

STATE OF MICHIGAN

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Raw Sludge Clarifiers and Raw  
Sludge Pumping Systems  
Improvements at the Lake Huron  
Water Treatment Plant  
April 11, 2018  
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The Above Proceedings were taken before me, Glenn  
G. Miller, Notary Public within and for the County of  
Oakland, State of Michigan, at 735 Randolph, Fifth  
Floor, Detroit, Michigan, on Wednesday, April 11, 2018.

PRESENT:

Freeman Hendrix, Chairman GLWA  
Brian Baker, Vice Chairman GLWA  
Craig Hupy, Director GLWA  
Gary Brown, Director GLWA  
Abe Munfakh, Board Secretary GLWA  
Robert Daddow, Director GLWA  
Sue F. McCormick, GLWA CEO  
William Wolfson, Chief Administrative and  
Compliance Officer,  
Randal Brown, General Counsel  
Jonathan Wheatley, Public Finance Manager  
Todd King, Field Services  
David Nitz, Brown and Caldwell

1 Detroit, Michigan

2 Wednesday, April 11, 2018

3 At about 1:20 p.m.

4 MR. HENDRIX: The next item on the agenda  
5 is the public hearing for the Water Revolving Fund, Lake  
6 Huron Water Treatment Plant Sludge System Improvement  
7 Project. Same team, Mr. Wheatley?

8 MR. WOLFSON: Mr. Wheatley and Mr. King  
9 will do the presentation on this one.

10 MR. HENDRIX: Mr. King.

11 MR. KING: Good afternoon. Todd King,  
12 Field Services.

13 I am presenting to you the Raw Sludge  
14 Clarifiers and Raw Sludge Pumping System Improvements at  
15 the Lake Huron Water Plant. This is an outgrowth of the  
16 design contract CS-171.

17 The Lake Huron Plant is unique among  
18 the system in that it has facilities on site for the  
19 handling of residual sludges that are generated in the  
20 settling basins and then they are pumped off into these  
21 clarifiers and then pumped up into the lagoons for  
22 ultimate disposal in a landfill.

23 With that introduction I'll hand it  
24 over to Dave Nitz, who is the project manager from Brown  
25 and Caldwell.

1 MR. NITZ: Again, I'm Dave Nitz with Brown  
2 and Caldwell.

3 As Todd mentioned, this project is for  
4 the improvements of a residual handling system, that's a  
5 side stream to the overall water treatment system at the  
6 Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant. The need for the  
7 project, the primary needs are just the structural  
8 condition and possible mechanical condition of the  
9 system that actually have been in need of repair for  
10 some time. They're past their useful life and in very  
11 poor condition.

12 So as part of the overall project, we  
13 evaluated a number of different alternatives for  
14 improving the system. I won't go into detail of all  
15 those, but essentially we've selected an alternative  
16 that is to replace the existing clarifier system and  
17 replace the pumping system rather than rehabilitate the  
18 existing system, and that that basis was determined by  
19 an evaluation of life cycle cost and different  
20 alternatives.

21 The overall cost of the project, the  
22 construction cost is on the order of six million  
23 dollars. It's a significantly smaller project than the  
24 one we previously discussed. The overall estimated  
25 project cost is approximately 7.2 million dollars, and

1 the user cost impact is .33 dollars per year,  
2 approximately.

3 As far as the environmental evaluation  
4 for the overall project, it is contained within the Lake  
5 Huron facility, so there's very little chance of  
6 environmental impact or other impacts to the community.

7 As far as the overall schedule, the  
8 overall project is a 42 month schedule with  
9 approximately a 22 month construction schedule  
10 anticipated.

11 As with the previous project, a  
12 detailed project plan was posted to the GLWA website and  
13 it's been posted for over 30 days.

14 MR. HENDRIX: Questions on this item?

15 MR. MUNFAKH: I didn't see the  
16 alternatives evaluated.

17 MR. NITZ: Five alternatives were  
18 evaluated and there was no action of evaluation of  
19 alternative water sources. There is an alternative of  
20 rehabilitating the existing system. The fourth  
21 alternative is a partial rehabilitation and the fifth  
22 alternative was completely new.

