



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

735 Randolph  
Detroit, Michigan 48226

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Wednesday, October 7, 2015

10:00 AM

5th Floor Board Room, Water Board Building

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## Board of Water Commissioners Special Meeting No. 10

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Fausone called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

### 2. ROLL CALL

**Present:** 6 - Commissioner James Fausone, Commissioner Fred Barnes, Commissioner Mary Blackmon, Commissioner John Henry Davis, Commissioner Michael Einheuser and Commissioner Jody Caldwell

**Absent:** 1 - Commissioner Linda Forte

### 3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Fausone requested approval of the agenda.

**A motion was made by Commissioner Einheuser, seconded by Commissioner Barnes that the agenda be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**approved**

**Aye:** 6 - Commissioner Fausone, Commissioner Barnes, Commissioner Blackmon, Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Einheuser and Commissioner Caldwell

### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**This was none.**

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

Jim Casha of 207 North St. E, PO Box 308, Ontario Canada NOJ IPO argued against Mayor Duggan's selections of DWSD Director and Deputy Director. He insisted the Director should be a professional engineer, preferably a civil engineer.

### 6. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. Receipt of Communication from the Mayor

[15-1143](#)

**DWSD-GLWA Transition - Director and Deputy Director Designate**

**Sponsors:** Wolfson

**Attachments:** [Mayor's letter appointment of Director and Deputy Director Designate](#)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Blackmon, seconded by Commissioner Davis that this Communication or Report be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**approved**

**Aye:** 6 - Commissioner Fausone, Commissioner Barnes, Commissioner Blackmon, Commissioner Davis , Commissioner Einheuser and Commissioner Caldwell

**B. Discussion with Mr. Gary Brown; discussion with Ms. Palencia Mobley**

Mr. Gary Brown thanked the Board for their consideration in this matter. Truly it is a partnership between him and Sue during this transition period. This transition will allow us to benefit from the executives that are currently in place. He will be making decisions regarding DWSD-R issues in conjunction with Sue McCormick; he will rely on her counsel and experience to help guide him through issues. He is grateful to have such an experienced team that is willing to work with his administration to make this transition as smooth as possible. He said their main focus is improving customer service for residents and business by delivering a higher level of service and finding ways to be efficient and keeping rates affordable. Mr. Brown introduced two of the DWSD-R team members: Chief Financial Officer Marcus Hudson and Chief Operating Officer Robert Presnell.

Ms. Palencia Mobley thanked the Board for the opportunity. She is working on a partnership with the Fire Department developing a fire hydrant repair plan. Her focus as DWSD-R moves forward is to have a stronger level of communication with the City of Detroit and other city departments, develop a relationship for implementing activities and getting the work done. She and Gary believe in team effort and look forward to working with Great Lakes; she is pleased to have been chosen by the Mayor to represent him and the citizens of Detroit as Deputy Director of DWSD.

Commissioner Caldwell commends the appointment of Ms. Mobley whom he describes as hard-working and knowledgeable who has the best interest of the customer. She is a great choice for Deputy Director.

Commissioner Barnes says he concurs with both appointments. His concern is what would happen if GLWA did not stand-up. Chief Administrative and Compliance Officer/General Counsel William Wolfson replied that if for any reason the stand up did not occur, the BOWC would remain in charge of the Department.

Commissioner Blackmon is glad to see the Department taking steps to move forward. She commends the Mayor's appointments of two competent, committed, and qualified people to lead this team. She said they want what is best for the employees, Department, and the citizens that we serve.

Commissioner Einheuser echoed the appointments. His concern is the effect on the retail entity come January. The team chosen has given him assurance. The leadership appointments is gratifying and one of the most essential times for DWSD.

**7. COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS**

This was none.

**8. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR**

This was none.

**9. OTHER MATTERS**

This was none.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

**A motion was made by Commissioner Einheuser, seconded by Commissioner Caldwell that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**adjourned**

**Aye:** 6 - Commissioner Fausone, Commissioner Barnes, Commissioner Blackmon, Commissioner Davis , Commissioner Einheuser and Commissioner Caldwell

**There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.**