

May 24, 2023

The Honorable Board of Directors Great Lakes Water Authority

## RE: CEO Report – May 24, 2023

Chairperson Hendrix and Directors,

I will begin my report this month with an update on our ongoing litigation with the city of Highland Park. As you may recall, the court directed the parties to work out a payment plan for the judgment in the 2014 lawsuit. Since then, GLWA and Highland Park have met twice in a confidential facilitation. Our next session is scheduled for this week. GLWA hopes that these continued discussions with Highland Park will result in a comprehensive solution.

In my report last month, I shared with you Field Services Director Todd King's appointment to the newly created position of System Resiliency Officer to help direct GLWA's cross-functional resiliency initiatives, including the Southeast Michigan Flood Resiliency Study and field implementation of our Linear System Integrity Program.

The next step in our resiliency efforts are changes in the organizational structure of our Field Services Team, which are designed to add depth to the team and give them the ability to specialize in either water or wastewater. These changes will begin with the recruitment of a Director of Water Transmission, who will report directly to Chief Operating Officer, Water and Field Services Cheryl Porter and a Director of Wastewater Conveyance and CSO, who will report directly to Chief Operating Officer, Wastewater United Services Cheryl Porter and a Director of Wastewater Operations Navid Mehram.

We have a vast and complex system, so I expect the full transition to this new structure to take approximately two to three years, as it will be critical for them to learn from and train alongside Todd King and others who have ably led the Field Services Team. While this on-the-job training is underway, Cheryl will remain in oversite of the Water Transmission Team and Navid will begin to pick-up oversite of Wastewater Conveyance.

Staying in the resiliency theme, only switching focus to our recruitment efforts, GLWA in partnership with our member partners, hosted our first-ever Water Career Exploration Event. This collaborative, two-day event was held at Water Works Park on May 5 and May 11, and was inspired by the Water Management Best Practices Work Group.

Both days showcased career opportunities in the water sector through southeast Michigan. During the program, students from Detroit's Randolph Technical School and the Harper Woods College and Career Institute participated in an interactive tour of Water Works Park, led by Water Operations team members, engaged in a variety of hands-on activities, listened to a discussion panel and participated in a networking lunch event with water professionals. This event was an enormous success because of the dedication and passion of the team members and many member partners who participated. I expect this to become an annual event.

I'm also very pleased to announce that on May 1, we launched the second year of our Summer Internship Program. Currently we have nine candidates who have accepted internship opportunities with us, and another four candidates that are in the pre-hire process.

With the end of the national public health emergency related to COVID-19, GLWA has reinstituted its public tour program, offering tours at our Water Works Park Water Treatment Plant and our Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF). In conjunction with the relaunch of tours, our Public Affairs Group has created a new tours page on our website which includes an online tour request form. We've seen very high interest so far and are excited to be able to have our team members share our water and wastewater treatment processes with students and adults.

I will end my report as I do each month by calling out the hard work and dedication of our team members. This month, I'd like to highlight Justin Dzioba, a chemist at our Water Resource Recovery Facility who plays an invaluable role on the team. Justin's work ethic, engagement and trustworthiness truly stand out. He is one of two chemists trained on performing a microbiological profile of the activated sludge at WRRF. He continues to educate himself on the topic and has introduced new methods and is actively working on optimizing the existing protocols for this process. Justin has also improved the communication of his results to the Operations Team by providing context and introducing visual trends, which he provides alongside his reports. This information helps the team to proactively address issues and stay in compliance. Thank you to Justin for his innovation and commitment to teamwork!

## PLANNING SERVICES

## Asset Management Group (AMG)

GLWA's Asset Management Strategic Organization (AMSO) recently completed its internal

Annual Asset Management Assessment Survey. AMSO is GLWA's internal asset management governance structure that provides awareness and collaboration of a wide-variety of asset management initiatives planned and underway at GLWA. The purpose of the survey is to assess the current state of AMSO's, year-over-year progress in managing Asset Management activities and strategies and helps guide future priorities.



### PLANNING SERVICES (continued)

The survey also provides valuable information related to asset management awareness, effectiveness, and participation across the organization. Results show that there was a significant increase in survey participation of AMSO members from an average of 40 percent in the past years to 60 percent this year and a consistent overall increase in asset management awareness and effectiveness.



