to DWSD Contract No. 6003139 (CS- 1929) with WTI Holdings LLC d/b/a Waterfield Technologies for the continued support of the IVR & Payment Transaction System; by adding \$2,200,000.00, for an amended total contract amount not-to-exceed \$3,965,281.00 and extending the term 3 years for a new term ending 11/30/27.** 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 Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

F. [2024-104](#)

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 No. 6001658 (PC-803B) with LGC Global, Inc. to provide assistance with Automatic Meter Reading Installation and Related Work; by adding \$240,000.00, for an amended total contract amount not-to-exceed \$2,124,998.00 and extending the term 6 months for a new term ending 12/31/24. 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 Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

G. [2024-105](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Amendment No. 2 to DWSD Contract 6003462 with Mythics, LLC fka Mythics, Inc. to continue providing support and maintenance of Oracle Cloud Licenses by adding \$300,000.00 for a total amended not-to-exceed amount of \$10,203,180.00 and no change to the term end date 11/30/28. 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 Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

H. [2024-106](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve DWSD Contract 6006290 with Major Contracting Group; for West Chicago South Stormwater Improvement (Project PC-818); for a total contract amount not-to-exceed \$21,354,100.00 and a term of 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 Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

I. [2024-107](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Amendment No. 4 to DWSD Contract 6002651 (CS-1943), with iVantage Group for temporary staffing services, to add \$500,000.00 in funding for a total amended not-to-exceed amount of \$1,465,000.00 and add one (1) year for a new term expiry of 6/30/26. The BOWC 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 Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

J. [2024-108](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve Amendment No. 2 to DWSD Contract 6002028 with City Insight, LLC to provide support and maintenance for the DWSD Customer Payment Portal; by adding \$2,400,000.00, for a new total amended contract amount not-to-exceed \$4,070,860.00 and extending the term 5 year for a new term ending 6/30/29.** 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 Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

K. [2024-109](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve DWSD Contract No. 6006374 (CS-1988) with DLZ Michigan, Inc., for Inspection, Surveying and Materials Testing for DWSD Construction Projects; for a total contact amount not-to-exceed \$4,500,000.00 and a term of three (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

A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

L. [2024-110](#)

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 6005239 (CS-1984) with Human Fliers, LLC, to continue providing outreach canvassing by adding \$200,000.00 for a total amended not-to-exceed amount of \$500,000.00 and no change to the term end date 6/30/25.** 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 Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

11. NEW BUSINESS

A. [2024-123](#)

American Water Resources (AWR)-DWSD Bi-Annual Board Review

Sponsors: Branch

Attachments: [Detroit Water Board Meeting - June 2024 v2](#)

Presenters: Jalysa Nelson, Director of Customer Experience
Phillip Edens, Chief Customer Officer

12. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. [2024-124](#) Director's Report

Sponsors: Brown

Attachments: [Board Report - Metrics - 06182024 - V1](#)

Director Brown thanked all of the DWSD staff that participated in the Motor City Makeover. He reported that he attended the AWWA Conference in Anaheim, California and Cheryl Porter, a former DWSD employee and now a GLWA employee, had been named the new President of the American Water Works Association (AWWA). Ms. Porter is also the first woman and first African American to hold the title.

13. COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS

Vice Chair Blackmon echoed the Chair's comments, and also stated that she is happy to be a part of an outstanding Board, that is dedicated to elevating the service of the citizens in Detroit and beyond. It is a pleasure to serve with her colleagues.

Commissioner Kinloch stated he is most impressive with the rapid response from the Director and the DWSD staff that makes themselves accessible to address constituents concerns.

Vice Chair Blackmon also acknowledged Marian King-Bell, Board Secretary. She said how fortunate the Board was to have someone with such efficiency and appreciated all she does to keep them on track.

14. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR

Chairperson Einheuser stated that it has been an honor and privilege to serve on the Board. It has been pleasure to work with his colleagues and service the interest of the customer with confidence of the staff.

15. OTHER MATTERS

There were none.

16. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Einheuser requested a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Vice Chairperson Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner John Henry Davis that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:36 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.