



Great Lakes Water Authority

735 Randolph Street
Detroit, Michigan 48226
glwater.legistar.com

Meeting Minutes - Final

Board of Directors Workshop Meeting

Wednesday, August 11, 2021

1:00 PM

Renaissance High School - Auditorium
6565 W. Outer Drive
Detroit, Michigan 48235

1. Call to Order

Acting Chairperson Baker called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

2. Quorum Call

Present: 6 - Chairperson John J. Zech, Vice-Chairperson Jaye Quadrozzi, Secretary Freman Hendrix, Director Brian Baker, Director Gary Brown, and Director Beverly Walker-Griffea

Chairperson Zech attended the meeting via teleconference from Benzonia Township, Benzie County, Michigan.

Vice-Chairperson Quadrozzi joined the meeting at 1:05 p.m. via teleconference from San Francisco, California, under Item 4. A. Approval of Minutes.

Secretary Hendrix attended the meeting via teleconference from Estero, Florida.

Director Walker-Griffea attended the meeting via teleconference from Newport News, Virginia.

3. Approval of Agenda

Acting Chairperson Baker reminded the public that the Board may take action following today's Closed Session.

William M. Wolfson, Chief Administrative and Compliance Officer, advised members of the public that at the Board's next meeting, GLWA plans to continue its cadence of providing flood updates.

Acting Chairperson Baker requested a Motion to Approve the Agenda.

Motion By: Gary Brown

Support By: Beverly Walker-Griffea

Action: Approved

The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

4. Approval of Minutes

A. [2021-313](#) July 28, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.Draft

Sponsors: Rechanda Willis

Attachments: [July 28, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes](#)

Acting Chairperson Baker requested a Motion to Approve the July 28, 2021 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.

Motion By: Gary Brown

Support By: John J. Zech

Action: Approved

The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

5. Public Comment

Robert Sisler, Jefferson Chalmers District Council, addressed the Board regarding basement floodings in his community.

M. L. Elrick, an east side resident, addressed the Board regarding an update on the cause of the flooding, and the steps that have been made to ensure the pumps are working properly.

Rosalind Richmond, who lives in the Aviation District in Detroit, made inquiries regarding sewer and catch basin cleaning in the neighborhoods, and how projects are prioritized.

Director Brown responded that he (Detroit Water and Sewerage Department) will follow-up with a response to Ms. Richmond's inquiries.

Sue Baker, who lives in the Jefferson Chalmers area, addressed the Board regarding damages as a result of basement flooding.

6. Communications

A. [2021-325](#) Receipt of Correspondence

Attachments: [2021.08.06 Co-Chairs Letter to GLWA Board](#)

Motion By: John J. Zech

Support By: Jaye Quadrozzi

Action: Received and Filed

The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

7. Closed Session

A. [2021-327](#) **Closed Session Request- Attorney Client Communications**

Sponsors: Randal Brown

Indexes: General Counsel

Acting Chairperson Baker requested a Motion and Roll Call Vote to enter into Closed Session at 1:25 p.m.

Motion By: Gary Brown

Support By: John J. Zech

Action: Approved

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Chairperson Zech, Vice-Chairperson Quadrozzi, Secretary Hendrix, Director Baker, Director Brown, and Director Walker-Griffea

Acting Chairperson Baker reminded the public that the Board may take action following today's Closed Session.

Entered Closed Session at 1:30 p.m.

Returned from Closed Session at 2:36 p.m.

The only matters discussed were attorney-client communications.

8. Old Business

None

9. New Business

William M. Wolfson, Chief Administrative and Compliance Officer, requested to Amend the Agenda to add Resolution 2021-330, Appointment of Interim Chief Executive Officer.

Acting Chairperson Baker requested a Motion to Amend the Agenda to add Resolution 2021-330.

Motion By: Gary Brown

Support By: John J. Zech

Action: Approved as Amended

The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

A. [2021-330](#) **Appointment of Interim Chief Executive Officer**

Chairperson Zech made a Motion, Supported by Vice-Chairperson Quadrozzi, to appoint Suzanne Coffey as the Interim Chief Executive Officer.

Acting Chairperson Baker requested a Roll Call Vote to appoint Suzanne Coffey as Interim Chief Executive Officer.

Motion By: John J. Zech

Support By: Jaye Quadrozzi

Action: Approved

The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Chairperson Zech, Vice-Chairperson Quadrozzi, Secretary Hendrix, Director Baker, Director Brown, and Director Walker-Griffea

The Board will also discuss such other matters.

10. Reports

William M. Wolfson, Chief Administrative and Compliance Officer, stated that with the Board having approved the resolution for the Interim CEO, we do contemplate a search, and staff will be reporting to the Board regarding possible search consultants to assist in the conduct of that search. General Counsel will also be involved in leading that search with the use of outside counsel, and we will update the Board at the next Board Meeting.

Mr. Wolfson also stated that staff has received a request that the date of the Board's next meeting be changed from 2:00 p.m. on August 25, 2021 to 2:00 p.m. on September 1, 2021. If the Board would like to take that request up as a form of a Motion, it would be in order to make such a Motion.

Chairperson Zech made a Motion, Supported by Secretary Hendrix, to change the August 25, 2021, 2:00 p.m. Board of Directors Meeting to September 1, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.

Director Walker-Griffea requested to amend the Motion to change the time from 2:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Motion By: John J. Zech

Support By: Freman Hendrix

Action: Approved

The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

Note: The August 25, 2021, 2:00 p.m., Board of Directors Meeting has been rescheduled to September 1, 2021, at 1:00 p.m.

11. Remarks

A. Chairperson's Remarks

Acting Chairperson Baker acknowledged Sue McCormick for all of her hard work over the years and the great job she has done standing up the Organization.

B. Board Members' Remarks

Director Brown concurred with Acting Chairperson Baker's remarks regarding Sue McCormick and hopes at some point there is an opportunity to outline the tremendous number of accomplishments that have been made over the years.

Chairperson Zech echoed the comments made by Directors Baker and Brown regarding the performance of Sue McCormick, and all she has done for GLWA since its inception. Chairperson Zech also expressed empathy for the members of the public that spoke today regarding basement flooding issues.

Secretary Hendrix referenced the letter received from the Co-Chairs (attached under item 6A. Communications) regarding their participation in the selection of the CEO search, and their expression of respect and appreciation for Sue McCormick's dedicated service and leadership style as CEO of GLWA during the stand-up and subsequent to that.

12. Adjournment

Acting Chairperson Baker requested a Motion to Adjourn.

Motion By: Gary Brown

Support By: Brian Baker

Action: Approved

The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.