



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

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Wednesday, April 17, 2019

6:00 PM

Grace Community Church  
21001 Moross Road  
Detroit, MI 48236

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## BOWC Meeting and Public Hearing on Rates-Location and Time Change

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Einheuser called meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

Pastor Doug welcomed the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department Board of Water Commissioners to Grace Community Church who has committed 120 years to the city. He said it was a pleasure being a part of this meeting.

### 2. ROLL CALL

**Present:** 5 - Commissioner Linda Forte, Commissioner Michael Einheuser, Commissioner Mary Blackmon, Commissioner Jane Garcia and Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch

**Excused:** 2 - Commissioner Lane Coleman and Commissioner John Henry Davis

### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Einheuser requested approval of the agenda.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch that the agenda be approved. The motion carried unanimously.**

### 4. PUBLIC HEARING

Chairman Einheuser called the Public hearing to order at 6:09 p.m.  
Commissioner Coleman arrived at 6:10 p.m.  
Commissioner Davis called in at 6:59 p.m.

#### A. [19-0066](#)

#### DWSD Preliminary Rate Review Version4

**Sponsors:** Rice

**Attachments:** [2- DWSD Preliminary Rate Structure - FY 2020v4](#)

**This Communication or Report was received and filed.**

### 5. PUBLIC HEARING COMMENTS (2 minutes per speaker)

1. Donna Riggs of 3033 Holcomb came before the Board to seek assistance with her

water bill.

2. Commissioner William Davis of 8557 Appoline came before the Board suggesting that the board explore the possibility of providing assistance to help retired City of Detroit employees.

3. Theresa Wilson of 1729 Calvert came before the Board for clarification of the sewage disposal calculated. Ms. Wilson was referred to the Customer Care Division.

4. Loretta Yancey of 5250 Drexel came before the board to discuss the cost associated with the removal of downspouts. She also had a fire at the property and asked why she is being charged a drainage fee with no water service.

5. Beulah R. Walker of Hydrate Detroit came before the Board to express concern about the water shutoffs in the City of Detroit. She also said there are several citizens who have health issues that rely on water.

6. Russ Bellant of 19619 Helen came before the Board regarding the drainage fees impacting several businesses abilities to operate and looking for relief. Mr. Bellant stated that the cost should be subsidized. He also suggested that the Board revisit the 83/17 ruling.

7. Sarah Feldman of 3815 Grayton came before the Board to ask what steps are being taken to insure communication between offices and officials during times of customer shutoffs and access to water. She said often times misinformation is given or officials refuse to reply.

8. James Smith of Citizen Focus Group on Water came to address water affordability and quality water for all citizens.

9. Sonya Bonnett with Detroit Justice Center at 1420 Washington came before the board to discuss the following: a) how many shutoffs have been restored since 2016-2017, b) is there an appeals process for shutoffs, c) can a shutoff be addressed in the Department of Appeals and Hearings, and d) the need for an affordable plan to help citizens maintain their water service and prevent child protection services cases due to shutoffs.

10. Demeeko Williams, Chief Director of Hydrate Detroit, provided the Board with communication on how its organization helps citizens maintain, deliver, restore, and prevent water shutoffs. He continues to rally for water affordability. He suggested that arrears be eliminated and suspension of all upcoming water shutoffs.

11. Lory Parks of 10126 Curtis came before the Board with the following concerns: a) illegal drainage fees; b) Hepatitis A causing water shutoffs; c) need for an water affordability plan; d) abolishment of the drainage fee; and e) ability to provide clean water.

12. Anita Travis came before the Board for an explanation of the drainage fee charge. Deputy Director Palencia Mobley replied that the Department has charged for drainage since 1975. In the mid-2000's when the wet weather treatment facilities were installed, they separated the charge from the bill. The bill reflects a sewage charge and a drainage charge. Over the last year this charge has been distributed equitably across all customer classes. Every customer is charged based on their hard surfaces. Rainwater runoff from the roof into the gutter then down the driveway into the catch

basin that is connected to sewer. The same sewer that is connected to your sanitation (toilet). This water is carried to the waste water treatment facility or one of the nine wet weather treatment facilities.

13. Michelle George of National Action Network came before the Board to express concern about media coverage in the city. She stated the importance of voting and electing officials to create bills that will govern the good for all people. She will continue to rally and collaborate with the faith-based organizations on her journey to justice.

14. Norah Krayem of Wayne State University came before the board to ask how much of the budget is used toward green infrastructure projects and how are they being mitigated.

15. Valeria Berry at P.O. Box 14741 came before the Board to inquire about programs for individuals with mental illness who are renting and cannot afford to pay a water bill and whether the information can be shared with the community.

Chairman Einheuser closed the public hearing at 7:10 p.m.