In addition to AMSO, the survey sought feedback on the effectiveness of the Enterprise Asset Management Group (EAMG). The overall positive review remained the same as last year in most categories although there is a significant positive increase in ratings from 2021. Many comments and suggestions were also received to help improve EAMG's and AMSO's asset management activities and priorities.

## Capital Improvement Planning Group (CIP)

During the pre-alignment stage of CIP development, the CIP Team organized multiple meetings with Chiefs, Directors, and Managers of Life Cycle Project Managers who work on water and wastewater projects. The purpose of these meetings was to update project budgets and schedules and to support the streamlining of the FY 25-29 CIP development (Roadmap FY 25-28).

The CIP team welcomed two new members to the Team: Nusrat Ahmad, CIP Planning Lead-Management Professional, and Maitrak Trivedi, CIP Budget Management Professional. The team is actively seeking additional talent to fill open positions and support CIP delivery, particularly in the areas of Schedule and Budget Management.

In collaboration with AECOM, the CIP team completed Chapters 11 and 13 of the Project Management Program (PMP), which focuses on safety, public information, and stakeholder communication management. The team is currently working on Chapter 15, CIP planning, and documenting streamlined approaches that are being adopted. The team is also preparing to implement and roll out the PMP, which will involve collaborative change management workshops in addition to video training, testing, and Q&A sessions. Additionally, the team is making improvements to the CIP portal that will streamline updates on project scores and statuses.

Finally, the CIP Team established the project scoring committee member roster, which includes diverse representation from engineering, operations, and member partner communities.



## PLANNING SERVICES (continued)

## Systems Planning Group

On April 5, the *Wastewater Best Practices Work Group* met to learn about the Evergreen-Farmington Sanitary Drain's new operational protocol. The meeting, which took place via Zoom, was truncated due to a rain event that required the operators' attention.

The Water Analytical Work Group (AWG) met on April 18 to learn the results of the 120" Main Break Condition Assessment Report, which discussed the root cause of the break, as well as the findings from electromagnetic, acoustic, visual, and sounding inspections performed on a segment of the main that was accessible during the repair. Systems Analytics & Meter Operations team member, Doug Inman, reported the historical demand data for all master-metered Member Partners for the years 2013-2022, as well as system totals for the same period. Biren Saparia, Systems Control Center, presented 2022 pressure compliance data.

On April 20, the *Wastewater Analytics Task Force (WATF)* met to review CDM Smith's recommendation to continue to use the Parshall flume meter for estimating the City of Farmington's sewage flows; the recommendation was approved by WATF. The group also learned about three sewer lining projects underway by the Oakland Macomb Interceptor Drain Drainage District (OMIDDD), and about GLWA's partnership with Trinnex (a subsidiary of CDM Smith) using artificial intelligence to identify potential sewer meter anomalies.

On April 25, a *Charges Work Group* meeting was held to build a shared understanding of the status of the findings from the water charge methodology review subgroup.

The Watershed Hub Work Group met on April 26 to debrief the March 1 Watershed Hub webinar, to provide updates on the Investigational Grab Sampling Program, to learn about SEMCOG's climate initiative, and to discuss goals for the upcoming year.

## System Analytics & Meter Operations (SAMO)

The SAMO team is currently working on updating the water hydraulic model in-house. The hydraulic model was created using the previous water network Geographic Information System (GIS) layers that needed improvement in spatially accuracy. The GIS Team at GLWA improved the GIS layers by geo-referencing the as-built drawings. Using InfoWater Software, the new GIS layers outside the Detroit boundary were mapped to create a new hydraulic model. To increase the accuracy of the model, the attributes, connectivity, and model elevations were revised based on the as-built drawings. Additionally, the model was separated into 17 separate pressure zones, and the comparison sheets for pressures and hydraulic head graphs were expanded for the individual zone calibration. Modeling scenarios for 2016 maximum, average, and minimum days, as well as 2020 average day, were created using the updated model by configuring system controls and allocating demands. Once completed, the model will be used internally for engineering evaluations, operational simulations, and the water master plan update.



