



**Office of the Chief Executive**

735 Randolph Street, Suite 1900  
Detroit, Michigan 48226

May 22, 2024

The Honorable  
Board of Directors  
Great Lakes Water Authority

**RE: CEO Report – May 22, 2024**

Chairperson Baker and Directors,

I'll begin my report this month with an update on our Linear System Integrity Program project that has focused on efforts to renew segments of our 36-inch transmission main along 24 Mile Road in Shelby Township and Macomb Township. This project is using a carbon fiber reinforced polymer to line/reinforce pipe segments found to be in a state of incipient failure. This means the pipes have already structurally failed and are being held together by forces from the surrounding soil. GLWA anticipates having the most critical portion of pipeline needed to meet peak demands (western portion), back in service by Memorial Day. Our team will also continue planning for the inspection of the remainder of the pipeline that could not be inspected due to dewatering challenges.

Staying in the area of resiliency, I am pleased to share with you that our Resiliency Group is completing its first year of work. One of the most exciting outputs to emerge from their efforts is a series of on-the-job training videos designed to help retain and transfer knowledge about our system and its assets. The information is presented by our veteran operators to an audience of new and existing Team Members who are currently operating the assets, as well as those who will in the future. What I think makes these videos so interesting is that they are conversations between a video “host” and the actual experts that know the equipment and their ins and outs. I am excited for our team members to begin utilizing them. Congrats to the team for their creativity. You can find more information on the Resiliency Group's first year of work in this report on Pages 23 and 24, and in each edition of this monthly report moving forward.

The team is led by System Resiliency Officer Todd King and includes Biren Saparia who serves as the Director of Systems and Resiliency and Thomas Hall who is the Director of Operations and Resiliency. They have also been joined by Mini Panicker who was recently promoted to Director of Energy and Resiliency. Congrats to Mini on her new and exciting role!

As a part of our ongoing efforts to create a resilient workforce, our Member Outreach Program recently collaborated with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department to provide a professional development opportunity through an S-Licensure Refresher Prep Course. The course was offered free of charge to our team members and member partners who were preparing for the May 1 Water Operator S-Licensure (distribution system) Exam. I want to express my thanks to DWSD Deputy Director Sam Smalley who did a fantastic job teaching this hybrid-format course, which attracted approximately 30 in-person and more than 50 virtual participants.

Staying in the workforce resiliency area, I'm proud to announce that as a part of this year's Progression Cycle, a total of 24 team members progressed with 22 progressing one level and two team members progressing two levels.

In keeping with our commitment to encouraging sustainability and green initiatives, we recently conducted a free fertilizer giveaway for our team members where they could get up to five five-gallon buckets of our Class-A exceptional quality fertilizer pellets produced by our Biosolids Drying Facility. Approximately 60 team members took advantage of this opportunity. Congratulations to Wastewater Operations Chief Operating Officer Navid Mehran and Wastewater Operations Director Majid Kahn for developing and executing this innovative new program, which moving forward, will be offered twice a year (Spring and Fall).

I will end as I always do with an acknowledgement of team members and their impressive accomplishments.

Congratulations to LaShone Bedford, Water Operations Manager of Strategic Planning and Development, on being elected to serve as a Trustee on the AWWA Michigan Section Board of Trustees. Her term will begin in September at the MI-AWWA Annual Conference.

I also want to congratulate Dr. John Norton, our Director of Research & Innovation, for being named to a number of prestigious roles, including Chair of the American Water Works Association's Joint Section Research Committee, Vice-Chair of AWWA's Utility Collaboration Subcommittee, and Vice President of the Midwest Biosolids Association.

## **PLANNING SERVICES**

### ***Enterprise Asset Management Group (EAMG)***

The EAMG has continued efforts associated with preparing our data and processes for the implementation of our new computerized maintenance management system, NEXGEN. This month has been focused on developing asset data standards and aligning linear assets that were previously housed in a separate system.

GLWA has continued efforts to renew segments of the 36-inch transmission main along 24 Mile Road in Shelby Township and Macomb Township that was previously inspected as part of the Linear System Inspection Program.

## **PLANNING SERVICES** (continued)

GLWA selected a carbon fiber reinforced polymer renewal as the most appropriate repair strategy for the renewal of pipe segments found to be in a state of incipient failure before returning the pipe into service.

GLWA anticipates having the western portion (the most critical portion of the pipeline needed to meet peak demands) of the pipeline back in service by Memorial Day, while continuing the planning and execution of the inspection of the remainder of the pipeline that could not be inspected due to dewatering challenges.

### ***Capital Improvement Planning Group (CIP)***

During April, in the preliminary phase of CIP Development, the CIP Team arranged several meetings with Chiefs, Directors, and Managers of Life Cycle Project Managers involved in water and wastewater projects. These meetings were held to update project budgets and schedules, present alignment scenarios, and facilitate the streamlining of the FY 2026-2030 CIP development process.

Also, in April the CIP team conducted two training sessions for project managers. The primary goals of these sessions were to refresh the team's understanding of the CIP portal and introduce some enhancements to the CIP development process. The team actively sought cost and schedule updates to ensure better alignment with the engineering teams' forecasts.

With assistance from GLWA's program manager, AECOM, the CIP team moved forward with implementing the Program Management Plan (PMP) and concentrated on refining PMP Chapter 15 that is related to the CIP projects planning phase. The Team is working with the engineering teams on formalizing project planning stage prerequisites prior to commencing the design phase.

### ***Systems Planning Group***

A **Wastewater Analytics Task Force** (WATF) meeting was held virtually on April 12. It began with announcements from Kevin Jankowski of GLWA on several topics including Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) project updates, upcoming requests for proposals, funding for the Southeast Michigan Flood Mitigation Study, the Oakwood Diversion project, regulatory updates, and the establishment of a new workgroup for hydraulic modelers.

Next, GLWA's Steve Kuplicki presented on rule changes to the Industrial Pretreatment Program (IPP). In 2019, GLWA adopted rules for its IPP; those rules are being amended to modify certain definitions, and to add or modify local pollutant discharge limits. Next, Kevin Jankowski led a discussion on GLWA's project development process and heard Member perspectives about earlier engagement related to decision making and study phase of projects.

## **PLANNING SERVICES** (continued)

To this end, GLWA is working on a standardized procedure for project initiation that aims to enhance the opportunity for Members to review GLWA plans for particular projects. The next WATF meeting will take place in-person at the University of Michigan Detroit Center on Thursday, May 30.

On April 10, the **Wastewater Best Practices Work Group (WWBP)** met at the WRRF in Detroit. The meeting began with a tour led by GLWA's Operations Manager, Sajit George. After the tour, the group debriefed and held a roundtable discussion about members' basin flushing after storm events. Members shared best practices, details of the types of equipment used, and came to a general consensus that while design consultants frequently pitch that a basin can be constructed so that flushing isn't necessary, this rarely turns out to be the case in practice. Members also shared that there had been no major storm events

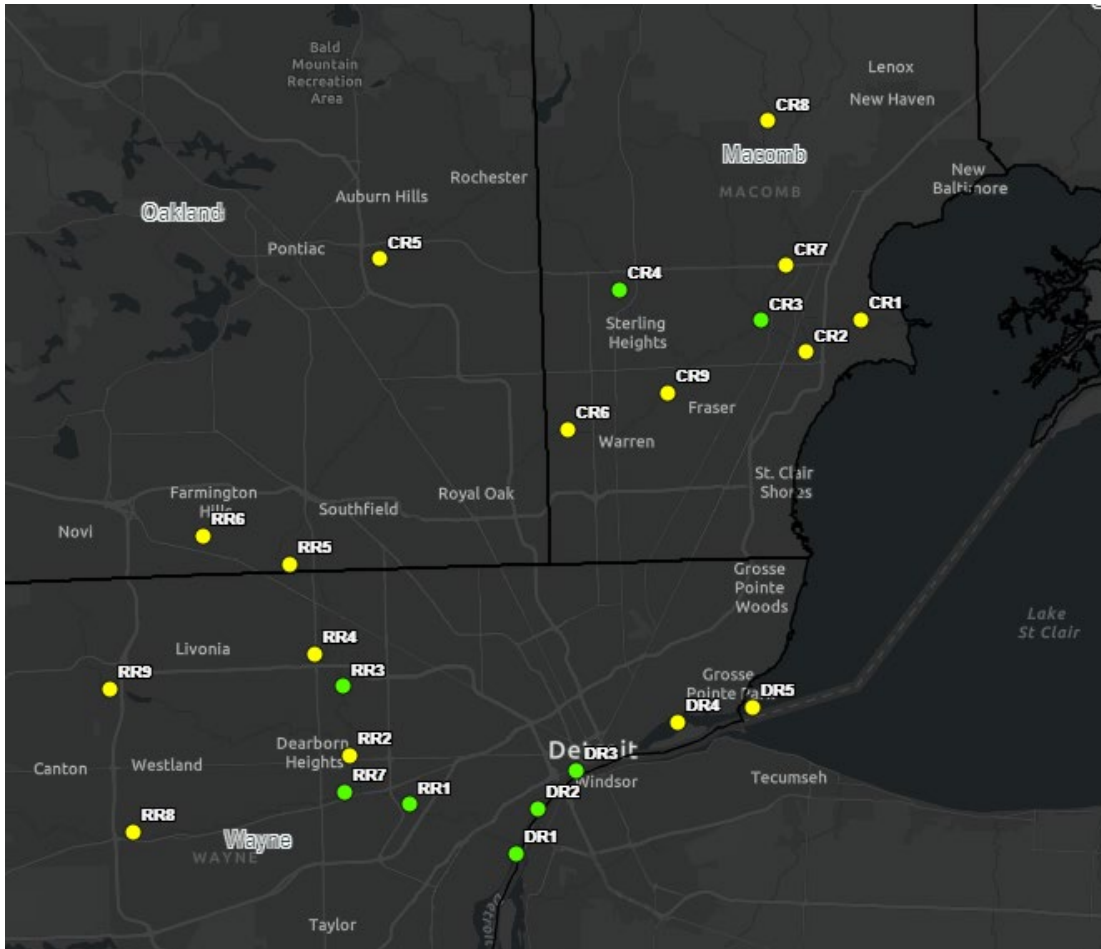


*Members observe a clarifier during a tour of the Water Resource Recovery Facility on the April 10<sup>th</sup> with the WWBP Work Group*

to debrief on since the previous WWBP meeting in February. The next convening of the WWBP is scheduled for Wednesday, June 5 at the National Weather Service Facility in White Lake.

