

..Title

Resolution Adopting the FY 2027 & FY 2028 Biennial Budget

..Body

Agenda of: February 25, 2026

Item No.: **2026-013**

Amount: N/A

TO: The Honorable
Board of Directors
Great Lakes Water Authority

FROM: Suzanne R. Coffey P.E.
Chief Executive Officer
Great Lakes Water Authority

DATE: February 25, 2026

RE: **Resolution Adopting the FY 2027 & FY 2028 Biennial Budget**

MOTION

Upon recommendation of Nicolette Bateson, Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer, the Board of Directors (Board) of the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA):

- 1) Concludes the Public Hearing related to the FY 2027 and FY 2028 Biennial Budget held on February 25, 2026;**
- 2) Pending public comment, adopts the attached resolution, 2026-013, adopting the FY 2027 and FY 2028 Biennial Budget for the GLWA;**
- 3) Notes that the GLWA By-Laws Article X, Section 5, requires a super-majority affirmative vote of at least five (5) members of the Board is necessary for the approval of the operating budget; and**
- 4) Authorizes the Chief Executive Officer to take such other action as may be necessary to accomplish the intent of this vote.**

BACKGROUND

The Great Lakes Water Authority (“GLWA” or the “Authority”) assumed the operation of the Regional Water and Sewer systems on January 1, 2016 (the “Effective Date”) pursuant to the Lease Agreements between the GLWA and the City of Detroit dated June 12, 2015. Section 5.6 of the Lease Agreements require the Authority to adopt a two-year budget for the Regional Water and Sewer Systems that sets forth budgeted revenues and expenses for each such Fiscal Year.

JUSTIFICATION

Establishing the budget and charges each year is an impactful decision which merits public discussion that spans several months encompasses stakeholder groups. An outline of discussions related to the FY 2027 & FY 2028 Biennial Budget and FY 2027 Charges is outlined below.

Board of Directors Public Engagement

- ✓ October 8, 2025 – Board Workshop – In-Depth Budget & Charges Briefing
- ✓ January 9, 2026 - Audit Committee receives proposed budget and charges presentation
- ✓ January 28, 2026 - Board Meeting – Board receives a proposed budget and charges presentation and refers the matters back to Audit Committee for further review
- ✓ January 30, 2026 - Audit Committee continued review of budget and proposed charges
- ✓ February [TBD] 2026 - Audit Committee continued review of budget and proposed charges
- ✓ February 25, 2026 - Board Meeting – Board conducts public hearing related to the proposed budget and charges

Member Partner Engagement

- ✓ November 6, 2025 - Charges 101 – Foundational Knowledge of the GLWA Charge-Making Process
- ✓ November 13, 2025 - Charges Rollout #1 and #2 – Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and Units of Service (UOS) Update
- ✓ January 14, 2026 – Member Partner specific email with preliminary calculation worksheet and letter from Chief Executive Officer
- ✓ January 15, 2026 - Charges Rollout #3 – Proposed FY 2027 Revenue Requirement and Service Charges
- ✓ January 22, 2026 - Charges Rollout #4 - Feedback on Proposed Charges and FY 2027 Revenue Requirement
- ✓ January 26, 2026 – Member Partners were mailed proposed calculation worksheet, letter from Chief Executive Officer, and one pager related to FY 2027 Proposed Charge Increase

- ✓ January 27, 2026 – Member Partner specific emailed proposed calculation worksheet, letter from Chief Executive Officer, and one pager related to FY 2027 Proposed Charge Increase

A Notice of Public Hearing was published in the Detroit Legal News on *[insert date]*. That notice, along with related supporting materials throughout the budget and charges development process, is available online at www.gewater.org/financials.

BUDGET IMPACT

This action establishes a budget for FY 2027 and FY 2028.

COMMITTEE REVIEW

The GLWA Audit Committee reviewed the budget and supplemental analysis at the meetings noted above. On *[insert date]* the Audit Committee *[insert action]* that the Board of Directors adopts the resolution related to the FY 2027 and FY 2028 Budget subject to public comment at the public hearing to be held on February 25, 2026.