



Financial Services Audit Committee Communication

Date: July 24, 2026

To: Great Lakes Water Authority Audit Committee

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

Re: CFO Report

Affordability & Assistance Update

In June, Haran Stanley, GLWA's Affordability & Assistance Manager and chair of the Women on Water for the Michigan section of AWWA, attended a statewide networking event in Grand Rapids. Similar to the January meeting in Detroit, this gathering provided attendees an avenue to share challenges, opportunities and success stories.

Also in June, the Recreation Authority of Roseville & Eastpointe Center hosted an information session for community members about data centers and their effects on energy and water bills. The session featured local lawmakers, advocates, and resource organizations, including the Macomb Community Action Agency and GLWA's Affordability & Assistance/WRAP team, who provided information and addressed questions.

Preparing Future Financial Leaders

For the fourth year, the Financial Services Area (FSA) is pleased to support the GLWA internship program. This year we welcome two interns to FSA.

Aaron Pryce is a junior from Hope College where he is majoring in public accounting with a minor in computer science and business. Aaron is currently working within the CFO Services area supporting DWSD coordination, an affordability project, yearend close, audit efforts and other ongoing activities.

Jalen Wyatt is in his final year at Oakland University concentrating on Economics and Business Analytics with an anticipated December 2026 graduation. He has also previously interned with Oakland County's department of Health and Human Services. Jalen is currently supporting the FP&A Team by providing financial analytics on areas such as contract

utilization and chemical usage, supporting the operational areas of the organization. He is also interacting with Team members in meetings with budget managers, broadening his understanding of the organization.

The internship program has brought great experiences not only to the interns but also to FSA team members who appreciate the skill, curiosity, and enthusiasm the interns bring with them every day. In addition, FSA interns have continued through the school year lending additional support and one intern became a recent hire within the Public Finance team. This is a program we truly value and appreciate.

Comprehensive Budget Document Now Online!

Happy new fiscal year! This means that the FY 2027 & FY 2028 Biennial Budget and Five Year Financial Plan is now [online](https://glwater.org) at glwater.org.

Producing this document is a heavy lift for our Financial Planning & Analysis. Their commitment to accuracy, transparency and professionalism is evident in this document. Thank you to that team who has persevered through dual system implementations while we move to new planning system technology.

Thank you also to Phyllis Walsh, Executive Assistant in the CFO's Office. Through her Adobe Acrobat skills, she ensures that the very large (534 pages!) is fully searchable. For example, stakeholders can enter the phrase *water master plan* in the search field, and find results that readily inform the reader about which years the water master plan and the wastewater master plan are budgeted, the estimated dollar amounts, and the history and objectives of those operational projects.

Thank you also to Phyllis for her creativity skills in designing the cover (which was given a thumbs up by the GLWA Public Affairs team).