A meeting of the **Watershed Hub Work Group** was held virtually on April 24. The meeting began with a group discussion led by GLWA's Sherri Gee about the Wastewater Master Plan's vision for regional collaboration around storm and wastewater management regulatory requirements. The group discussed opportunities to leverage collaboration to enhance outcomes of Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System, Combined Sewer Overflow, and forthcoming Capacity, Management, Operation, and Maintenance permitting programs. Next, Members shared their respective plans for the upcoming season of investigational *E. Coli* grab sampling in the Rouge and Clinton River watersheds. In addition, the group celebrated the approval from GLWA's Board of Phase II of the Regional Water Quality Monitoring Program that is being advanced by GLWA in partnership with the United States Geological Survey. The next meeting of the Watershed Hub Work Group is scheduled for Wednesday, June 26.

**PLANNING SERVICES** (continued)



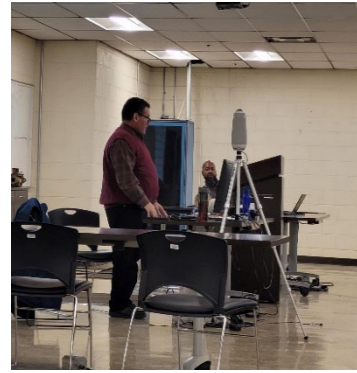
*Screenshot from the Watershed Hub GIS Mapper of Phase I and Phase II GLWA-USGS monitoring sites.*

The GLWA Member Outreach Program collaborated with the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) to provide a professional development opportunity of the S-Licensure Refresher Prep Course. The course was offered free of charge to GLWA team members and member partners who were preparing for the May 1 Water Operator S-Licensure (distribution system) Exam. The course was conducted two days per week from March 19 - April 25. Sam Smalley, Deputy Director of DWSD, did a fantastic job teaching this course in a hybrid format, accommodating both in-person and virtual attendance. The session attracted approximately 30 in-person and over 50 virtual participants.

**PLANNING SERVICES** (continued)



*S-Licensure Course in-person participants*



*Sam Smalley, DWSD Deputy Director*

During the month of April, the GLWA Member Outreach began highlighting training opportunities through the GLWA One Water Institute (OWI) for member partners. As an added value to members of the One Water Partnership, OWI delivers exceptional health and safety training and a leadership academy that empowers participants with the knowledge and skills needed to provide high quality service to customers throughout Southeast Michigan. In alignment with our dedication to ongoing professional development, we are delighted to present a curated selection of health and safety courses available to our member partners each month. Please watch for this banner to see what training is available.



***Wastewater Analytics, Planning, and Metering (WwAPM)***

In April, the Wastewater Analytics, Planning and Metering group advertised a Management Professional – Hydraulic Modeler position. The position will be responsible for maintaining the GLWA storm water management model and to expand upon our technical analysis and simulation capabilities. Additionally, a request for proposals for Sewer Metering Analysis and Support Services was advertised on April 16. This contract will provide engineering and analytical support services to assist GLWA in determining adjustment factors, analyzing wastewater meter performance, and preparing the annual wastewater flow balance. Proposals are due May 30.

Significant collaboration occurred in April related to the City of Center Line’s request for an increase in their maximum allowable flow limit. The City of Center Line requested an increase to their flow limit from 13 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 25 cfs, which was approved contingent upon funding an offsetting project within DWSD.

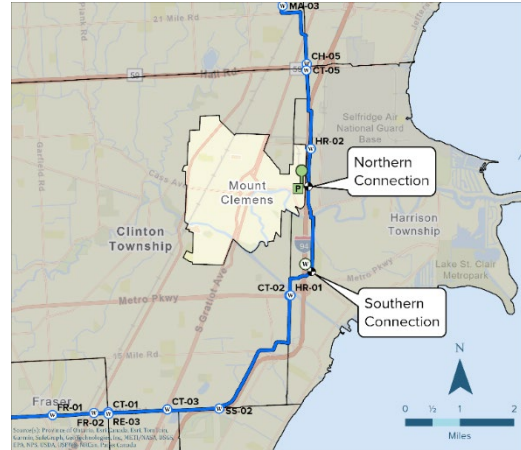


**PLANNING SERVICES** (continued)

The flow increase required a redesign of Center Line’s meter site to reduce system head loss while accurately measuring the new desired flow range. A construction access agreement between GLWA and the City of Center Line and plans and specifications required for permitting were completed in April. Technical information was presented at the April 12 Wastewater Analytics Task Force meeting which gained concurrence on the approach. The project is anticipated to be completed prior to December 31, 2026.

***Water Analytics, Planning and Metering (WAPM)***

Over the past 18 months, GLWA has been in communication with the City of Mount Clemens regarding their request to connect to the GLWA water system. The WAPM team worked with the city, their design consultant, and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) to develop the scope of work, conceptual plans, preliminary design, and the resulting request for proposal.



The city will have two metered connections to the GLWA system for redundancy. The project will be funded by the State of Michigan Drinking Water State Revolving Fund with assistance from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and the American Rescue Plan. The project scope includes the construction of two new connections to GLWA’s 42-inch water transmission main, pump station, two-million-gallon ground storage tank, meter pit, pressure reducing valve chamber, and approximately 5,100 feet of water distribution main. In addition, the city will be decommissioning and demolishing their existing water filtration plant and water intake. It is anticipated that the project will be completed by August 30, 2028. The city’s projected demands are provided in the table below.

<b>Center Line Projected Demands*</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2040</b>
Average Day Demands (MGD)	2.17	2.25
Maximum Day Demands (MGD)	4.72	4.9
Peak Hour Demands (MGD)	7.08	7.35

*\*Demands will be updated once the storage tank and pump station are operational*

WAPM team is also collaborating with the City of Highland Park, their consultant Metro Consulting Associates, DWSD, and EGLE to develop the City of Highland Park’s water system model, wholesale water metering plan, and temporary sewer metering plan. The project kick-off meeting is scheduled for May 17, 2024.

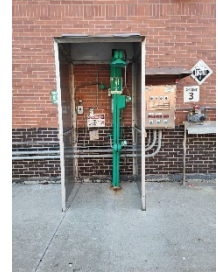
## WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES

### *Wastewater Operations*

The Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) operations complied with the Water Quality Standards for the month of April.

### *Maintenance*

During an inspection of the exterior of the Hypo Building at the WRRF, it was identified that the eyewash station was in an area that potentially posed a risk if there was chemical spray during loading operations. The concern was that any potential chemical spray would reach the eyewash station, impeding the ability for a person to wash the chemical out of their eyes. To address this concern, the Central Maintenance team fabricated an enclosure around the eyewash station that will act as a shield for any potential chemical spray. This will help protect our team members and vendors from potential hazards during chemical loading. *(The new fabricated enclosure around the exterior eyewash station at the Hypo Building in the right photo).*



The Incineration team performed a replacement of the filter bag tube sheet in Ash Silo 4. Due to the abrasive ash in the system, the tube sheet had worn to a degree where it was difficult to get a seal with the bags. Replacing the tube sheet will greatly improve the reliability of Ash Silo 4 and improve the redundancy in the ash system. The ash silos are critical for plant operations and improving

their reliability helps the WRRF remain in compliance with the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit.

Preparing to remove the old tube sheet from Ash Silo 4 and reinstalling new filter bags in the replaced tube sheet shown in the photo above.

Team Leader Ray Zdonkiewicz worked with Schneider Electric Co. technicians to provide a new programmable logic controller (PLC) at EB-1 to replace the outdated existing one. *(Pictured right)* This PLC controls the 13800V Circuit Breakers serving the WRRF's power system. In the event of loss of power from any of the three DTE Energy fed transformers, the PLC will automatically switch breakers to resume power to the WRRF, minimizing interruption to the wastewater treatment process. The new PLC is tentatively scheduled to be tested in June which will require a complete plant shutdown and will be a massive coordination effort between Wastewater Operations and Maintenance teams.





## **WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES** (continued)

### ***Laboratory***

The WRRF Laboratory team welcomed Toni Glymph-Martin, Environmental Microbiologist and Wastewater Treatment Process Consultant of Wastewater Microbiology Solutions for a five-day training segment. Toni provided an intense learning experience on Wastewater Microbiology including process control and hands-on microscopy training. The team is now starting to implement what was learned during the training as well as a new set of standard operating procedures for the analysis.



*Toni Glymph-Martin, Dan Agnew, Keithia Flanders, Joe Messina, Chris Easterling, Timonte Ferguson and Elijah Bouldin are pictured in the photo above.*

### ***Process Automation & Control System Team (PACS)***

PACS team members successfully supervised installation and site acceptance testing of new timer relays at the Baby Creek CSO Facility. The 16 screens at Baby Creek serve to remove debris from the facility's influent flow and are equipped with a rotating brush assembly which discharges collected debris into a flushing trough.



For proper operation, the brush assembly and screen start signals must be offset by a few seconds. To ensure proper timing, 16 new timer relays were installed and tested this month. New Timer Relays installed on Baby Creek CSO Screens. *(See photos shown right).*

Recently, the PACS team successfully concluded FAT (Factory Acceptance Testing) for the Conner Creek CSO, Conner Pump, and Freud Pump control system upgrade projects. The upgrades will be installed in May and include replacement of network switches, power supplies, controller flash cards, workstations, and servers at each site.

Each FAT featured a comprehensive set of tests intended to demonstrate full functionality and resiliency of hardware and software before installation at site. PACS team members successfully executed an upgrade of the Belle Isle and Baby Creek facility control systems. The facilities received new workstations, servers, network switches, power supplies, and controller flash cards. In parallel to the upgrade, the PACS team improved the cabling in the controls network cabinets. After the upgrades, the PACS team conducted site acceptance testing at each facility to ensure proper functioning of the newly installed controls equipment.

## **WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES** (continued)

### ***Capital Improvement Planning (CIP) Design:***

#### *CIP-211005 – Contract No. 2103338 – Pump Station 2 (PS2) VFD Replacement*

This design project involves replacing end of life Variable Frequency Drives (VFD) for five of the main lift pumps at PS2, and replacing 4,160V electrical gear, including transformers that will eventually power all eight main lift pumps. The 90 percent design will be delivered to GLWA on May 24, 2024.