## PLANNING SERVICES (continued)

The SAMO Group has made progress on the wholesale water meter pit rehabilitation and meter replacement program. The first project of this program began in November 2018 and involved construction work at 55 meter pits that had metering and/or meter pit condition concerns. The planned work has been completed at all 55-meter pit locations. The second contract of this program is currently undergoing the procurement process, with proposals received on May 4, 2023. The contract is expected to be presented to the Board of Directors for consideration at the June meeting. With the help of this contract, 58 additional meter pit facilities will receive metering and instrumentation upgrades, as well as a full meter pit rehabilitation. The remaining metering facilities will also receive emergency and corrective maintenance under this contract as needed.

## WASTEWATER OPERATING SERVICES

## Wastewater Operations

The Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF) operations complied with the Water Quality Standards for May 2023.

For this month, the Operations team would like to recognize **Justin Dzioba**, a Chemist and his invaluable role as part of the team. Justin's work ethic, engagement, and trustworthiness stand out. He is often the person identifying and resolving issues. He is very considerate, respectful, and professional. He always looks out for the entire team, evident by his willingness to step in when needed to cover shifts (night and day) and help his team with tasks and through training.

Justin is one of two chemists trained on performing a microbiological profile of the activated sludge. He continues to educate himself on the topic, has introduced new methods, and is actively working on optimizing the existing protocols. Justin has also improved communicating his results to the Operations team by providing context and introducing visual trends which he provides alongside his report. The information helps the team to proactively address filamentous organisms and stay in compliance.

In addition to the above highlights, Justin also stepped up and volunteered to be responsible for newly installed Phosphorus Analyzers which has improved control of ferric dosing.

He often approaches Wastewater Operations Director, Majid Khan with ideas for improvement. It is truly a pleasure having Justin as part of the Wastewater Operating Services team.

## **Compliance Issues**

The primary effluent sample for April 7, was misplaced in the refrigerator and not located until it was no longer valid for Carbonaceous Biological Oxygen Demand (CBOD) analysis. No CBOD value can be reported for this date; all other parameters were analyzed and will be reported.



On April 27, an operational upset resulted in unauthorized discharge onto the ground. A pump was running with restriction downstream, that resulted in overloading of the clarifiers and water overflowing from Primary Influent Shaft #4. The total volume spilled was estimated at 180,000 gallons and was contained entirely on the WRRF property.

## Maintenance

In an investigative inspection of Scum Collector 9-13 to determine why it was not properly removing scum, it was identified that there were holes worn in the bottom of the scum collecting trough. To remedy this, the Primary Team cut out a section of the worn material and was welded into new pieces. This will improve the overall scum collection efficiency of Primary Clarifier 13. Providing better scum removal in the Primary Clarifiers will have a positive impact on the entire operational process by preventing scum from getting into the secondary treatment system.



Photos above show the scum collector trough before and after the new plate was welded

The maintenance teams have been gearing up for Spring Clean-up Week by doing pre-cleaning. Taking care of these obvious areas, allow the teams to focus on more deep cleaning, organizing, and 5S projects over the course of the 2023 Spring Clean-up Week.

These efforts also improve the overall safety condition of the plant, help in the management of spares inventory, and helps to identify materials that are no longer needed.



EB-11 before and after cleaning



The Incineration Team performed a replacement of the two pressure regulating valves (PRVs) that serve the intermediate pressure secondary water system. The primary process equipment that utilizes intermediate pressure secondary water, is the air compressor that provides plant instrument air and the air to engage the air brakes for the main lift pumps at Pump Station 1. The Incineration team was able to come up with a creative source of cooling water for the air compressors to keep them in service, utilizing potable water and a fire hose from a high-pressure secondary water hydrant, to avoid a significant plant shutdown which would have included Pump Station 1 and all of incineration. This innovative strategy prevented the plant downtime and contributed to the successful replacement of the PRVs. Effective planning and preparation also allowed the valves to be replaced in one shift, minimizing the time needed on the alternate source of cooling water.



The Incineration team exhibited excellent maintenance practices with their preparation for this work while also displaying innovation and a dedication to minimizing operational impact of their work

## Process Automation & Control System Team (PACS)

## Contract 2004538 Instrumentation and Control System Replacement at St. Aubin, 7 Mile and Leib Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Facilities

This contract is a design/build contract that will replace the existing Rockwell control system that is at the end of its life with a new Ovation control system. The new system will be configured to enhance the operation of the three CSO facilities.

