



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

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Wednesday, October 19, 2016

2:00 PM

5th Floor Board Room, Water Board Building

Regular Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Commissioner Mary Blackmon, Commissioner Linda Forte, Commissioner John Henry Davis, Commissioner Michael Einheuser, Commissioner Lane Coleman, Commissioner Pamela Rodgers and Commissioner Jane Garcia

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Vice Chair Blackmon requested approval of the agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this agenda be approved. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice Chair Blackmon requested approval of the minutes of September 7, 2016 Workshop and Special Meeting No. 4, and September 21, 2016 Regular Meeting.

September 7, 2016 Workshop and Special Meeting No. 4

A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that the Sept. 7 Workshop Special Meeting No. 4 Minutes be approved. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

September 21, 2016 Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by Commissioner John Henry Davis that the Sept. 21 Regular Meeting Minutes be approved. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes per speaker)

1. David Gardula and Gary Gardula, 19514 Hickory St, came before the Board to dispute drainage charges at property 8463 Mt Elliot Street. Mr. Gardula was referred to the Office of the Director for assistance.

2. John Parnell, Cardoni Street Block Club, stated he is concerned about drainage for vacant lot owners in his community. Director Brown replied that his community did not receive the drainage fee letter. These vacant lots are not impervious surfaces and will not be charged. The residents will not be phased in until 2018 and vacant lots should not see an increase.

3. Valerie Jean, 327 Woodland Street, argued water is not affordable in Detroit; Detroiters pay 83 percent of outside municipalities sewage cost. Director Brown encouraged anyone who has been shut off to apply to the WRAP program and Wayne Metro for assistance. Deputy Director Palencia Mobley added that the 83/17 was a rate settlement agreement associated with the costs Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO) controlled facilities and not the sewer system in its entirety. The communities that pay the 17 percent are suburban communities that also have combined sewer issues, which had to invest into combined sewer overflow control. The 83 percent is only associated with wet weather treatment facilities and not the wastewater plant. Vice Chair Blackmon asked that the response be clearly defined for the customer.

4. Lila Cabbil, Peoples Water Board-18435 Wildemere, raised concern regarding the financial burden put upon people and not the commercial/corporate community - metering water for construction sites. Ms. Cabbil is concern about the department taking responsibility for measuring the impact of the shutoffs and the health threat; want to know the financial/fiscal effectiveness of the shutoffs in terms of income collected verses the cost; renewal of Homrich contract with Council participation/approval; and the 83/17 configuration. Vice Chair Blackmon replied that the department will provide the response to the customer. The Vice Chair also asked that these concerns be addressed at the Customer Service and Finance Committee meetings.

6. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS

Committee Updates

Commissioner Forte reported that Finance comments would be incorporated in the motion.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There were none.

8. NEW BUSINESS

[16-0145](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **enter into Contract No. PS-1821 "Individual Personal Services Contract" with Darryl A. Latimer (Contractor), at a cost not to exceed \$112,000.00 for a duration of one (1) year**, 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 Director

A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that this Contract, Personal Services, be approved.

The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

[16-0146](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **enter into Contract No. PC-794 “To Provide Assistance with the Exchange, Maintenance and Repair of Meters and Meter Interface Units (MIUs) throughout the City of Detroit for Correcting Exceptions within the Automated Meter Reading System” with Lakeshore Global Corporation (Contractor), at a cost not to exceed \$1,600,000.00 for a duration of 456 calendar days**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Hudson

A motion was made by Commissioner Pamela Rodgers, seconded by Commissioner Michael Einheuser that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by an unanimous vote.

9. **COMMUNITY LEAD TESTING RESULTS**

[16-0158](#)

Community Lead Testing Results

Sponsors: Brown

Attachments: [2016 LCR Detroit Part-11 - Final-2](#)
[2016 LCR Sampling summary](#)
[DWSD LCR Certification Page 10 7 16](#)
[Handout_16-0158_DWSD 2016 LCR new and previously sampled sites](#)
[Handout_16-0158_DWSD 2016 LCR results in ppb](#)

Presenter: Elin Betanzo

This Communication or Report was received and filed.

10. **DIRECTOR'S METRICS**

[16-0155](#)

Director's Metrics

Sponsors: Brown

Attachments: [Board Report - Metrics - 10192016](#)

This Communication or Report was received and filed.

11. **COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Forte congratulated Richard Sulaka, General Council, on making the Crains Communication list of 40 Under 40.

12. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR

There were none.

13. OTHER MATTERS

Commissioner Blackmon asked what approach has the department taken to enlighten the ministers on the drainage issue. Director Brown replied that the department is forming church groups for ideas on how they can assist DWSD to reach out to the community on Green Infrastructure. The Director stated that the department is under pressure by MDEQ to remove stormwater from the CSO system, and there is a lawsuit filed by a certain class of our customers. The churches are poised to talk to their congregations. Bringing them in to write up policy position in hope to not burden them financially. Will not see a change in the rate structure until 2018. Private/public partnership. Will have the 25-member committee named very quickly.

Commissioner Forte asked how did we communicate to the pastors who were here last month? Director Brown replied the department collected every person that attended the BOWC meeting, the GLWA meeting and the Mayor's roundtop discussion into a combined list and asked them if they were willing to participate in the committee. Councilmember Spivey will co-chair with the Director. Each Council District will pick one church and one representative, with representatives from every demonination. Director Brown has asked Reverend DeeDee Coleman and Councilmember Spivey to help generate the list.

Director Brown noted the next workshop topic - watermain replacement recommendations/suggestions

14. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Blackmon requested a motion to adjourn.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.