#### *CIP 211007, Contract No. 1904337 –PS2 Bar Rack & Grit System Improvements*

This project is to replace the current bar screens with finer screens and install an improved grit removal processing facility. Bids were received on April 9, 2024. Evaluators are analyzing bids to determine which firm will be awarded Construction Contract 2300154.

#### *CIP216008, Contract No. 2000970 – SFE Pump Station Rehabilitation*

The design team continues to address issues that are likely to have the biggest impact on pricing as they prepare to take the 60 percent design out to bid to facilitate the establishment of the lump sum cost for the project. Efforts are underway to create a construction schedule based on the final 60 percent design package.

#### *CIP 222001, Contract No. 2304897 – Northwest Interceptor to Oakwood CSO Sewer*

This project is in bidding phase until May 24, 2024. The site walkthroughs are complete, and the question periods have closed. The property and easement acquisition are ongoing. Construction is expected to begin fall 2024.

#### *CIP 260201, Contract CS-168 – Rehabilitation of Conveyance System Interceptors and Trunk Sewers*

This engineering contract is nearing its completion, with construction oversight of CON-2102824: Rehabilitation of the NWI from 8 Mile to Tireman expected to be completed June 1, 2024. Following completion of this project, the final identified task remaining under CS-168 will be the warranty inspections of the Outfall B-39 and NWI rehabilitation work, scheduled to be completed in early 2025.

#### *CIP 260619, Contract No. 2004538 – St. Aubin, Leib and Seven Mile CSO Instrumentation & Controls Replacement*

This design-build project will replace the end-of-life control system with a new Ovation control system at three CSO facilities. GLWA continues to review submittals for the custom control panels and Emerson Factory, Software, and Site Acceptance Test procedures. St. Aubin Software Factory Acceptance Test was completed in mid-April at the WRRF. Construction activities at Leib and St. Aubin is expected to ramp up during the month of May.

## **WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES** (continued)

### *CIP 260701, Contract 1803709 – Conveyance System Infrastructure Improvements*

The remaining scope of this engineering contract includes construction assistance from two separate construction contracts. CON-2102859 has been making progress with newly constructed backwater gate chambers and is expected to reach substantial completion in December 2025.

CON-2201142 has been making progress with the repair/replacement of critical mechanical components in the in-system storage devices and is expected to reach substantial completion in September 2024. Contract No. 183709 also includes the construction of a river gauge house on the Detroit River. Construction of the gauge house will be completed under one of the existing sewer repair contracts.

### *CIP 260904, Contract No. 2200545 – Professional Services for 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Renovation at WRRF New Administration Building (NAB)*

This project will renovate the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor NAB to maximize and optimize the space utilization of the building as part of the Wastewater Master Plan. The consultant submitted the 95 percent construction development documents and specifications. The project team will continue to incorporate feedback from various stakeholders and finalize contract drawings.

### *CIP 270006, Contract 2200061, Design Services of CSO Facilities Improvements II*

This project optimizes disinfection and screening at St. Aubin, addresses fall protection safety requirements at all nine CSO facilities and rehabilitates architectural deficiencies at all nine Combined Sewer Overflow (CSOs). The 60 percent design documentation has been reviewed by GLWA. Reliability and other key workshops are being planned as we progress to the 90 percent design by the end of summer 2024.

### *CIP 270010 – Contracts 2401360 – Puritan Fenkell and Seven Mile HVAC Upgrades*

The scope of work includes upgrading the HVAC systems at both Seven Mile and Puritan Fenkell CSO Facilities. Proposals in Bonfire came in over the maximum allowable amount for Task Order Engineering Services contracts. The budget has been adjusted and is currently in the procurement pipeline.

### *CIP 273001, Contract No. 2103225 – Hubbell Southfield CSO Facility Improvements*

Wade Trim is in the process of finalizing tech memos and drafting basis of design review based on comments provided by GLWA. Thirty percent of Design documents are expected by mid-May based on decisions made regarding proposed flushing improvements to keep the construction cost within CIP 26-30 budget. A Value Engineering workshop was conducted on April 29, 2024.

## **WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES** (continued)

### ***Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Control Program***

#### ***CSO Operations and Maintenance***

The CSO facilities had permitted discharges from several locations in the middle and end of the April. Additionally, these facilities as well as Puritan-Fenkell had several capture events during the last month. Permitted discharges were as follows:

- Conner Creek CSO 230.2 MG
- St. Aubin 0.23 MG
- Oakwood 9.8 MG
- Hubbell – Southfield 63.6 MG

New YSI Dissolved Oxygen meters were acquired and have proven to be worthy replacements. The meters are more user friendly for the Plant Technicians and have not shown any signs of being unreliable.

Maintenance and Operations, along with WRRF team members conducted the bi-annual cleaning of the outfall tunnel at St. Aubin. The cleaning effort is from Atwater Street in front of the facility to the outfall discharge gates. The crews also found no leaks in the tunnel.

#### ***CSO Conveyance***

We are excited to announce an internal promotion of Maintenance Team Leader, ***Zanetta Stewart*** to manager for the Sewage Pump Stations. Ms. Stewart began her career in the water distribution system as well as the wastewater collection system as a Mechanical Helper. She had previously achieved several steps along the ladder of success during her tenure with Detroit Water and Sewerage Department progressing to a Senior Foreman. Ms. Stewart has held the position of Facilities Team Leader at the WRRF since the inception of GLWA.

The 5S team of our Transformation Group hosted a kickoff meeting for our lab areas at the CSO facilities. The goal is to create a visual directional flow for team member laboratory activities. The Technicians have several steps that must be taken during wet weather and, due to the business of the tasks of successfully treating the inflow as well as detailed lab assignments, there is a need to have the sequences labeled according to assignments in the testing area, sample collection area, data recording, and calibration area. Our Transformation Group has successfully assisted in projects like this in the past and created vast improvements for the Team Members flow of work.

## **WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES** (continued)

A pre-design for a new office layout was received and an additional control room. With the standup of the Conveyance team, the best decision was to utilize the existing office space at Conner Creek CSO facility. The plan is to create office space for upcoming leadership team members and support staff for proper office flow management.

## **WATER OPERATING SERVICES**

### ***Southwest Water Treatment Plant***

#### ***SCADA Training***

The week of April 15, Operations Team Leader Lawanda Rouse lead a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition Technician training for the Southwest Water Treatment Plant that included guests from other plants. They covered a broad range of topics that included the basics of when a Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition Technician is needed to the detailed specifics for the upkeep of individual parts and their shelf life. Training also included a demonstration on how to put on and properly move while wearing personal protective equipment such as a Tyvek suit. This training will go a long way towards keeping our team members safe if they find themselves in a situation that would require them to use the skill set taught at this training session.



*Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition training at Southwest Water Treatment Plant*

### ***Water Works Park***

#### ***Fluoride Tank Leak***

On May 1, 2024, at Water Works Park, our team discovered a leak of liquid fluoride solution from a failed bulk storage tank. There were no team member injuries or health related issues associated with the leak. Water treatment operations continued without interruption and water quality was maintained throughout the incident. Testing was performed and it was determined that there was no negative impact to the sewer system and no environmental impact to the Detroit River. We are working with our contractors to complete the remediation of the leak site.



## **WATER OPERATIONS** (continued)

### ***Water Transmission***

A reduce-pressure shutdown was scheduled for Thursday, April 4, 2024 on our 42-inch water transmission main located on 8 Mile Road from Newburgh and I-96/I-275 for a 30” hot tap connection to be made for the 14 Mile Phase II Project. Once the concrete and steel wires were removed, it was found that the gland was not compressing due to two flat areas on the steel cylinder. Due to only having the steel cylinder in a section of pipe, GLWA needs to remain at a reduce pressure.

The team discussed a few different options, and it was decided to fully isolate the main to replace the section of main with a steel pipe with a “tee”. On Sunday, April 7, GLWA crews finished isolating and dewatered the main. The Contractor removed and replaced the section of pipe.

On Monday, April 8, GLWA started filling the main, testing for leaks, flushing, chlorinating, and taking bacteria test samples in order to place the main back into service. The main was fully back in service as of April 19, 2024. *Below are photos of this work.*



**WATER OPERATIONS** (continued)

*Mechanical Maintenance*

The Mechanical Maintenance crews worked on monthly, quarterly, semi-annual, and annual preventative maintenance and corrective maintenance throughout the system.

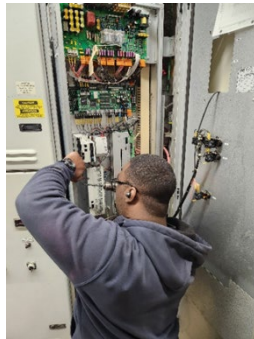


*Backwater Gate #31  
photographed by Raymond Battle*

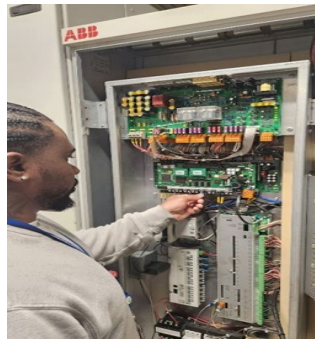
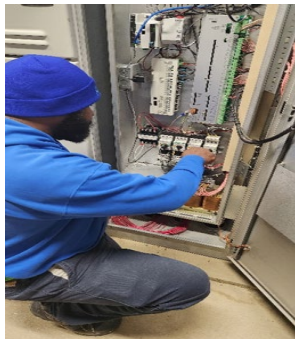


*Backwater Gate #23, Control  
cabinet assessment*

The crews completed preventative maintenance on generators.