Workshops were held to establish standard configurations for control logic, graphics and networking that will be used for other control projects going forward. The 90 percent design specifications and drawings that were submitted are currently under review.

## CIP 211007 PS-2 Bar Rack Replacement

The 90 percent design is under review. The team is reviewing the control system design and the requirements for the control system integrator as defined in the contract specifications.

## Contract 2002190 Rehab of FeCl Feed System at PS-1 and Complex B Sludge Lines

Control system acceptance testing was performed on the control system equipment and configurations supplied by the contractor. The control system was configured and tested by the PACS team members.



## Industrial Waste Control (IWC)

Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) Minimization Program – The status report for Calendar Year 2022 was submitted on April 28, and is under review by Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (MI-EGLE). The next report covering the period of January - June 2023 is due November 1, 2023.

## **Engineering and Construction**

## CIP Design:

## CIP 211005.2, Contract No. 2103338 – Pump Station 2 VFD Replacement

60 percent drawings are in development and will be submitted soon. The team is currently negotiating a scope change with the design consultant. This project will be bid out for construction later this year.

## CIP 211005.3, Contract No. 2104082 – Pump Station 2 Mag Meter Replacement

The bidding documents were submitted to Procurement and the project is being processed for bidding. This will be advertised through the Job Order Contract (JOC).

## CIP 211007, Contract No. 1904337 – Pump Station 2 Bar Rack & Grit System Improvements

This project is progressing towards the 100 percent design submittal at the end of May. GLWA is planning permit related discussions with MI-EGLE in June. The design team will continue to progress the project towards our May milestone, and it is anticipated to provide this project to Procurement sometime in October, November, or December this year.

## *CIP 211008, Contract No. 2101915 – WWRF Sludge Dewatering Pumps System Improvements* This design project received the Notice to Proceed recently. Kickoff / Project Quality Management (PQM) took place on April 14. The first task of Concept Finalization is underway.

## CIP 212008, Contract No. 2201139 – Aeration Deck 1 and 2 Modifications (WRRF)

This project includes structural and process modifications to the Aeration Decks 1 and 2 at the WRRF. This project was advertised to the pre-qualified vendors on September 26, 2022. The RFP due date was extended to April 24. Proposals were received from the pre-qualified vendors on April 24, and the evaluation of the proposals are being conducted by GLWA.

## CIP 260210, Contract No. 2201041 – Design for Rehab of Ashland Relief, Linwood, Lonyo, Second Avenue and Shiawassee Sewers

This project focuses on inspection and rehabilitation of the above-named sewers. The project kickoff was held March 7, and the design team is currently coordinating with impacted entities for manned inspection of the sewers. The Shiawassee sewer will be the first one inspected due to its overlap with the current Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT) Telegraph Road project whose traffic control zone reduces the effort necessary to inspect a portion of that sewer.



## CIP 260903, Contract No. 2201744 – WRRF Front Entrance Rehabilitation

This project design focuses on improvements to the front entrance of the WRRF. It adds pull-outs for buses, an overhead canopy with solar panels, new guest parking, and a more streamlined entrance for our GLWA staff. GLWA received two bids from Contractors on April 18. The received bids are being reviewed by GLWA and the lowest responsive and responsible bidder will be recommended for Board approval.

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

Two proposals were received, and evaluation was completed. Oral interviews were scheduled with both vendors and negotiation with the winning vendor is in process.

## CIP 277001, Contract 1902908 – Baby Creek Outfall Improvements Project

Debris removal operations began on April 10. As debris removal progresses, concurrent inspection and repair of the cleaned sections will be performed. Submittals of the 60 percent design drawings for the Flap Gate Removal and Replacement were reviewed and approved by the current stakeholders on April. 24. After further inspection and subsequent evaluation of the existing hatch covers by FK Engineering, it was determined that they were structurally unsound. CCD-003 was issued to cover the design, construction, and installation of new precast outfall hatch covers.

