



## **Financial Services Audit Committee Communication**

**Date:** December 15, 2023

**To:** Great Lakes Water Authority Audit Committee

**From:** Nicolette N. Bateson, CPA, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer

**Re:** CFO Update

### **Staffing Updates**

I am *very* excited to announce that we have filled key positions this year in the Financial Services Area that moves us much farther along in our succession planning. Attached is an organization chart that we will review at the meeting. I would like to take this opportunity to highlight new additions to the team as well as announce new assignments and promotions.

#### **Welcome to Gregg Kirk, Financial Management & Planning Director**

Gregg joins us with significant experience in strategic financial planning & analysis, budgeting, forecasting, financial modeling, and demonstrated leadership skills with an emphasis on coaching and mentoring.

His educational background includes a Master of Business Administration (M.B.A.) in Finance and Organizational Management from Walsh College and a Bachelor of Arts (B.A.) in General Business Administration Prelaw from Michigan State University, Eli Broad College of Business.

#### **Welcome to David Slowik, Interim Financial Planning & Analysis Manager**

David brings several years of experience in financial planning and analysis and budgeting as well as experience with systems we are presently implementing: Workday and Adaptive Insights. We look to David as both a finance and technology leader at GLWA as he is also well versed in Power BI.

His educational background includes a Bachelor of Science (B.S) in Finance from the Pennsylvania State University Smeal College of Business in University Park, PA.

#### **Congratulations to Lisa Mancini, Newly Appointed FSA Chief of Staff**

Lisa has been with the GLWA since inception on January 2016. She was key to the startup of GLWA financial systems within a remarkable 75 days. Lisa was also the first Financial Planning & Analysis Manager. In transitioning to this new role, Lisa brings a depth of operational GLWA knowledge as well as understanding of business processes from beginning to end. This places her in a unique position in the implementation of

Workday and the numerous change management initiatives that this will generate for all end-users of the system.

**Congratulations to Nick Fedewa, Newly Appointed Public Finance Manager**

Nick joined GLWA in 2019. He quickly took on some of the more technical accounting and reporting tasks in the areas of pension and debt. He has continued to assume increasingly complex debt management tasks and has earned the praise of the bond transaction team. Nick was a key support team member in the 2022 bond transaction and quickly assumed a leadership role in all aspects of the 2023 bond tender and refunding from rating agency analysis and preparation to key financial analysis supporting the official statement preparation and compliance requirements.

**Congratulations to Jackie Morgan, Newly Appointed State Revolving Fund (SRF) Program Finance Manager**

Jackie has taken an active leadership role in the management of the SRF program. This program has continued to grow in size and encompasses transactions for both DWSD and GLWA. The SRF program has also become increasingly more complex to administer due to expanding federal compliance requirements. Jackie has a broad range of financial experience having worked in both the Office of the CFO and in Treasury where she demonstrated her commitment to excellence by studying for, and earning, the Certified Treasury Professional Certification – on the first try!

**Congratulations to Ed Vanneste, Promotion to Grants Team Management Professional**

Since joining the Great Lakes Water Authority in July 2017, Ed has moved steadily through a variety of positions including accounts payable and treasury. When the grants team was established, Ed quickly volunteered to transfer to the new team as a Professional Administrative Analyst. In the short time Ed has been part of this team, he has embraced all the flexibility and problem solving that comes with a new function and has been able to leverage his educational background and expertise from Lawrence Technological University for the capital grants and engagement with project managers administering the programs.

**Service Sector Publications**

I was recently asked to participate in a discussion hosted by Water Finance & Management along with Moderator Greg Baird, MPA, Principal Consultant, Black & Veatch Global Advisory, Rates and Regulatory, Management Consulting along with Gregory Jenkins, II, Assistant Director, City of Raleigh Public Utilities/Raleigh Water and Sophie Skoda, Director of Finance, East Bay Municipal Utility District. Here is a link: [From the Finance Department - Water Finance & Management \(waterfm.com\)](https://www.waterfm.com/).