



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

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Wednesday, September 7, 2016

1:00 PM

5th Floor Board Room, Water Board Building

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## **Workshop and Special Meeting No. 4**

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

Chairman Einheuser called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

### **2. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 4 - Commissioner Mary Blackmon, Commissioner Michael Einheuser,  
Commissioner Lane Coleman and Commissioner Jane Garcia

**Excused:** 1 - Commissioner Linda Forte

**Absent:** 2 - Commissioner John Henry Davis and Commissioner Pamela Rodgers

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

Chairman Einheuser requested approval of the agenda.

Item No. 16-0134 Revised Drainage Charge was added to the agenda.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by  
Commissioner Lane Coleman that the agenda be approved as amended. The  
motion carried by an unanimous vote.**

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

There were none.

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

There were none.

### **6. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS**

There were none.

### **7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There were none.

### **8. NEW BUSINESS**

[16-0130](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **settle Damage Claim No. 15-133 in the amount of \$8,000.00 and Damage Claim No. 15-225 in the amount of \$10,000.00**, 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

**A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Lane Coleman that this Claim, Sewer, be approved. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.**

[16-0131](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve settlement in GJ Sheena Enterprises, LLC v. City of Detroit, Wayne County Circuit Court Case No. 16-007151-NZ in the amount of \$85,000.00** and also authorizes the Director to take such other actions as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Office of the General Counsel

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Mary Blackmon that this Case Settlement, Sewer, be approved. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.**

[16-0132](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve settlement of Peggy Lou Goff v. City of Detroit, Wayne County Circuit Court Case No. 15-002007-NO in the amount of \$150,000.00**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other actions as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Office of the General Counsel

**A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Lane Coleman that this Case Settlement, Other, be approved. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.**

[16-0133](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **approve the settlement of Wayne County Circuit Court Case No. 15-009083, *United House of Prayer v. City of Detroit*, in the amount of \$5,000,000.00**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other actions as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Office of the General Counsel

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Mary Blackmon that this Case Settlement, Water, be approved. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.**

**9. WORKSHOP - Drainage Charge Program Presentation**

[16-0136](#)**Drainage Charge Program Update Outline**

**Sponsors:** Office of the Director

**Attachments:** [Drainage Outline](#)

Presenter: Eric Rothstein, Project Manager

**Public participation reopened**

Yolanda McCants of 6769 Edgeton came before the Board regarding the drainage charge. She said some residents received letters and some did not. This includes seniors who do not understand the drainage charge. She said it was her understanding that the drainage charge was a set amount, but several residents are being charged different amounts. She asked what is the overall charge and why now.

Evangelist Dora Hatcher asked if there is any relief mechanism on the drainage fee for retired seniors living on fixed income.

Minister DeJuan Bland of Faith Redemption Center came before the Board regarding the drainage charge and information about credit relief for churches.

The Chairman announced that the Board and the Director would meet with the constituents after the meeting to discuss their concerns.

**NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED**[16-0134](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **adopt Policy No. 2016-308 for the implementation of the Drainage Charge Program**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other actions as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Brown

**Attachments:** [Board Policy for Drainage Charge Clean 9.6](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Mary Blackmon that this Policy be approved. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.**

[16-0135](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **adopt Policy No. 2016-309 Drainage Charge Account Credits or Adjustments**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Brown

**Attachments:** [Policy on account credits or adjustments for drainage charge](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Lane Coleman that this Policy be approved. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

**10. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

There were none.

**11. COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Blackmon announced that Tarolyn Buckles, the Board Technical Advisor resigned to pursue ventures under her company Onyx Enterprises. Commissioner Blackmon said it has been a pleasure and most effective for the Board. We wish her well all the best.

Chairman Einheuser echoed Commissioner Blackmon's remarks. He said that Ms. Buckles provided consulting work during a very difficult time for the department.

**12. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR**

Chairman Einheuser stated Dan Rainey, IT Director sent communication regarding email protocol. The Chair requested a City email account for himself and advised other boardmembers to use this protocol if they choose.

**13. OTHER MATTERS**

There were none.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Einhueser requested a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Lane Coleman that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.