## Non-CIP Design:

*TOES 35T, Contract No. 2202034 – Sludge Pumps 21 through 24 Motor/Drive Improvements* Feedback was provided on the Basis of Design report and the 30 percent submittal is expected to be delivered sometime in May 2023.

## *TOES 38T, Contract No. 2203014 – Complex II Conveyor System Fire Protection Improvements – Pilot System*

This project has been underway for some time. This is a small design project that will pilot a recommended system from the study of the same subject before a full-scale system is installed. Progress has been made with 60 percent design submittal taking place last month.

## TOES 39T, Contract 2201974 – Secondary Clarifiers & B House Improvements & Flowmeter Replacement

The project was kicked off in March with the design team. The design team was onsite in April to make a general, overall assessment and categorized condition. A detailed evaluation by the structural team is planned for the first week of May.



#### Wastewater Projects in Construction:

#### **CIP** Construction:

#### CIP 211006, Contract 2103350 – PS No.1 Improvements (WRRF)

Amendment-1(AM-1) for SRF compliance was approved by the Board in April, executed, and submitted to EGLE prior to the May 1 due date. Weiss is working on a project schedule and Schedule of Values (SOV) to include AM-1 work, expected the first week of May. Weiss is scheduled to perform pre-construction laser scanning starting May 9. Wade Trim continues to provide construction assistance services, review of submittals, etc.

CIP 211008, Contract 2002190 – Rehabilitation of Ferric Chloride Feed System at Pump Station-1(PS-1) and Complex B Sludge Lines (WRRF)

The Contractor has installed the temporary thickened waste activated sludge (TWAS) line and is ready to place it into service following hydrostatic testing. Chemical cleaning of the permanent TWAS line is expected



Temporary TWAS Line

Pump Skids Startup

to begin in mid to late May. Startup and testing of the Ferric Chloride pumping system is in progress in preparation to begin the thirty-day operational demonstration test by May 21, 2023. Operations and Maintenance training began May 4, with completion required before the thirty-day test. Concrete bases are being demolished at the location of the decommissioned ferric chloride tanks 3 and 4.

# CIP 213007, Contract CON-197 – WRRF Modification to Incineration Sludge Feed Systems at Complex II (WRRF)

The Contractor has resolved outstanding issues and thirty-day operational demonstration testing began on April 17. Thus far, the system is functioning, but sludge spillage issues have been identified. Screw hopper load cells issues were resolved on April 15. A Change Directive is in progress to install more abrasion resistant High Density Polyethylene (HDPE) strainer backwash piping to replace prior piping and valves that have been subject to significant interior abrasion and leaks. To alleviate conveyor drip, pan cleaning problems, alternative spray nozzles were tested on April 21, and the Engineer is preparing design revisions.



Conveyor P-7/8 Motor



Screw Hopper Load Cells Testing



Spray Nozzles Testing

## CIP 216004, Contract 1802410 – Rehabilitation of various Sampling Sites and PS#2 Ferric Chloride System (WRRF)

The Contractor has completed necessary preparatory work, and the new ferric chloride feed system and samplers began thirty-day operational demonstration testing on April 20. The system has experienced only minor issues that the Contractor has been able to address, and operational testing is continuing. The Contractor continues work to resolve hach sampling analyzer issues and to address various items needed to fully complete the project.



Testing Oakwood Sample Pump Panel



Ferric Chloride Pump Skids



Ferric Chloride Pipe and Valves

## CIP 216006, Contract 1903601 and 1903598 – Assessment and Rehabilitation of WRRF Yard Piping and Underground Utilities (WRRF)

The designer has completed the 75 percent design for 15 improvements with further investigation being conducted on the remaining six improvements to go from 30 to 75 percent in the near future. Four of the improvements have submitted 90 percent plans for GLWA review. A schedule has been laid out that will have the work starting about October. GLWA will be receiving 75 percent estimates on 10 of the improvements in mid-May. Engineering will process a Change Order to the Construction Manager at Risk (CMAR) contract based on the 75 percent estimate to secure enough funding to start the construction.