23 MR. WOLFSON: You're on Page 24.

24 MR. HENDRIX: Any questions on this side?

25 Hearing none, thank you very much. We

1 move to the public comment portion of the agenda. If  
2 there are members of the public who would like to make a  
3 comment regarding the Drinking Water Revolving Fund on  
4 this item, Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant Sludge  
5 System Improvement Project, now would be the time to do  
6 so. Public comment on this item only. I don't see  
7 anyone coming. No one.

8 MS. DARRAH: This is on the sludge?

9 MR. HENDRIX: You would like to make a  
10 comment on the Water Revolving Fund for the Lake Huron  
11 Water Treatment Plant Sludge System. Correct?

12 MS. DARRAH: You got two things, you got a  
13 public hearing on Waterworks Park and another one on the  
14 sludge.

15 MR. WOLFSON: This is a public hearing on  
16 the sludge.

17 MS. DARRAH: I want to know -- a friend of  
18 mine the other day, yesterday, oh, they make money  
19 selling the sludge. I want to know are you making any  
20 money selling the sludge, number one? Could you put  
21 anaerobic digesters in there that would change this  
22 whole plan that you're proposing because then, you know,  
23 I mean, people make money off of it and you can reduce  
24 the water cost because you're not hauling the sludge  
25 away, unless you're making money. But in Boston where

1 we got our Nefco from, Quincy, they got the anaerobic  
2 digestion on Deer Island and they made a big pipeline  
3 actually, they used to take it over on the barge, they  
4 took the sludge out -- dewatered by being in the  
5 anaerobic digestion and sent it over to Quincy and make  
6 fertilizers out of it with their dryers now.

7 I don't even know. I've asked you many  
8 times those dryers that we spent 150 million dollars  
9 building and they're costing about 23 million dollars a  
10 year because it was a 683 million dollar, 20 year  
11 contract, to design, build and operate those dryers and  
12 I don't know -- I still don't know if they're working  
13 because naturally with public comments we never get an  
14 answer back. It's just we're talking to a wall, like  
15 the city council. Same thing.

16 So I want to know have you even  
17 considered -- if we're going to save money on the  
18 operation, maybe we should go at it and sell bonds for  
19 what it takes to build anaerobic digestion then you  
20 might be able to -- I mean, in Minneapolis they told me,  
21 before they bought them for here, that they never worked  
22 until they got -- they had dryers just like we got,  
23 Nefco dryers, but they never got them working right  
24 until they got the anaerobic digestion at the third  
25 phase. My niece lives there and they're telling them to

1 put the meat scraps, everything into their garbage so  
2 they can put it in the anaerobic digesting, which you  
3 can make electricity and run the plant cheaper by having  
4 your own electricity or selling methane to somebody else  
5 and selling the fertilizer, too, which I don't think you  
6 can make very good fertilizer out of the sludge you've  
7 got.

8 I don't even know if you're selling it  
9 and making money on it. It's not showing up anywhere.  
10 But, anyway, those are my comments. I don't see that as  
11 an alternative here and maybe you should look long range  
12 and look at Cleveland and other places where they  
13 reduced the water costs instead of increasing it and you  
14 still have an increase in the water quality.

15 I was in Ann Arbor and their water  
16 tastes great because they use ultraviolet -- don't they  
17 use ultraviolet to treat their water? They don't put  
18 chlorine in their water. Give us some good water, too.

19 MR. HENDRIX: Thank you.

20 MR. WOLFSON: And for the record, that was  
21 Ms. Cindy Darrah.

22 MR. HENDRIX: Thank you for those  
23 comments. We appreciate that very much.

24 Anyone else for public comment?

25 Seeing no one end else coming to the

1 microphone, we'll close the public comment section of  
2 the agenda.

3 (The Public Hearing was closed  
4 at 1:30 p.m.)  
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## C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Glenn Miller, do hereby certify that I have recorded stenographically the proceedings had and testimony taken in the above-entitled matter at the time and place hereinbefore set forth, and I do further certify that the foregoing transcript, consisting of eight (8) typewritten pages, is a true and correct transcript of my said stenograph notes.

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*Glenn Miller*

Glenn Miller

Certified Shorthand Reporter

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(Date)