*Marcus Henderson and Shane Clarke are here installing and wiring a new transformer to bring power to new equipment being installed in the cabinet at Imlay Station.*



*Pictured left and center are Shane Clarke and Toney Saxton at Imlay Station.  
Pictured right is Josh Walker getting an oil sample from a motor at Newburgh Station*

**WATER OPERATIONS** (continued)

The crews completed preventative maintenance at the following remote sites:



*Backwater Gate 31*



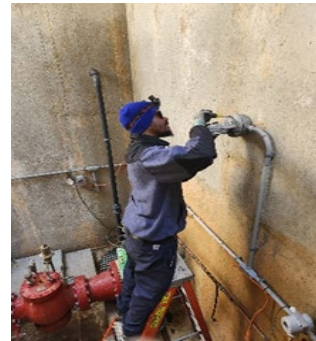
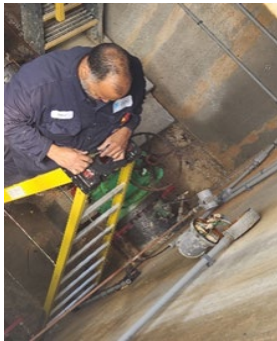
*Backwater Gate 24*



*Backwater Gate 30*



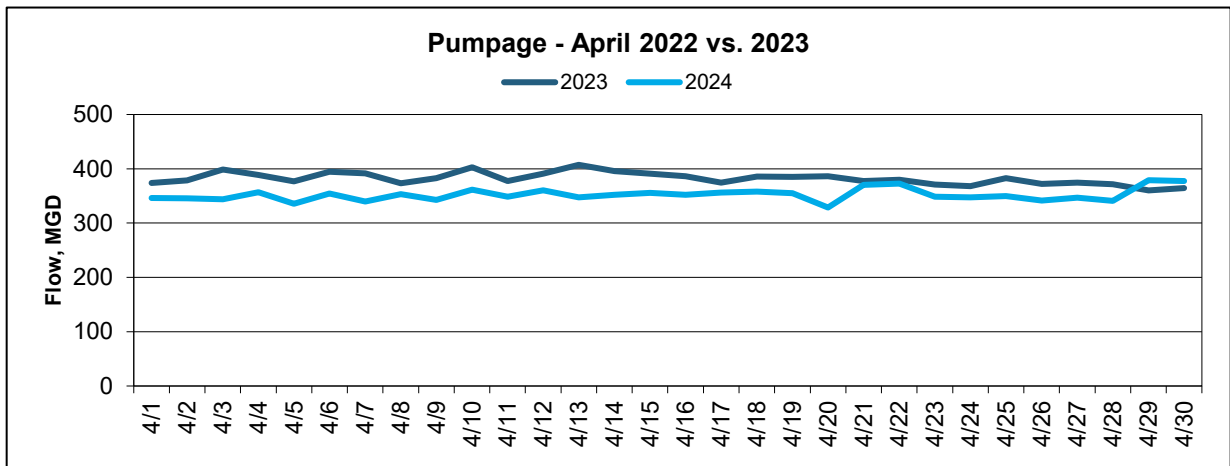
*Backwater Gate 25*



*Pictured above are Dave West and Kenny Murphy troubleshooting fixtures that were not working at our North Service Center Station. They found that the fixtures were submerged in water at some point and are rusted beyond repair. They replaced them with new ones and now they are back to being operable.*

***Systems Control Center (SCC)***

There was a 7.8 percent decrease in April 2024 pumpage compared to April 2023



## **WATER OPERATIONS** (continued)

### ***Engineering***

#### *Water Engineering Active CIP Project Status*

##### *CIP# 119009 (Contract No. 1803990) Lake Huron High Lift and Yard Piping Improvements*

Project Manager: Brian Vanhall

This project at Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant adds three pumps that are each rated for 20 million gallons per day, a 72" flow meter on the south high lift header with an 84" butterfly valve for isolation, 16" flow metering for process water usage by the plant, blowoff on the south high lift header, infrared heating within the pump building on the south side, and a replacement valve actuator on the 84" butterfly valve on the north high lift header.

Construction for the south header improvements is forecast to be completed in the summer of 2024. Installation of the new high lift pumps and associated construction has been delayed by the pump supplier and a forecast is to be determined.

##### *CIP# 112006 (Contract No. 1904231) Northeast Flocculator Replacement*

Project Manager: Brian Vanhall

This project at Northeast Water Treatment Plant replaces flocculator equipment in all four basins, demolishes inlet gates to each flocculation chamber and installs a baffle block at each basin inlet for flow distribution, improves access to the drywell with stairs and platforms to access the new flocculator gearmotors and replaces the access hatches to the inlet gates in each basin. This project is in the construction phase and flocculation improvements have been completed for Basin #3.

Flocculation improvements for Basin #2 are next and are forecast to be completed in the summer of 2024. The project is on track for overall substantial completion on July 13, 2026, and final completion by March 18, 2027.

##### *CIP# 114011 (Contract No. CON-252) Springwells Steam, Condensate Return and Compressed Air Piping*

Project Manager: Brian Vanhall

This project at Springwells Water Treatment Plant replaces the steam generators, majority of steam and condensate piping, condensate pumps and replaces portions of the compressed air and natural gas piping systems. Construction is substantially complete, and the project will obtain final completion by May 7, 2024.

##### *CIP# 122004 (Contract No. 2300600) 96" Water Transmission Main Relocation- Phase II*

Project Manager: Corey Brecht

Project is in construction phase. The scope consists of approximately 8,000 ft. of 96" diameter welded steel pipe along Dequindre Road in Rochester Hills. Currently, the contractor has installed approximately 2,000 ft. of transmission main along the south segment of the project heading to Hamlin Road. The entire project is currently on track to be completed by fall of 2025.

## **WATER OPERATIONS** (continued)

### *CIP# 122004 (Contract No. 2100998) 96" Water Transmission Main Relocation Pipe Procurement*

Project Manager: Corey Brecht

This contract is a material purchase with Northwest Pipe Company for the 96-inch spiral welded steel pipe. Currently Northwest Pipe Company is fabricating and delivering Phase II pipe for the contractor involved with Contract No. 2300600. The fabrication and delivery are approximately 50 percent complete.

### *CIP# 122004 (Contract No. 2303968) 84-inch Triple Offset Ball Valve Procurement*

Project Manager: Corey Brecht

This contract is a material purchase for Phase 3 of CIP #122004 – 96-inch Water Transmission Main Relocation Project. The material purchase includes two 84" triple offset ball valves that will be provided to the Phase 3 contractor for installation.

The lead time of these valves was between 66 - 80 weeks from start of the shop drawing process and is the primary reason why GLWA pre-purchased these valves. As of April 3, 2024, Cascade Consultants received a purchase order from GLWA.

### *CIP# 122004 (Contract No. 1900741) Professional Engineering Services for the Design and Construction of the 96-inch Water Transmission Main Relocation*

Project Manager: Corey Brecht

This contract provides Engineering and Construction Assistance services for the entire 96-inch Water Transmission Main Relocation Project (Phase 1-3).

The consultant is currently developing the Design Build Request for Proposal package for Phase 3 that is scheduled to be advertised in June 2024.

### *CIP# 122006 (Contract No. 1803621) Wick Road 48-Inch Water Transmission Main*

Project Manager: Corey Brecht

Project is in construction phase. The work included installation of approximately 16,500 ft. of 48" diameter prestressed concrete cylinder pipe parallel to the existing 42" transmission main. The scope also included two cross connections and tie-in at the Wick Road Pump Station. All 16,500 ft. of pipe is installed, and the contractor is waiting for favorable weather to finish pavement restoration work near the pump station in spring. Project will be closed out by June of 2024.

### *CIP# 111001 (Contract No. 1803769) Lake Huron High Lift, Low Lift, and Wash Water Pumping and Switchgear Improvements.*

Project Manager: Eric Kramp

This project provides engineering services to address long-standing issues with the switchgear, low lift, high lift, and corrosion control at the Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant. For the updates to the switchgear, low lift pumping improvements and high lift isolation, the consultant has provided a 60 percent Design Package.



## **WATER OPERATIONS** (continued)

The Basis of Design Report for the High Lift Pump Station has been reviewed and returned, and the 30 percent Design Package was due in April 2024. The Basis of Design Report phosphoric acid improvements will be due after receipt of the final target concentrations for optimized corrosion control.

### *CIP# 111006 (Contract No. 2101680) Lake Huron Filter Instrumentation and Raw Water Flow Metering Improvements*

Project Manager: Eric Kramp

This is a progressive design build project to address outdated and failing programmable logic controllers, and controls throughout the plant, with particular emphasis in the filter building. The project is approximately 30 percent complete with Phase 1. Contractor is incorporating comments provided to 30 percent drawings and Basis of Design Report into the 60 percent design documents.

### *CIP# 111012 (Contract No. 2004549) Lake Huron Flocculator Improvements*

Project Manager: Eric Kramp

This project is to bring the rapid mix and flocculation systems at the Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant to current standards. This project is in the study phase, with piloting of a mix of hydraulic and mechanical flocculation underway. A pure engineered hydraulic flocculation solution could not be proven through piloting. Once sufficient data is collected, GLWA will meet with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy to confirm that the preferred technological solution will be acceptable to the jurisdictional authority.

### *CIP# 170801 (Contract No. CS-151A) Reservoir Inspection and Design at Imlay, Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant, Springwells Water Treatment Plant, Southwest Water Treatment Plant*

Project Manager: John McCallum

This project is the design, inspection and construction management/resident project representation (RPR) services for 10 finished water reservoirs. Design started in December 2018 and as-built drawings are in process now. All 10 reservoirs have been inspected and as-built document is being prepared. The contract had one change order for additional RPR services. The project remains on budget and is ahead of the contract final completion on January 17, 2025.

### *CIP# 170801 (Contract No. 1900744) Reservoir Rehabilitation Construction Project at Imlay, Lake Huron, Springwells, and Southwest Water Treatment Facilities*

Project Manager: John McCallum

This low bid project to clean and rehabilitate 10 finished water reservoirs based on the design package provided in Contract No. CS-151A started in November of 2019 with punch list items getting wrapped up this winter. The project remains on budget and is ahead of the contract final completion on January 17, 2025.

## **WATER OPERATIONS** (continued)

### *CIP# 170802 (Contract No. 2100236) Reservoir Rehabilitation Phase II (Design), Booster Stations and Water Treatment Plants*

Project Manager: John McCallum

This project provides the design, inspection services, construction management, and RPR services for 16 of the system finished water booster stations. Started in July 2022 with design and exterior inspections. RPR services are being provided on the first three reservoirs of the contract during the 2023-2024 low water demand season and will continue through 2027.