## CIP 216011, Contract No. 2100239 – WRRF Facilities Structural Improvements

Assessment reports for some of the above-grade facilities have been submitted by the Contractor

for GLWA's review. The Contractor is on schedule to access storage and thickening tanks as they are available from Operations. New Administration Building (NAB) water leak repairs are near completion. The Contractor was directed to access an additional area in PS-1 Rack & Grit basement due to the finding of the framing in this area which is all badly corroded. CCD B is in the execution process for additional



SST-12 Power washing for

Corroded Framing at PS-1

areas requested by GLWA including the Yard piping tunnel assessment.



*CIP260204, Contract No. 2103688 – Rehabilitation of Connors Creek Sewer Systems (RWCS)* This project is performing grouting, rebar coating, and spot repairs from 6 Mile south under the airport. CIPP liner segments between 8 Mile and 7 Mile are complete. Debris removal between Conner CSO and Conner PS is scheduled to begin at the end of May. Slip lining between 6 Mile and 7 Mile is scheduled to begin this fall.

### CIP260206 - 2202757 - Joy Brush Bates Rehabilitation (RWCS)

A preconstruction meeting was held on April 13, and a Notice to Proceed was issued on April 17. The Contractor (JayDee) is assembling their schedule and plan for the in-pipe rehabilitation mainly consisting of debris and obstruction removal, grouting, and spot repairs. The project upgrades 58 manholes to the current standard. The Brush-Bates portion does cross some high profile areas, cutting between Wayne State University (WSU) and Detroit Medical Center DMC, in between Lions and Tigers stadium, in front of the 36<sup>th</sup> District Court, and in front of the Water Board Building.

## CIP 260207, Contract No. 2004082 – Rehabilitation of the Woodward Sewer (RWCS)

This project is behind schedule. GLWA is working with the Contractor to recover the schedule. We are working through a Notice to Cure and have put the bonding company on notice to assist the contractor in getting their operation back on schedule. Major submittals for ordering sliplining pipe and installation of CIPP lining are being prepared by the Contractor to facilitate the work being executed in the field. The Wastewater Engineering team is evaluating the Contractor's schedule and forecasting, and will continue to engage them and their bonding company to move this project forward.

CIP 260614, Contract No. 1902224 – CSO Facilities Structural Improvements (CSO)

71 percent of the structural improvements have been completed at all CSO facilities, including additional repairs through Change Order No.1. The Contractor is working at Hubbell-Southfield (HS), Puritan-Fenkell (PF), Oakwood (OKW), Conner Creek (CON), Leib and Belle Isle (BLI) to perform CO-1 repairs. A new walkway was installed at Leib. The Contractor



New Walkway at Leib



Joint Repairs at OKW

completed each wet well assessment at OKW and are planning to do both sanitary wet wells assessments in early May. Due to DB-226, the Contractor has paused to perform basin floor repairs at CON and needs to strategize.

## CIP 260901, Contract No. 2101878 – WRRF Hazmat Building Rehabilitation

This project was approved at the February Board meeting. We are awaiting final insurance certificates and then the Notice To Proceed will be issued. This project seeks to improve the HAZMAT building, add parking for emergency vehicles, add space for training, and security monitoring, as well as site improvements adjacent to the facility.



The HAZMAT team is currently temporarily relocating their team members and equipment to other locations throughout the plant to facilitate construction.

## CIP 260902, Contract No. 2101879 – Renovation of the 4th floor at WRRF

Construction activities like installation of ceiling grids throughout the floor, toilets and bathroom partitions, control wiring for data drops, Terrazzo floor, borders and wall base are progressing at the site. The floor carpeting tiles are being installed on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor, as well as all the wooden doors and door frames. Change Order No.1 for an additional \$300,000 is being processed for May Board approval to undertake the outstanding changes and to complete this project.

## CIP 260905, Contract No. 2203675 – WRRF Plumbing Shop Improvements

This project provides improvements to the WRRF plumbing shop as far as the building exterior, building roof, establishing a rain garden, and contractor laydown areas adjacent to the plumbing shop building. The building will house materials for the Logistics and Materials team and allow more proper organization of stored materials, and easier access to them. This project went out to bid for construction in March 2023. An extension was provided for construction bids, and they are now due in early May.