## 6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Einheuser requested approval of the minutes of March 20, 2019.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch, seconded by Commissioner Lane Coleman that the minutes be approved. The motion carried unanimously.**

## 7. COMMUNICATIONS

### A. [19-00112](#) Receipt of Correspondence

**Sponsors:** Pospiech

**Attachments:** [MDEQ C-0179-18 DWSD Response](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Jonathan Kinloch that this Communication or Report be received and filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

### B. [19-00113](#) Receipt of Correspondence

**Sponsors:** Pospiech

**Attachments:** [Rate Affordability](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Mary Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Lane Coleman that this Communication or Report be received and filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

### C. [19-00114](#) Receipt of Correspondence

Sponsors: Pospiech

Attachments: [Solution for Volume Credit Equations](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Mary Blackmon that this Communication or Report be received and filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

D. [19-00116](#)

Receipt of Correspondence

Sponsors: Pospiech

Attachments: [Redacted FOIA Requests 3-19 to 4-12](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Mary Blackmon that this Communication or Report be received and filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

E. [19-00117](#)

Receipt of Correspondence

Sponsors: Pospiech

Attachments: [Communication.4690 Balfour 04-15-2019\\_1](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Mary Blackmon that this Communication or Report be received and filed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

8. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS

Follow up items:

- a. Response to MDEQ Report-Notice of Corrective Action and Reporting Requirements-Pending
- b. Carol Calhoun of 4690 Balfour-Lead Service Line-Pending
- c. DWSD Response to Haas Report-Pending

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was none.

10. NEW BUSINESS

A. [19-0090](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department **recommends adoption of “A final project plan for the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department Water System Improvement, Watermain Replacement and Designating an Authorized Project Representative FY 2020 Drinking Water Revolving Fund”** and also authorizes the Chief Financial Officer and the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Attachments: [Public Hearing Minutes 04-03-2019](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Coleman that this Resolution, BOWC be adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Aye:** 7 - Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Einheuser, Commissioner Coleman, Commissioner Blackmon, Commissioner Garcia, Commissioner Davis and Commissioner Kinloch

**B. [19-0083](#)**

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **grant Proposed Amendment No. 1 for an increase of \$50,000.00 to the total contract amount with a time extension of one (1) additional year for Contract No. PS-1880 “Personal Services Contract for Construction Inspector Services” with Raymond Hurd (Consultant)**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Farhat

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

**C. [19-0086](#)**

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **secure a one-time purchase at a cost not-to-exceed \$340,133 to purchase and install 10 replacement doors as part of the overhead door replacement project with Secure Door, LLC.** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Burgi

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

**D. [19-0088](#)**

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, the Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **enter into Contract # 6002025, based on pricing from MI Deal Contract # 071B7700084 with MacAllister Machinery Co., DBA Michigan CAT for the purchase of four (4) new Caterpillar Model 430F2 Backhoes, at a cost not to exceed \$370,000.00,** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Burgi

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

- E. [19-0096](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **secure change order #2 to add \$89,940.00 to contract 6000875 with Johnson Control for HVAC - Building Mechanical Systems Program Management On Demand Repair Services, total amended contract amount not to exceed \$2,315,960 for the duration of the contract** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Burgi

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

- F. [19-00100](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **secure Contract No. 6002038 with Selectron Technologies Inc. for Interactive Voice Response (IVR) Installation and Maintenance Services for an amount not to exceed \$395,710.00 and a duration of 2 years**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Burgi

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

- G. [19-00101](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **secure contracts in an amount not to exceed \$1,494,069.60 to: -EJ Prescott, Inc. (contract #6002035, \$390,850.00), -Zenner Performance Meters, Inc. (contract #6002036, \$345,099.60), and -Badger Meter, Inc. (contract #6002037, \$758,120.00), for various sizes of water meters** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Burgi

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

- H. [19-00102](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **enter into agreement No. 6002028, for improvements to the DWSD customer payment portal, with City Insight,**

LLC, for a total contract amount, not to exceed \$1,455,430.00 and a duration of 5 years, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Burgi

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

**I. [19-00103](#)**

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **secure Contract No. 6002040 with Oracle Corporation for annual software maintenance for Warehouse Asset Management software (WAM) and advanced security services, in the amount not to exceed \$900,000.00 for a duration of 2-years** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Burgi

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

**J. [19-00104](#)**

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **secure change order # 1 on Contract No. 6000435, with Groundwork0 LLC (Consultant), to add \$32,069.13, due to a tariff-related price increase applicable only to hardware components, for an updated total contract amount not to exceed \$640,289.25**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Burgi

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

**K. [19-00105](#)**

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit's, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **secure Contract No. 6002041 with Oracle Corporation for Annual Software Maintenance and Database Licenses, for an amount not to exceed \$450,000 and a duration of 2-years** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

**Sponsors:** Burgi

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

- L. [19-00110](#) The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit Water and Sewerage Department **authorizes the Director to enter into a Settlement Agreement with The Stroh Companies, Inc. in the amount of \$56,117.70. This Agreement is intended to settle all claims of The Stroh Companies, Inc. for drainage charges assessed on several parcels associated with 200-300 River Place Drive, Detroit, Michigan 48207;** and authorizes the Director and General Counsel to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Pospiech

Attachments: [Settlement Agreement](#)

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

11. **DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

There was none.

12. **COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS**

There was none.

13. **COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR**

Chairman Einheuser thanked Pator Doug and Grace Community Church for hosting and for the community attending the meeting.

14. **OTHER MATTERS**

There was none.

15. **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairman Einheuser requested a motion to adjourn.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lane Coleman, seconded by Commissioner Mary Blackmon that this meeting be adjourned. The motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.