



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

735 Randolph
Detroit, Michigan 48226

Wednesday, March 18, 2015

2:00 PM

5th Floor Board Room, Water Board Building

Regular Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Fausone called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Commissioner James Fausone, Commissioner Fred Barnes, Commissioner Mary Blackmon, Commissioner J. Bryan Williams and Commissioner John Henry Davis

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Linda Forte

Also Present: Sue F. McCormick, Director; William M. Wolfson, Chief Administrative and Compliance Officer/General Counsel; and Darryl A. Latimer, Chief Customer Service Officer/Deputy Director

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Fausone requested approval of the agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Davis that the agenda be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

approved

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Fausone, Commissioner Barnes, Commissioner Blackmon, Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Davis

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Forte

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Fausone requested approval of the minutes from Special Meeting No. 2 of February 11, 2015 and regular meeting of February 25, 2015.

A motion was made by Commissioner Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Davis that the minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

approved

Aye: 5 - Commissioner Fausone, Commissioner Barnes, Commissioner Blackmon, Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Davis

Excused: 1 - Commissioner Forte

Commissioner Forte arrive at 2:03 P.M.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS (3 minutes per speaker)

Erma Leaphart, Sierra Club Volunteer, read a comment from Sierra Club member Diane Crawford, which stated Detroit has a water affordability plan that must be implemented.

Mary Jones, came before the Board regarding customer service billing issues with properties owned and previously owned at 15680,15684, and 15686 East Eight Mile Road and 4358 Lakewood.

6. ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSIONERS

Wendy Barrott, General Manager of Wastewater Operations provided a monthly update of the biosolids.

Commissioner Forte reported the highlights of the Finance Committee meeting of March 3, 2015.

Commissioner Blackmon reported the highlights of the Human Resources Committee meeting of March 16, 2015.

7. OLD BUSINESS

None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

[15-1003](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **grant a time extension of 545 calendar days to the final completion date, with no increase in the contract amount to DWSD Contract No. DWS-894 “Water Shut-Off/Turn-On Project” with Homrich Wrecking, Inc.**, and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Latimer

A motion was made by Commissioner Forte, seconded by Commissioner Blackmon, that this Contract, Change Order be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

approved

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Fausone, Commissioner Barnes, Commissioner Blackmon, Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Davis

[15-1009](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **extend and increase the contract purchase order No. 2897884, “Furnish: Rental Dewatering Centrifuge Units, including Operations with PACE Dewatering Systems Ltd for the amount of \$1,100,925.00 for a period not to exceed six months,** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Barrott

A motion was made by Commissioner Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Barnes that this Contract Amendment be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

approved

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Fausone, Commissioner Barnes, Commissioner Blackmon, Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Davis

[15-1010](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **enter into Contract No. CS-1714, “Professional Services Contract” with Siemens (Consultant), at a cost not to exceed \$167,000.00 for a duration of Ninety (90) days,** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Porter

A motion was made by Commissioner Barnes, seconded by Commissioner Forte that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

approved

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Fausone, Commissioner Barnes, Commissioner Blackmon, Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Davis

[15-1011](#)

The Board of Water Commissioners for the City of Detroit, Water and Sewerage Department authorizes the Director to **grant an emergency purchase order no. 2905755 for “Inspection and Cleaning of two DWSD Siphons along the North West Interceptor Arm near Fort Street in Detroit” with Inland Waters Pollution Control, Inc. (Contractor), in the amount of \$478,183.33,** and also authorizes the Director to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.

Sponsors: Olson and Porter

A motion was made by Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Davis that this Contract be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

approved

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Fausone, Commissioner Barnes, Commissioner Blackmon, Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Davis

9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT[15-1015](#)

Director's Report

Sponsors: McCormick**Attachments:** [Director's Report - March 18, 2015.pdf](#)**10. COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS**

Commissioner Blackmon asked had there been any response from Detroit Public Schools (DPS), Highland Park, and Inkster regarding their delinquent accounts. Mr. Wolfson replied that the Department had no response from DPS, a consent judgment has been filed against Inkster, and the Department informed Highland Park's Administrator Cathy Sqaure that the Department's collaboration efforts has become a collection effort.

Commissioner Williams referred to the finance report regarding the "nonrecurring capital asset adjustment for write-off of prior years' balances" and its impact of the water fund. He stated how under the current administration, it has allowed the committee to understand the state of the Department's capital assets. He commends Ms. Bateson, Chief Financial Officer, on her tireless efforts in cleaning up the records. He requested a further breakdown and analysis of the \$100 million plus negative net worth on the water fund. Commissioner Forte added that thanks to not only accounting expertise but leadership and management knowledge that has brought these assets of the organization to transform how we account for issues.

Commissioner Barnes asked how does the Department increase its net worth of the water fund. Ms. Bateson replied by changing the business processes and being preventive rather than reactive.

Commissioner Blackmon asked how has the Department educated customers on the proper way to discard medicine. She asked how will the transition of the DWSD-R and the GLWA affect the citizens of Detroit and the employees. She requested an update on the DWSD storm water program.

11. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR

Workshop, April 8 at 1:00 PM
Regular Meeting, April 22 at 2:00 PM

12. OTHER MATTERS**None.****13. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Barnes that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:
adjourned

Aye: 6 - Commissioner Fausone, Commissioner Barnes, Commissioner Blackmon, Commissioner Forte, Commissioner Williams and Commissioner Davis

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:15 P.M.