## 2024-102

## **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE GREAT LAKES WATER AUTHORITY'S REQUEST FOR AN APPROPRIATION TO ASSIST THE UTILITY'S TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON ENHANCED CONVENTIONAL WATER TREATMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the Great lakes Water Authority (GLWA) is a regional sewer authority organized under the provisions of Michigan Public Act 233 of 1955; and

**WHEREAS,** in 2016, pursuant to lease agreements with the City of Detroit, GLWA began operations of the regional water and sewer located in southeastern and mid-Michigan; and

**WHEREAS,** GLWA is the largest drinking water provider in Michigan providing water of unquestionable quality to 112 communities located throughout Oakland, Wayne, Macomb, Monroe Genesee, Lapeer, St. Clair, and Washtenaw Counties; and

**WHEREAS,** GLWA is the largest wastewater treatment provider in Michigan providing effective and efficient wastewater services to 79 Michigan Communities located within Wayne, Macomb, and Oakland Counties; and

**WHEREAS,** GLWA has a six member Board of Directors (Board) consisting of a representative appointed by the County Executive of Macomb County, a representative appointed by the County Executive of Oakland County, a representative appointed by the County Executive of Wayne County, two representatives appointed by the Mayor of the City of Detroit, and a representative appointed by the Governor of the State of Michigan who resides in a community served by GLWA located outside of Macomb, Oakland and Wayne Counties; and

**WHEREAS,** GLWA's Articles of Incorporation intended that GLWA's Board be reflective of the communities served by the utility and join collaboratively to establish policy for the region, its residents, and the utility; and

**WHEREAS,** GLWA is committed to delivering water of unquestionable quality to its member partner communities in a safe and affordable manner; and

**WHEREAS,** GLWA is responsible for maintaining 816 miles of drinking water transmission mains and 3 freshwater intakes within its 1,688 square mile service area; and

**WHEREAS,** GLWA and the member partner communities it serves recognize that infrastructure management is not only essential to water quality but is a key component of water affordability; and

**WHEREAS,** Total organic carbon, TOC, has been widely used to quantify and evaluate the total amount of natural organic matter and particulate carbon in environmental water; and

**WHEREAS,** TOC can be present in a system's water supply both through natural and manmade occurrences; and **WHEREAS,** TOC is not directly associated with causing dangers to human health, but its determination and control is important because TOC is a known precursor to potentially harmful disinfection byproducts; and

**WHEREAS**, based on the recent increases in organic matter within the source water, water quality and regulatory concerns exist and must be evaluated to determine the best treatment techniques to continue to ensure water of unquestionable quality; and

**WHEREAS,** GLWA seeks consideration of an appropriation to support additional research to investigate the effects of enhanced conventional water treatment at GLWA Water Works Park Water Treatment Plant for improving organic matter removal in finished water and distribution waters at different climate seasons ; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board believes that such an appropriation is consistent with the desire and needs of the communities served by GLWA,

## NOW THEREFORE BE IT:

**RESOLVED,** that for the reasons set forth above, the Board of GLWA supports GLWA's request for a federal appropriation to assist the utility's total organic carbon enhanced conventional water treatment.