### *CIP# 170802 (Contract No. 2201316) Reservoir Rehabilitation Phase II (Construction), Booster Stations and Water Treatment Plants*

Project Manager: John McCallum

This project is the low bid construction component based on Contract No. 2100236 bid package to clean, repair, and add select improvements to 16 finished water reservoirs at Eastside, Wick Road, Schoolcraft Road, Haggerty Road, Adams Road, Joy Road #1&#2, North Service Center #1&#2, Water Works Park #1 & #'s 2A/2B, Northeast #1&#2, Michigan Avenue and Lake Huron #3. The project started in December 2023 with construction work underway at three finished water reservoirs, Wick Road, Eastside, and Schoolcraft. The project remains on budget but is marginally behind schedule with recovery expected in 2024-2025. The last set of four reservoirs are scheduled to be completed in April 2027 with final contract completion in July 2028.

### *CIP# 114002 (Contract No. 2201068) Springwells Electrical Gear Replacement*

Project Manager: Justin Kietur

This project is in construction phase. Project involves installation of new medium voltage switchgear and cabling from secondary side of GLWA transformers to the switchgear, and from the switchgear to the Low and High Lift Pumps and plant unit substations. Demolition for new switchgear room is complete, and the majority of cable tray within existing facility is complete. DTE requirements for alterations to the current new switchgear layout represents a significant impact to the project cost and budget, the total impact is not yet known.

### *CIP# 115005 (Contract No. 2103880) Water Works Park Ventilation System Improvements*

Project Manager: Mike Dunne

The project goals are to increase air exchanges and improved distribution of fresh air in areas of the plant that are susceptible to an accumulation of off-gassing from treatment chemicals. To achieve these goals, the existing heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems will be demolished, and replacement and additional HVAC systems will be installed. The new HVAC systems consist of gas fired make up air units, exhaust fans, ductwork, natural gas piping, ventilation control panels, electrical power, ambient air monitors and associated appurtenances. To date, nearly all of the new HVAC units have been installed but are not yet operational. Construction trades continue to work on installing electrical power, HVAC controls, gas piping, and ductwork to allow for commissioning of the new HVAC units.

## **WATER OPERATIONS** (continued)

### *CIP# 116005 (Contract No. 2101255) Belle Isle Seawall Rehabilitation*

Project Manager: Mike Dunne

The scope of the Belle Isle Seawall Rehabilitation project is to correct excessive erosion at the tip of the southern dike of the Belle Isle Intake lagoon. The erosion has been caused by years of ice floes scouring the dike and recent high-water events. The repair work will require the installation of new steel sheet piling and a rip-rap stone revetement to protect the earthen dike. Currently, the job began construction in April of this year, after most of the ice on the river receded. In preparation for construction, submittals are being delivered and reviewed.

### *CIP# 132016 (Contract No. 2004674) North Service Center Pumping Station Improvements*

Project Manager: Tim Kuhns

Project is in conceptual design stage. Project will include rehabilitation of the existing station and consolidation of reservoir pumping within the main pump house eliminating the need for separate reservoir pump buildings.

### *CIP# 114017 (Contract No. 2201255) Springwells Flocculator Improvements*

Project Manager: Nichole Sajdak

This project replaces the existing horizontal paddle wheel flocculators in the 1958 treatment plant and adds continuous turbidity monitoring of its settled water. Demolition is ongoing in Basins 5 and 6. Flocculators are currently being manufactured for delivery with installation planned in 2024.

### *CIP# 116002 (Contract No. DB-150) Raw Water Tunnel Rehabilitation*

Project Manager: Pete Bommarito

Project is in construction phase. Work within the Pennsylvania Tunnel and Northeast Tunnel is completed. Installation of stainless-steel liner plates is ongoing within the Springwells Tunnel and will be completed next low demand season.

### *CIP# 114002 (Contract No. 1900134) Springwells Low Lift Suction Isolation Gate Replacement*

Project Manager: Tim Kuhns

Project is in construction phase. Project involves replacement of eight isolation roller gates that control flow between the raw water tunnel and suction ring and the low lift pumps. Contractor has replaced all eight roller gates.

### *CIP# 115001 (Contract No. 2000610) Water Works Park Yard Piping Replacement and Water Production Flow Metering*

Project Manager: Mike Garrett

Project is in construction phase. Project involves complete replacement of yard piping, valves, and venturi meters for the piping system on the discharge of the Water Works Park High Lift Station. The eastern yard piping is completed and venturi meters 5 and 6 have been tested and put into service.

## **WATER OPERATIONS** (continued)

The western yard piping is currently under construction and will be completed in summer of 2025. Construction of valve vaults and venturi meter vaults continues at pace in the western yard.

### *CIP# 122019 (Contract No. 2204376) Jefferson Main Replacement*

Project Manager: Tim Kuhns

Project is at 90 percent design phase. Project involves use of 42", high-density polyethylene (HDPE) to lose fit slip-line approximately three miles of vintage 1915 cast iron 48" piping along Jefferson between the Water Works Park Water Treatment Plant and Rivard Street just east of downtown Detroit.

### *CIP# 132015 (Contract No. 1901767) Newburgh Booster Pumping Station Improvements*

Project Manager: Jorge Nicolas

Project re-started design phase after a long pause due to finding the right site to build the new station, GLWA Budget re-alignment and needs re-assessment. Contract Amendment is in process.

### *CIP# 113009 (Contract No. 2300730) Southwest Chain and Flight Upgrades*

Project Manager: Vittoria Hogue

Project mobilized on March 4, 2024. Temporary lighting is being installed and equipment is being delivered to site, and modifications in the first basin are being completed. Project involves removing and replacing flight and chain equipment in three of the four sedimentation basins at Southwest Water Treatment Plant. Equipment will be removed in basin 1A and removed and replaced in basins 1B and 2A.

### *CIP# 122016 (Contract No. 1803942) Downriver Transmission Main Loop*

Project Manager: Vittoria Hogue

Phase 1 of the project is at 90% Design, Phases 2 and 3 are at 60% design. Project involves installation of looped and redundant mains in the downriver area along Inkster Road and Allen Road to maintain service in the event of a break along the existing mains. Phase 1 involves the installation of a transmission main along Inkster Road. It was decided in the beginning of March to increase the size of the main from 30-inches to 42-inches to maintain minimum contract pressures. The original design intent was to prevent boil water advisories in the event of a main break. The consultant has submitted the proposal for the additional scope for the requested change. GLWA is in the process of reviewing the document.

### *CIP# 132010 (Contract No. 1803312) West Service Center Pumping Station – Reservoir, Reservoir Pumping, and Division Valve Upgrades*

Project Manager: Michael Garrett

Project is in construction phase. Project involves new reservoir pumping facility as well as new reservoirs and improvements to various existing yard valves. Construction is nearing completion. Startup and training have begun.

## **WATER OPERATIONS** (continued)

Thirty-day testing of new facilities and equipment was scheduled to begin February / March 2024. Demolition of existing reservoirs expected to begin after a 30-day test. Substantial completion scheduled for September 2024. Final Completion scheduled December 30, 2024. Site acceptance test for Ovation was completed.

### *CIP# 132007 (Contract No. 1900516) Imlay Station Pumping Improvements*

Project Manager: Vittoria Hogue

Project is in the site acceptance testing of the construction phase. Project involved right sizing pump #3 at Imlay Pump Station to service the communities west of the station. All equipment has been installed. The pump and the vibration issues have been resolved by re-leveling the pump and placing stiffeners on either side of the pump. The local acceptance test was completed on March 26, 2024. The remote testing and the 30-day acceptance test were scheduled to be done the week of April 8, 2024.

### *Contract No. 2303227 Task Order Engineering Services Contract Task T2-13*

Project Manager: Jorge Nicolas

Arcadis is assigned to prepare technical specs for Division 26 (Electrical) and Division 40 (Process Integration). Work is on-going. Burn & McDonell is assigned to assist in Ovation related reviews.

## **SYSTEM RESILIENCY**

The System Resiliency Group is completing its inaugural year and will begin to appear in the CEO's monthly report beginning in this month's report. The Group concentrates on the overall resilience of GLWA systems, operations, and energy; and reports directly to the CEO. Todd King is the System Resiliency Officer and is aided by three directors for each focus area, namely: Biren Saparia, Director - Systems & Resiliency; Thomas Hall, Director - Systems & Resiliency; and we are pleased to announce that Mini Panicker will be our new, Director - Energy & Resiliency.

The Office of System Resiliency is guided by the Resiliency Council, made up of key members of GLWA's Executive Leadership Team and GLWA's Enterprise Risk Management Goup. A formal charter was established, and the focus of the Group is to assess and improve GLWA's people, operations and assets to withstand and recover from disruptions of all types.



## **SYSTEM RESILIENCY** (continued)

Accomplishments over the inaugural year include:

- 1) Continued support for the transition of Field Services into two separate groups to support Water Transmission and Wastewater Conveyance;
- 2) Development of on-the-job training videos to aid in the preservation and transfer of knowledge to GLWA Team Members including Team Leaders who are transitioning into leadership roles for the water and wastewater systems;
- 3) Development of online “Equipment Status Report” for water treatment plants, water booster stations, wastewater lift stations, and the WRRF influent pump stations, available to operations Team Members; and
- 4) Leading the effort to develop a scope and agreement to conduct a Southeast Michigan Flood Resiliency Study with the US Army Corps of Engineers.

In addition, the Resiliency Group is working with GLWA team members in Planning, Wastewater, and Water to improve resiliency related to the Linear System Integrity Plan, Sanitary and Storm Lift Station Power Reliability, and Water Booster Stations, respectively.

GLWA is also participating in a free EPA pilot program as part of their efforts to promote climate resilience for water and wastewater utilities. The program provides for GLWA staff and stakeholders (including DWSD and SEMCOG) to improve climate resilience awareness and adaptations through their online “Climate Resilience Evaluation and Awareness Tool” on US EPA’s website. The training is led by EPA and their expert consultants to help GLWA look at various strategies to improve our overall resilience to the effects of climate change.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

### ***IT Security***

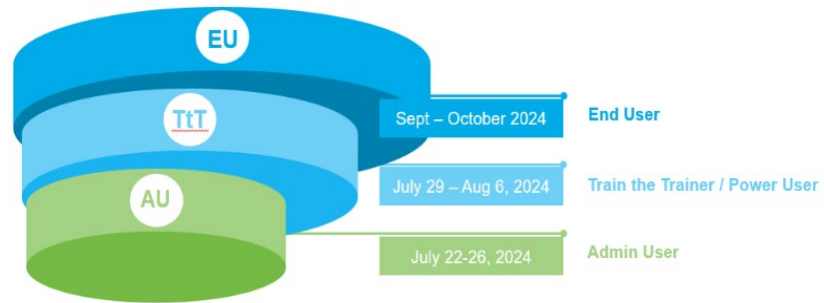
In the past month, the IT Security team has proactively blocked or thwarted 60,033 spam messages, 3,633 spoofed messages and 138 viruses. Additionally, 7,047 phishing attempts have been caught and 4,414 malware attempts have been blocked.