## **CIP** Construction:

## JOC Task 70 – Contract No. 2002464 – Complex A Gallery SFP-2 Pump Replacement

Change Order No. 1 was issued under this task to install a 3-inch diameter Drain Line on the 18inch diameter sludge feed piping for Sludge Storage Tank No. 5 and Sludge Storage Tank No. 6. The Change Order No. 1 work was completed on March 31. The base contract scope of work has not started yet because of supply chain issues. Change Order No.2 is approved, extending the contract's final completion date to September 14, 2023. After some delay, both the pump and variable frequency drives (VFD) have been received and the installation will start soon.

JOC Task J2-01 Contract No. 2202079 – Pump Station 1 (PS1) Upper Gate Room Stairwell Repairs (WRRF) The contractor has completed replacement of the stairwell wall and has repaired damaged concrete stairs. The contractor has submitted the submittal for the fencing and gate for the stairwell. The fencing and gate submittal is being reviewed by GLWA.



Pump Station No.1 new stairwell wall

# Contract No. 2001370 – Effluent Channel Stop- Logs, Storage Racks & Lifting Devices at Conner Creek CSO Facility

This project has achieved substantial completion. Substantial completion certificate will be processed soon, and the final change order will be drafted/processed soon.



## Contract No. 2201101 – Complex II Incinerator 11 Rehabilitation.

The Notice to Proceed for the construction of this project has been awarded with a kick-off meeting during the first week of May 2023. The scope of work for this project involves 4 separate tasks including refractory repair as identified by the Incinerator Inspection undertaken in 2020; a new emergency bypass damper on top of the emergency bypass stack that simply opens and closes (po-top damper) replacing the leaky, maintenance-intensive dual leaf damper in the body of the stack; enhancement of sludge drop holes on Hearths 1 and 2; and repair on the breech (exhaust from the furnace).

#### Wet Out Inspection for Conner Creek 48" CIPP Liner

On Tuesday April 11, Brooke Ballard, Kassem Chokair and Greg Marker (GLWA), Reed Johnson (PMA Associates), Clara Cristofalo (NTH), performed a 4-hour pre-lining meeting and wet out inspection at Inland Waters Pollution Control's (IWPC) Wet Out facility in Corktown. This facility provides wet out liners across the country for Inliner and IWPC's CIPP lining operations. The meeting reviewed the upcoming installation means and methods and inspected the production of a 48" diameter Cured In Place Pipe (CIPP) liner that was installed along Conner from 8 Mile to Savage the next day as part of the Conner Creek Sewer Rehabilitation.

The CIPP production process was reviewed in detail by comparing the submittals previously reviewed and approved with the processes and materials onsite. The production meeting brought the Engineering and Field team together with the Inland/Inliner installation managers to review the submitted and approved means and methods as a team to ensure the equipment, labor, processes were agreed upon and contingency plans were created in advance of the lining. Large diameter lining can take 24-36 hours to perform, so coordination between multiple shifts in advance of the work is essential to ensuring both the Contractor and the Engineering observation are operating as One Team. The inspection of key components at the source of manufacture allows the team to help ensure the products being installed by the Contractors are made to the manufacturer's specifications at that unique installation site.



Right to Left - The felt coming off the pile to work its way down the line, through the slug of resin, through the rollers, and into the truck with ice. The finished product weighs 100 pounds per foot. The rollers on the left squeeze down to the right measurement after the slug is installed to ensure the liner will have the right thickness after installation.



## **CSO** Control Program

## CSO Maintenance

Maintenance will be installing air blower lines in the wet well at Puritan-Fenkell. This unit will be able to suspend the solids which will aid in preventing grit build-up in the bottom of the wet wells. The WRRF Facilities team have been performing annual cleaning, more if needed, using the jet Vactor. It is not ideal to use, given the small workspace in the headworks at Puritan-Fenkell.

CSO O&M along with the WRRF Facilities team will be performing their spring cleaning of the outfall tunnel at St. Aubin Screening and Disinfection Facility (SDF).

The cleaning is performed in the spring and fall to remove settled solids. There is not a way to effectively flush the tunnel after wet weather. The bi-annual cleaning has been effective over the past few years.

Maintenance will be restoring the actuators for the chemical tank at Leib SDF. The old actuator failed a while ago, and a hand valve was replaced. To restore operations with the ability to control critical equipment and process remotely, the actuator for the main header line is needed.

