



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

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Detroit, Michigan 48226
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Wednesday, February 20, 2019

6:00 PM

Greater Grace Temple
23500 West Seven Mile Road
Detroit, MI 48219

BOWC Meeting and Public Hearing-DWSD Fiscal Year 2019-2020 Budget - Location and Time Change

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Einheuser called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Commissioner Linda Forte, Commissioner Michael Einheuser,
Commissioner Lane Coleman, Commissioner Jane Garcia and
Commissioner John Henry Davis

Excused: 2 - Commissioner Mary Blackmon and Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Einheuser requested a motion to approve the agenda.

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

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Einheuser requested approval of the minutes of January 16, 2019.

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

5. COMMUNICATIONS

A. [19-0048](#) Receipt of Correspondence

Sponsors: Gabon

Attachments: [Eric Smith 1.17.19](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by
Commissioner Linda Forte that this Communication or Report be received and
filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

B. [19-0049](#) Receipt of Correspondence

Sponsors: Brown

Attachments: [Options to Implement a Statewide Low-Income Water Rate Assistance Program](#)
[Water Conservation Portal-Low Income Water Rate Assistance Program](#)

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.

C. [19-0051](#) Receipt of Correspondence

Sponsors: Pospiech

Attachments: [Redacted FOIA Requests 11-18 to 2-19](#)

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

6. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS

Vice Chair Blackmon joined the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

There was none.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Commissioner Kinloch joined the meeting at 6:25 p.m.

There was none.

8. PUBLIC HEARING - BUDGET

Bishop Charles Ellis welcomed and thanked the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department for allowing Greater Grace Temple the opportunity to host the Board of Water Commissioners board meeting. He also thanked the Director and DWSD staff for meeting with the faith-based organization leaders to explain and educate the drainage charge in hopes to move forward and conduct business with the City.

A. [19-0052](#) Public Hearing on Budget Fiscal Year 2020

Sponsors: Naughton

Attachments: [DWSD BOWC Mtg Budget FY 2020 - 2.19.19 - Rev2](#)

This Communication or Report was received and filed.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- A. [19-0011](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **enter into Contract No. 6001844, “Green Stormwater Infrastructure Program Management” (CS-1884A) with OHM Advisors (Consultant), at a cost not-to-exceed, \$12,000,000.00 for a duration of five (5) years, with the option of two (2) one-year extensions to be mutually agreed upon by both parties,** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Mobley

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

- B. [19-0033](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department **confirms the appointment by the Director of Carol J. Miller, PhD. P.E., Daniel P. Christian, P.E., D.WRE, James Scholl, P.E., Dr. Alan Hoback, P.E, and Steven J. Wright, P.E.to the Dispute Review Panel that shall hear and adjudicate DWSD customer disputes regarding the technical aspects of the drainage charge and disputes of DWSD determinations under the Post-Construction Stormwater Management Ordinance,** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Pospiech

Attachments: [Carol J. Miller, PhD. PE](#)
[Daniel P. Christian, PE, D.WRE](#)
[James Scholl, P.E., F.ASCE, D.WRE, BCEE](#)
[Dr. Alan Hoback, PE](#)
[Steven J. Wright](#)

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.

10. DIRECTOR'S METRICS

- A. [19-0050](#) **Director's Report**

Sponsors: Brown

Attachments: [Board Report - Metrics - 02202019](#)

Director Brown was a guest speaker at the Conference of Mayors in Miami to present the Lead Service Line Program. The Director also thanked Chief Financial Officer Thomas Naughton and the entire finance team for the countless hours in preparation of the budget.

This Communication or Report was received and filed.

11. COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS

There was none.

12. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR

There was none.

13. OTHER MATTERS

There was none.

14. PUBLIC COMMENTS (2 minutes per speaker)

- a. Daryl Edwards came before the board regarding sewage in his basement.
- b. Renee Palmer of 19172 Grand River came before the board seeking assistance on how to obtain a final real estate closing meter read.
- c. William Davis stated that the department should seek a more aggressive approach to hire city employees as oppose to contracting work in the city.
- d. Creighton Rippey of 20062 John R came before the board about a \$5,000 monthly increase on his water bill.
- e. Darrell Harris of 1547 Clairmont came before the board about a manhole cave-in that caused sewage backup at his home.
- f. Russ Bellant came before the board with several matters: 1) to thank Theresa Redden-Flennoy of Billing and Collections for outstanding customer service assistance; 2) lack of follow-up on drainage appeals; and 3) request speaker for the 11th Precinct community meeting on March 18.
- g. Michelle George of National Action Network (NAN) came before the board to ask how many shutoffs are done monthly by DWSD.
- h. Aaron McIver of 19929 Warrington asked to explain why his bill has quadrupled within the last two years.
- i. Lory Parks of the National Action Network came before the board with several concerns: 1) what other organs were found in the water system; 2) need for an affordable water plan; 3) what qualifications are required to be a water commissioner; 4) what were the commissioners previous employment position; and do the commissioners live in the city.
- j. Catina Willis of 9130 Middlebelt came before the board seeking assistance on how to obtain a final real estate closing meter read.

15. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Einheuser requested a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Commissioner John Henry Davis, seconded by Commissioner Linda Forte that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.