### ***IT Enterprise Asset Management Systems***

The IT Enterprise Asset Management Systems (EAM) Team along with our consultant partner, NEXGEN, and GLWA’s EAM Group are working to wrap up the System Testing phase of the NEXGEN EAM implementation. The third stage of testing, Testing Defect Resolution, is nearing substantial completion by incorporating over 500 feedback items gathered from 19 GLWA teams during User Acceptance Testing.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY** (continued)

The Project Management Team is switching gears to building out the NEXGEN training plan and schedule. Draft training materials are being developed in May and June in preparation of administration, train-the-trainer, and end-user training ahead of go-live.



In addition, integration testing for NEXGEN implementation continues including many integrations with Workday to make procurement and financial tracking between these systems make their use more efficient and beneficial.

The IT EAM Systems Team along with the IT Customer Delivery Team continue the deployment of mobile devices for team members who will be using NEXGEN at go-live. The deployment includes enrollment in a Mobile Device Management system, basic Android tablet training, and assistance with signing into Workday, Teams, and Outlook, among others.

The IT Customer Service Delivery team along with the IT Infrastructure Delivery team, the IT Project Management team, Lakeshore Inc, and Verizon Wireless completed Phase I of the Indoor Cell Signal Improvement project at the WRRF's Old Ragland and New Administration buildings. This project started in the summer of 2021 with Verizon and the Customer Service Delivery team conducting an assessment of cell signal strengths throughout all GLWA locations where strong cell signals are required. Verizon provided recommendations to remedy weak signal strength throughout WRRF and have completed the installation of a new SpiderCloud Service Node, which is a high-powered small cell network. The new cell network has improved the cell service in those locations in support of the increased usage of cell phones and tablets to conduct GLWA business, particularly with NEXGEN going live in November 2024.

### ***IT Project Management Office (PMO)***

Currently, the IT PMO is managing 15 active projects and is processing 11 project requests. The PMO is also assisting with 18 initiatives.

## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

### ***Drinking Water Week AWWA Collaboration***

Public Affairs collaborated with the American Water Works Association (AWWA) to create a video for Drinking Water Week, which is held annually the first full week of May. Our team shot a video and an interview featuring Springwells Plant Manager Kieyona Bailey. She spoke about her role and dedication to protecting public health.

You can watch the video by clicking [HERE](#).



*Springwells Plant Manager Kieyona Bailey is featured in an American Water Works Association Drinking Water Week video.*

### ***Podcast Support***

Public Affairs worked with Wade Trim to facilitate and provide technical support for an episode of their Innovation Alley podcast featuring an interview with GLWA CEO Sue Coffey and Diana Smilova, Engineering Design Manager for the city of St. Petersburg, Florida and led by Wade Trim Chief Technical Officer, Tim O'Rourke. Topics included resiliency and sustainability, managing both water and wastewater systems and technology disruptors.

### ***New Freud Pump Station Town Hall Meeting***

Public Affairs provided audio visual support for the recent town hall meeting held in the Jefferson Chalmers neighborhood to inform them about the planned Freud Sanitary Pump Station. During the meeting, GLWA gave a presentation intended to help share accurate information on the project and explain the value of the pump station.

### ***Board of Directors Meeting Stream***

With the National Football League draft closing most of downtown Detroit, GLWA had to take its April Board of Directors meeting on the road. The meeting was held at the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Outdoor Adventure Center. Public Affairs provided audio visual support and a multi-camera live stream.

## **SECURITY AND INTEGRITY**

The Hazmat Unit coordinated and completed a total of 210 hours of training during the month. The group also completed 610 hours of training for Security and Integrity.

The group finalized the Officer's Active Shooter Response training plan scheduled for fall 2024. The Threat and Risk Assessment for the Belle Isle Intake, and the "Run, Hide, Fight" PowerPoint presentation was finalized for the fall 2024 training rollout.

Lastly, Security and Integrity supported the National Football League Draft's three-day event by staffing the Multi-Agency Command Center.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

### ***Performance Team***

#### *Progression*

The 2023 Progression Cycle closed with a total of 24 team members progressing. A total of 22 team members progressed one level and two team members progressed two levels.

#### *2024 GLWA Summer Intern Program*

The Summer Internship Program began on May 13, 2024. The Organizational Development Team is excited about the more than twenty interns who onboarded early in May.

#### *Outreach*

The Performance Team attended Governor Whitmer's budget meetings for the Going Pro Talent Fund at Oakland Community College and Vocational Rehabilitation at Goodwill Industries. The Department of Labor and Economic Opportunity (LEO) Director, Susan Corbin, and Deputy Director of Employment and Training, Stephanie Beckhorn, spoke on several workforce initiatives from the governor's budget.

As part of GLWA's overall strategy to recruit apprentices and interns, the Performance Team reached over 400 students and job seekers at the following events:

- Randolph Career Technical Center Career Day
- Build Detroit: Youth Talent Skilled Trades
- Lincoln Park High School Career Fair
- Women's Resource Fair at Wayne Community College
- Focus: HOPE: GLWA presented information on apprenticeships and water careers

## **ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT** (continued)

### ***Benefits and Wellness***

#### ***Team Member Engagement - Benefits and Wellness***

##### ***Physical Well-being***

###### ***Drop 5 Virtual Weight-Loss Community***

Held Thursdays at noon, the April Drop 5 Community facilitated by the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM) well-being team, gave GLWA team members tools to help manage stress, practice better posture, flexibility, muscle strength and longevity, dental health, and personal goal settings.



April focus points were:

- **The Connection Between Oral and Overall Health with Kristi Thomas, DDS, MPH, FICD**
- **7-Day Stress Less Challenge**
- **Do Something Challenging and Change Your Brain**
- **Okinawan Practice of Sitting on the Floor**

##### ***Mental Well-being***

###### ***Wellness Wednesday Meditations***

Held Wednesdays at noon, GLWA team members participated in April meditations led by the BCBSM well-being team. Each session focused on helping GLWA team members learn breathing techniques that promote calmness, relaxation, and inner peace.

April topics included:

- **Equal Breathing**
- **Five Senses**
- **Visualization for Peace and Serenity**
- **Five-Finger Breathing**



###### ***GLWA Men's Health Initiative***



On April 19, 2024, Central Services Facility (CSF) hosted the third quarterly in-person GLWA Men's Health Initiative with **80** GLWA team members in attendance.

## ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT (continued)



This mental health event focused on how self-care supports mental health and minimizes the potential negative effects of unchecked stressors. Dr. Alvin Sims, clinical social worker, led small group discussions with team members to help identify

ways they can begin to take care of themselves starting today. Morgan Mindingall, from the One Water Wellness Team, provided GLWA wellness resources and events, and a QR code for interested team members to book an Ulliance Employee Assistance Program appointment directly from their phones. Curtis Burris-White, from Public Relations, closed the event by announcing the GLWA Men's Health Initiative's second anniversary event that will be held June 2024.



*Thank you to Curtis Burris-White, Management Professional, Public Affairs, and Terry Daniel, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, Water Operations for leading the initiative and being ambassadors of wellness.*

## *Financial Well-being*

### *Retirement Planning Lunch and Learn*



Water Works Park hosted the MissionSquare Retirement Education on-site lunch and learn seminar with 15 GLWA team members on April 16, 2024.

All GLWA team members were able to meet with MissionSquare retirement plan specialists virtually April 15, 2024. Team members were able to review their retirement goals and portfolio performance during one-on-one consultations for both dates.



**Schedule a meeting**  
Meet with your MissionSquare representative to learn more about how you can stay on track for retirement  
[Learn how we can help >](#)



## **ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT** (continued)

### *Benefit and Wellness Education*

#### *One Water Wellness Office Hours*

The One Water Wellness Team hosted weekly on-site office hours during the month of April at the following facilities:

- Central Services Facility
- Water Works Park
- Water Resource Recovery Facility
- Lake Huron Water Plant
- Northeast Water Plant
- Southwest Water Plant
- Springwells Water Plant



**BENEFITS AND WELLNESS QUESTIONS???**

**Your One Water Wellness Team**



Cynthia Offutt



Lesley Williams



Au Lisa McGovern



Morgan Mindingall



Sherrian Greenwood

Nearly **75** GLWA team members were able to meet one-on-one for assistance with benefits, retirement, FMLA, and wellness resources.

### *Training*

During April, **248** GLWA team members completed **63** instructor-led training courses: **42** safety courses, and **21** non-safety courses, for a total of **290** instructor-led training hours. In addition, **996** GLWA team members completed **53** online self-paced training courses (e.g., KnowBe4) for a total of **30.6** self-paced training hours. Also, **10** GLWA team members and **one** Member Partner completed **28, 360** Water online courses.

### *Staffing*

#### *Talent Management*

Number of New Hires	29
Number of Separations	12
Total Staffing - Regular FTEs (YTD)	1049



## **FINANCIAL SERVICES AREA**

### ***April 2024 Audit Committee Recap***

The most recent regular monthly Audit Committee meeting was held on Friday, April 26, 2024. The GLWA Audit Committee binders are publicly available at [www.glwater.org/financials/](http://www.glwater.org/financials/). The meeting included the following topics:

- ✓ A request for the Audit Committee to recommend to the Board adoption of a resolution of the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department Water System Improvements Project Plan for Fiscal Year (FY) 2025 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Consideration
- ✓ Fiscal Year 2024 Second Quarter Budget Amendments discussion.
- ✓ Presentation of the January 2024 Monthly Financial Report (Executive Summary attached).
- ✓ Monthly updates on the Gifts, Grants & Other Resources activities, and Affordability & Assistance team initiatives.
- ✓ Quarterly Business Inclusion and Diversity Program update.
- ✓ Presentation of the Semiannual Debt Report.
- ✓ Review of the General Retirement System Financial Report and Annual Actuarial Valuation update.
- ✓ Circulation of the latest Procurement Pipeline.

