



GREAT LAKES WATER AUTHORITY

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GREAT LAKES WATER AUTHORITY BOARD APPOINTS CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER IN PREPARATION FOR ORGANIZATION'S LAUNCH ON JAN. 1

*Former Detroit Water and Sewerage Department director, and current GLWA interim
CEO, Sue McCormick, selected*

DETROIT—After a nationwide search, Robert Daddow, chairman, Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA), announced the hiring of Sue McCormick as the organization's chief executive officer. McCormick, who currently serves as the interim CEO of GLWA and director of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD), has guided DWSD through major initiatives that have resulted in cost savings, regulatory compliance and improved financial performance.

GLWA board members Joseph Nardone, who made the motion, and Brian Baker, who seconded, for Ms. McCormick's appointment as the GLWA's first CEO noted: "For the last year, Sue's leadership and experience have been invaluable for successfully establishing GLWA while simultaneously maintaining her role as director of DWSD organization. With her appointment, and with Gary Brown recently named as director designate for the new DWSD retail organization, we have established clear executive roles to represent both entities, putting us one step closer to launch on January 1."

The GLWA board conducted a nearly five-month nationwide search that identified 178 viable candidates. From there, the list was narrowed down to thirteen, and four were ultimately interviewed for the chief executive officer position.

Under McCormick's direction, all of DWSD's current wholesale sewer customers and the vast majority of its wholesale water customers already have agreed to assign their service contracts from DWSD to GLWA – indicating confidence in the new directions set by Ms. McCormick, and also providing a critical bellwether for successful GLWA operations.

Under the leases and services agreements with the City of Detroit approved in June, the regional authority will assume responsibility for regional water and sewer infrastructure, including treatment plants and major pipelines, while the City of Detroit will maintain responsibility for local water and sewer infrastructure serving Detroit residents.

"The establishment of GLWA is key to fixing our aging infrastructure to the benefit of all Southeast Michigan residents," said Brown, director designate, the new DWSD retail organization. "I look forward to continuing to work with Sue on this unprecedented partnership between the City of Detroit and its surrounding communities."

One of the critical next steps required for GLWA to become effective on January 1, 2016, is obtaining the consent of bondholders holding outstanding DWSD obligations that will be moved to GLWA. Recent credit reviews have resulted in an upgrade in DWSD's credit, and rating agencies have noted a positive outlook for the organization, which is a strong sign that moving the debt will go smoothly.

"We've been able to take a lot of important steps towards launch," said McCormick, CEO, GLWA. "But there is still a lot of work to do, and I'm excited to continue my work with the organization. This is an unprecedented time of regional cooperation, and I look forward to working with all of our local and regional partners to assure efficient and reliable service to our customers."

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About the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA)

The Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) was established in November 2014 to provide water and waste water services to 126 municipalities in seven Southeastern Michigan counties. On January 1, 2016, GLWA will assume operational, infrastructure improvements and rate-setting responsibilities for water and sewage treatment plants, major water transmission mains and sewage interceptors, and related facilities. The organization will lease these facilities from the City of Detroit for an allocation of \$50 million per year of revenue-financed capital to fund capital improvements for the City of Detroit retail system. GLWA also will fund a Water Residential Assistance Program to assist low-income residential customers throughout the system. The GLWA board includes one representative each from Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties as well as two representatives from the City of Detroit, and one from the State of Michigan.