### ***Society of Municipal Analysts Conference***

On April 10-12, 2024, Nicolette Bateson, Chief Financial Officer & Treasurer, and Bill Wolfson, Chief Administrative & Compliance Officer, attended the Society of Municipal Analysts – Spring 2024 Conference held in Detroit. This group is comprised of approximately 40 members representing a broad spectrum of organizations within the municipal finance sector. The meetings occur twice a year with discussions centering on issues facing the host city and state.

Nicolette Bateson was joined by Bill Wolfson to speak with the group regarding GLWA. Topics of interest included the regional model of a water utility and the progression of the organization since beginning operations in January 2016.



## **FINANCIAL SERVICES AREA** (continued)

### ***Affordability & Assistance Update***

The GLWA Affordability & Assistance team, in close collaboration with various stakeholders across Michigan, has been diligently working to help GLWA serve as a hub utility.

On May 4, 2024, Haran Stanley, Affordability & Assistance Management Professional, joined Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency at their Customer Assistance Day in the City of Inkster. Mayor Byron Nolen and Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib were in attendance, as well as representatives from other resource agencies including the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services and The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW). These agencies provided information and application assistance for various programs for eligible low-income households.



*(Pictured left to right: Iman Chehab-Wayne Metro, Haran Stanley-GLWA, Melissa Piszker-Wayne Metro)*

GLWA continues to create and cultivate partnerships with service delivery partners, member partners, water and environmental advocates, and other key stakeholders to ensure that clean and safe drinking water is not only available but also affordable for all.

### ***Charges Outreach & Modeling***

On April 15, 2024, Chief Administrative & Compliance Officer William Wolfson, Chief Planning Officer Jody Caldwell, and Charges Outreach and Modeling Manager Matt Lane attended the Grosse Pointe City Council meeting and delivered a presentation regarding the City's upcoming FY 2024-2025 Sewer Charges.

The Charges Outreach and Modeling team has been providing support and participating in a joint project with the GLWA Resiliency Team, State Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency through the EPA's *Creating Resilient Water Utilities* program. This exercise kicked off on April 24.

## **FINANCIAL SERVICES AREA** (continued)

### ***Vendor Outreach Update***

On April 26, 2024, representatives from the GLWA Procurement Team, including Michael Lasley, Sean Hallock, Tina Clinkscales, Jeanette Driver, and Imran Kakli (pictured below from left to right), attended the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Michigan Public Purchasing Officers Association Reverse Trade Fair in Novi, Michigan. The Reverse Trade Fair, which was held in-person at



*The GLWA Procurement Team, including Michael Lasley, Sean Hallock, Tina Clinkscales, Jeanette Driver, and Imran Kakli (pictured from left to right).*

the Suburban Collection Showplace, provided vendors, contractors, and consultants with the opportunity to meet with procurement professionals from around the state of Michigan. Procurement representatives from 70 publicly funded agencies, including GLWA, staffed the tables while over 125 vendors seeking to do business with the public sector roamed the floors to meet with them. The event enabled procurement professionals to meet with a variety of new vendors, while vendors had an efficient and cost-effective way to meet with numerous agencies in a single place during the day with no vendor booth required!

Throughout the day-long event, GLWA Procurement representatives introduced vendors to the fundamentals of GLWA's procurement process, including information on what GLWA procures and who should bid on open GLWA opportunities, tips for submitting a successful bid or proposal submission, and how to meet the requirements for GLWA's Business Inclusion and Diversity Program.

### ***Procurement Pipeline***

The April 2024 Procurement Pipeline is attached. This month's edition includes an announcement that during the month of June 2024, the GLWA Procurement Team will pause the advertisement of new solicitations in the Bonfire Procurement Portal and the issuance of new purchase orders. This temporary pause will allow Procurement to fully migrate data on existing purchase orders and contracts into GLWA's new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system, which will launch on July 1, 2024. The processing of new procurements and solicitations will resume after July 1.

## **FINANCIAL SERVICES AREA** (continued)

The Pipeline also includes upcoming in-person vendor outreach events, as well as guidance to coordinate virtual vendor introduction meetings, a list of upcoming solicitations, and a reminder that the monthly CEO Report is an important source of key GLWA news and information.

## **OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL**

- ***Legislative Updates:*** The Office is monitoring infrastructure spending bills at the federal and state level, supporting the activities regarding proposed water affordability legislation, and working with others to develop state storm water utility legislation. In April, General Counsel David Jones accompanied CEO Coffey and Chief Administrative and Compliance Officer Wolfson in meetings with state and federal legislators to discuss various GLWA projects and capital improvement plans.
- ***Gordie Howe International Bridge:*** GLWA filed a notice of claim with the Court of Claims related to its relocation claim.
- ***June and July 2021 Rain Events:*** The Office is providing legal support in response to the significant rain events in June and July 2021. Recently, the trial court dismissed most of the lawsuits against GLWA based on governmental immunity. The Plaintiffs are appealing the decision.

The Court recently dismissed an additional lawsuit related to the July 2021 storm event. The Plaintiffs are also appealing the decision.

- ***Highland Park Settlement Agreement:*** On February 14, 2024, the GLWA Board voted to approve of the settlement agreement in final (or next to final) form. On March 18, 2024, the Highland Park City Council unanimously approved the Settlement Agreement between GLWA and the City. When the Settlement Agreement is fully executed, the trust incorporated as a part of the Settlement Agreement is funded, and initial distributions from the trust are received, the Highland Park litigation will be closed
- ***Mays, et al v GLWA:*** The Court recently entered an order partially granting GLWA's Motion for Summary Disposition and partially dismissing Plaintiffs' claims.
- ***Trenton Water Main:*** The Office is negotiating the transfer of the 24-inch water main to GLWA.
- ***Contract Negotiations:*** The Office is negotiating 30-year wastewater disposal services contracts with sewer member partners that do not have a model contract.

## **OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL** (continued)

- ***Environmental and Workplace Safety Compliance:*** The Office continues to work with the COO and team leaders from both the water and sewer systems to comply with regulations and to respond to any alleged violations.
- ***Record Retention Policy:*** The Office submitted GLWA's record retention policy to the State. The Office is working on a record storage and disposal policy to work hand in hand with the record retention policy.
- ***Industrial Pretreatment Program ("IPP"):*** The Office also continues to provide assistance on PFAS and PFOS matters, including comments on the new drinking water regulations and negotiating an administrative consent order with an industrial user.
- ***Real Estate:*** The Office is working to secure easements and acquire properties related to various water and sewer projects. Each real estate transaction will be presented to the Board for approval when they are fully negotiated.
- ***Member Outreach:*** The Office continues to be an active participant in Member Outreach sessions.
- ***Main Relocations:*** The Office continues to support water operations in its discussions with community stakeholders regarding water main relocations.
- ***Civil Litigation and Arbitrations:*** The Office continues to vigorously defend actions against GLWA. In October 2023, the Board authorized settlements of key litigation including a class action lawsuit regarding IWC charges and the collection actions against Highland Park. The Office is working on implementing those resolutions.
- ***Labor Relations:*** The Office continues to provide legal advice to Organizational Development on labor relations and employment matters.
- ***Procurement:*** The Office continues to assist GLWA's Procurement Team negotiate contracts, change orders and amendments and interpret contractual provisions. The Office is also assisting with the Procurement Policy's Procedures and updating GLWA's template contracts. The Office is part of a cross-functional team working to complete significant revisions to the GLWA construction contract, including consideration of using an entirely new contract format. The Office continues to provide advice on federal grant compliance.

**OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL** (continued)

***Statistics:***

	#
Contracts approved as to form	47
Contracts drafted or revised	129
Subpoenas/Information requests received	2
Subpoenas/Information responded to	6

Respectfully submitted,



Suzanne R. Coffey, F.E.  
Chief Executive Officer

SRC/dlr

Attachments: January 2024 Executive Summary; April 2024 Procurement Pipeline





**Key Financial Metrics**

The table below provides key report highlights and flags the financial risk of a budget shortfall by year-end as follows: No Risk (green) - Potential (yellow) - Likely (red)

Each variance is monitored by the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) management and, where appropriate, operating and/or budget priorities are re-evaluated. Staff reviews the need for budget amendments quarterly and requests necessary amendments when required based on the most current information available. First quarter budget amendments were approved by the Board of Directors January 24, 2024 and are reflected in this report.

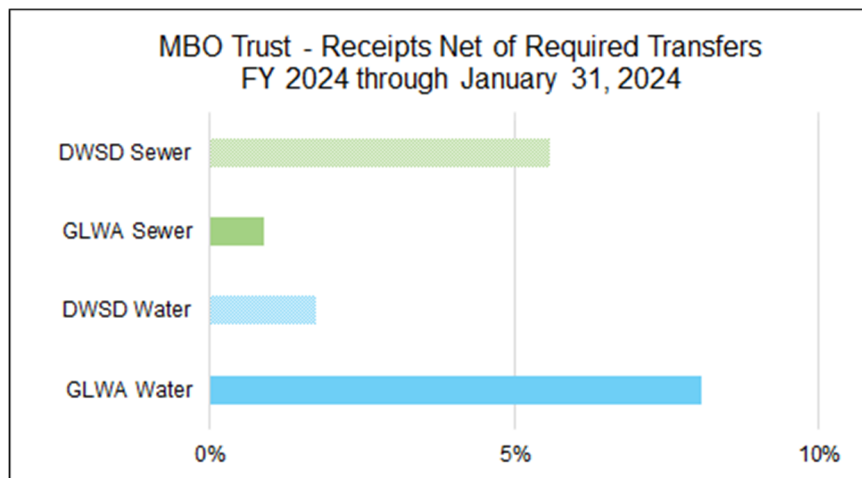
For the current year, water and sewer capital spend, and sewer O&M reflect variances to budget outside the normal range. Capital spend variances reflect evolving changes in timing that the Capital Improvement Planning group continues to monitor and review.

A bond transaction was completed in December 2023 for \$148.5 million to support water system improvements and \$96.8 million to support sewage disposal system improvements.

As of January 31, 2024					
Metric	FY 2024 Budget	FY 2024 Amended Budget	FY 2024 Actual	Variance from Financial Plan	Report Page Reference
Wholesale Water Billed Revenue (\$M)	\$205.8	\$201.8	\$201.2	0%	48
Wholesale Water Billed Usage (mcf)	8,228,000	7,771,000	7,781,000	0%	
Wholesale Sewer Billed Revenue (\$M)	\$164.5	\$164.5	\$164.5	0%	50
Wholesale Water Operations & Maintenance (\$M)	\$89.2	\$95.1	\$90.3	-5%	5
Wholesale Sewer Operations & Maintenance (\$M)	\$120.0	\$128.4	\$123.1	-4%	
Investment Income (\$M)	\$9.0	\$23.5	\$32.5	38%	37
Water Prorated Capital Spend w/SRA* (\$M)	\$139.6	\$131.1	\$97.6	-26%	28
Sewer Prorated Capital Spend w/SRA* (\$M)	\$116.1	\$96.2	\$61.6	-36%	29

\*SRA refers to the capital spending ratio assumption which allows capital program delivery realities to align with the financial plan.

**Master Bond Ordinance (MBO) Trust Net Receipts (page 53)**



Net cash flow receipts remain positive for GLWA Water and Sewer. This means that all legal commitments of the MBO Trust and the lease payment are fully funded – and that positive cash flow is available for additional capital program funding in subsequent year(s). DWSD Water

reports a surplus of \$1.2 million and DWSD Sewer reports a surplus of \$9.9 million of net receipts over disbursements through January 2024.

*All amounts are unaudited unless otherwise noted.*

GLWA Audit Committee April 29, 2024

### **Budget to Actual Analysis (page 3)**

- The FY 2024 information includes the first quarter FY 2024 budget amendments approved by the GLWA Board of Directors on January 24, 2024.
- The total Revenue Requirements are on target through January 2024.
- The total overall Operations & Maintenance expenses are at 55.7% of budget through January 2024. This positive variance equates to a dollar amount of \$10.2 million.

### **Basic Financial Statements (page 9)**

- The Basic Financial Statements are prepared on a full accrual basis and reflect preliminary, unaudited results.
- Operating income for January 2024 is \$52.9 million for the Water fund (24.4% of total revenues) and \$68.6 million for the Sewer fund (23.9 % of total revenues).
- Water Net Position increased by \$ 8.7 million, and Sewage Disposal Net Position increased by \$ 9.8 million for the year to date through January 2024.

### **Capital Improvement Plan Financial Summary (page 27)**

- Water system costs incurred to date are below the 94% Capital Spend Ratio assumption.
- Sewer system costs incurred to date are below the 82.9% Capital Spend Ratio assumption.

### **Master Bond Ordinance Transfers (page 30)**

- For January, transfers of \$18.6 million and \$25.7 million were completed for the GLWA Water and Sewer funds, respectively.
- Also for January, transfers of \$5.6 million and \$6.9 million were completed for the DWSD Water and Sewer funds, respectively.

### **Cash Balances & Investment Income (page 37)**

- Total cash & investments are \$623 million for Water and \$722 million in the Sewer fund.
- Total, combined, cumulative, FY 2024 investment income through January is \$32.5 million.

### **DWSD Retail Revenues, Receivables & Collections (page 41)**

- Water revenue through January 31, 2024 is 103.85% and usage is 103.69% of budget.
- Sewer revenue through January 31, 2024 is 98.42% and usage is 100.73% of budget.
- Combined accounts receivable balances for the water and sewer funds report a decrease of \$23.3 million over the prior year.
- Past dues over 180 days make up of 66.7% the total accounts receivable balance. The current bad debt allowance covers over 97.0% of past dues over 60 days.

### **GLWA Wholesale Billing, Receivables & Collections (page 47)**

- GLWA accounts receivable past due balance net of Highland Park is 13.15% of the total accounts receivable balance, with the majority of that balance related to one water account dispute currently under discussion.
- The Highland Park past due balance is \$55.3 million. It includes \$40.6 million for wastewater treatment services, \$1.9 million for industrial waste control services, and \$12.8 million for water supply services. Highland Park made a catch-up payment of \$1.7 million on June 3, 2022 and has continued to make additional, monthly payments since that time totaling \$8.8 million as of January 31, 2024.
- On November 16, 2023, the GLWA Board of Directors outlined a plan to provide reimbursement credits to Member Partners upon implementation of the approved term sheet that represents a proposed agreement between GLWA, the city of Highland Park, and the state of Michigan. This monthly financial report will reflect the impacts of that term sheet and agreement moving forward as implementation steps occur.

**Questions?** Contact the Office of the Chief Financial Officer at [CFO@glwater.org](mailto:CFO@glwater.org).



Welcome to the April edition of *The Procurement Pipeline*, a monthly newsletter designed to provide updates on doing business with the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA).

## The June 2024 New Solicitation Pause and Workday ERP system Launch on July 1

During the month of June 2024, the GLWA Procurement Team will pause the advertisement of new solicitations in the Bonfire Procurement Portal and the issuance of new purchase orders. This temporary pause will allow Procurement to fully migrate data on existing purchase orders and contracts into GLWA's new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system Workday, which will launch on July 1, 2024. The processing of new procurements and solicitations will resume after Workday officially goes live on July 1.

Read below for some Vendor FAQs about the June Pause and launch of GLWA's new Workday system.

- **What impact will the June pause have on any in-process solicitations?** Vendors can expect a slight delay in the evaluation and award of in-process purchase orders and contracts.
- **Will accounts payable still be processing invoices during the June pause?** Yes, invoices will still be processed according to GLWA's 45-day net payment terms.
- **Will the June pause alter the timelines provided in the upcoming solicitations included on pg. 2 of the Pipeline newsletter?** Vendors may expect a slight delay in the advertisement of new solicitations.
- **What impact will the new Workday system have on GLWA's procurement process when it goes live on July 1?** The implementation of Workday will enable a number of important efficiencies in GLWA's procurement process. However, Vendors will experience no changes in the process for submitting a bid or proposal response to any open GLWA opportunity.

- **Will GLWA continue to use Bonfire?** Bonfire will continue to operate as GLWA's e-procurement platform.
- **If Vendors have questions about the June pause or the new Workday system, who should they contact?** Any additional questions about the June Pause or new Workday system may be directed via email to [GLWAVendorOutreach@glwater.org](mailto:GLWAVendorOutreach@glwater.org).

## Where to Meet GLWA

GLWA welcomes you to visit us at the Michigan Public Purchasing Officers Association Reverse Trade Fair on April 26, 2024 from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the Suburban Collection Showplace in Novi, MI. Event details and registration available [here](#).

## Virtual Vendor Introduction Meetings

If you are interested in learning more about doing business with GLWA, contact us at [GLWAVendorOutreach@glwater.org](mailto:GLWAVendorOutreach@glwater.org) to schedule a virtual vendor introduction meeting. Topics include information on submitting a competitive bid or proposal to any GLWA solicitation.

## Keeping up with GLWA

Our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Monthly Report provides a wealth of information and news about important initiatives within GLWA's service territory that impact GLWA, its member partners, and the public. To read the March 2024 Monthly Report, please [click here](#).

## What's Coming Down the Pipe?

**Current Solicitations:** Register in GLWA's [Bonfire Procurement Portal](#) for new solicitations and contract award information.

**Upcoming Procurements:** *Next Three to Nine Months*—See newsletter page 2.

## Visit GLWA online!

To see the GLWA vendor homepage, please visit [www.glwater.org](http://www.glwater.org) or contact us via email at [procurement@glwater.org](mailto:procurement@glwater.org).

# Upcoming Solicitations April 2024

Category	CIP #	Description/Project Title	Budget Estimate
<b>Water System (next four to nine months)</b>			
Construction	111001	Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant – LH-401 Switchgear and Low Lift Improvements	100,000,000
Construction	112008	Northeast WTP Filter Rehabilitation	\$85,550,000
Design	113010	Southwest WTP Flocculation Improvements	\$4,933,000
Construction	122016	Downriver Transmission Main Loop – Phase 1 – Inkster Rd.	\$21,000,000
Professional Services	O&M	Specialized Services – Task assigned	\$12,550,000
<b>Wastewater Systems (next four to nine months)</b>			
Construction	260510	CSO Outfall Rehabilitation Phase VI	\$10,000,000
Construction	260206	Rehabilitation of 7 Mile Sewer System	\$30,000,000
Construction	211005.2	WRRF Pump Station 2 VFD Replacements	\$12,000,000
Design	270007	CSO Facility Disinfection Improvements	\$2,000,000
Construction	270006	CSO Facility Improvements II	\$15,000,000
<b>Water System (next three months)</b>			
Construction (Design Build)	122004	96-Inch Water Transmission Main Relocation - Phase III	\$90,000,000
<b>Wastewater (next three months)</b>			
Design	270001	Pilot Netting and Disinfection Facilities at B03, B04, and B05	\$8,000,000
Design	270010	Puritan Fenkell and Seven Mile HVAC improvements	\$1,200,000
<b>Projects moved to Procurement Team (Preparing for solicitation on Bonfire)</b>			
Professional Services	O&M	Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant Sludge Removal and Disposal	\$3,300,000
Professional Services	O&M	Emergency Standby Generator Preventative Maintenance	\$2,910,225
Construction	170306	Instrumentation and Control System Plant - wide SCADA Upgrade	\$3,340,000
Professional Services	O&M	Water and Wastewater Services Charges Consultant	\$300,000
Professional Services	O&M	Internal Auditor	\$650,000
Professional Services	O&M	Environmental Health and Safety Assistance	\$2,000,000
Professional Services	O&M	Refuse and Recycling Waste Pickup and Disposal Services	\$655,000
Professional Services	O&M	Fleet Management Services Including Leasing and Upfitting Vehicles	\$14,667,500
Professional Services	O&M	Water and Wastewater Pumping Stations LED Lighting Upgrades	\$7,500,000
Professional Services	O&M	Staffing Services	\$750,000
Professional Services	O&M	Sewer Metering Analysis and Support Services	\$4,660,000

Vendors should continue to monitor [Bonfire](#) for solicitation updates.

Acronyms		
WRRF: Water Resource Recovery Facility	CSO: Combined Sewer Overflow	WTP: Water Treatment Plant