## **CSO** Operations

Operations experienced discharge overflows from seven out of nine locations at the beginning of the month, totaling a combined volume of 1,307 MG of discharge CSO into the Detroit and Rouge Rivers. Conner Creek CSO was the only facility to discharge late in the month with a volume of 61 MG.

Operations plans to visit Macomb to discuss the in-line Total Residual Chlorine (TRC) analyzers for wet weather. There is currently a study being performed by the WRRF. Engineering and CSO Operations teams have been asked to weigh in on the matter. A site visit has been arranged to Macomb's Chapaton Pumping Station to speak with operations on how they use the analyzer, and to discuss pros and cons.



### WATER OPERATIONS

#### Water Quality

### Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)

GLWA is participating in a per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) study that began on March 27, 2023. The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) along with AECOM and GLWA's Water Quality Team will monitor for PFAS for 25 weeks along the Huron-to-Erie Corridor. The EGLE study should help determine if PFAS is in source water prior to treatment for Southeast Michigan.



PFAS is a diverse group of man-made chemicals used in a wide range of consumer and industrial products since 1940. For example, PFAS is used in stain and water-resistant clothing, carpeting, cleaning products, paints, firefighting foams, and non-stick pans for cooking. PFAS does not easily breakdown and some types have been shown to accumulate in the environment and in our bodies. We all must be aware of what is being poured down the drain so we can work together to protect our source water.

#### After Water Main Break and Hydrant Repairs Sampling - Part 1 of 3

Investigators Richard Hopkins, Diego Solis, and Doug Wybo II took the opportunity to sample their first water main repair to ensure the health integrity of the water system. The job was a water main and hydrant replacement at Curtis St. between Faust St. and the Southfield Freeway Service Drive. Their performance was excellent, as they took on different roles to complete the collection as a team.



Investigators Richard Hopkins, Diego Solis, and Doug Wybo II

Doug was selected to take the samples with Diego and Richard performing the chlorine residual check on the sample points. Doug contacted the inspector to set up the time to meet at the site to go over any issues that may occur. Upon arrival, GLWA investigators met with the contractor and began the collection.

The water quality investigator worked off of the job sketch with the inspector and checked all sample points to ensure they were running and accessible. After Diego and Richard made their way to each sample point to perform chlorine residual checks, Doug would then collect the bacteriological sample. The team completed the two consecutive sampling days with no complications.





R. Hopkins checking chlorine residual



D. Solis checking chlorine residual

D. Wybo II taking the bacteriological sample

#### **Respiratory Protection**

Respiratory protection is a requirement for all employees in GLWA. Examples of respiratory protection would be a half face respirator, full face respirator, and SCBA (self-contained breathing apparatus). Many of us work with chlorine and need protection from this chemical. When wearing a respirator or SCBA, proper fit is a must. Fit testing is done by GLWA's Safety Team. The proper

use of a respirator or SCBA for team members is no hair in sealing zone area of mask, which can mean a clean shave to make a great seal.

Inspection of a respirator and SCBA is done once a month by the team member on their respirator or sooner if used more often. Looking at the pictures above; the picture on the left shows Adedayo Ogunnupe and Dekobye White wearing their fullface respirators, and on the right is a firefighter wearing a SCBA.



## Lake Huron Water Treatment Plant

## Sludge Drying and Disposal

One of the important aspects of a water treatment plant operation is the disposal of sludge formed during the water purification process. At the Lake Huron Plant, they are blessed with 10 lagoons

where they collect sludge from their daily operation of filter washing and bi-annual cleaning of the settling basins. In the lagoons, water is decanted off the top of the sludge that settles. When a lagoon is full, they pile up the sludge for further dewatering. Because the landfill charges based on the weight of the sludge, this process of dewatering helps to save GLWA money by avoiding costs associated with mechanical dewatering. The dewatered sludge is then taken to the landfill for disposal.





#### Water Works Park

#### Sedimentation Basin 1A

The Water Works Park (WWP) Maintenance Team was able to complete the repair work for Sedimentation Basin1A ahead of schedule. WWP basins are in the Sedimentation Flocculation Process Area. Sludge is deposited daily into the basins.

WWP experienced a breakdown of Basin 1A due to sludge build up that caused one of the basin sludge collector chains, and flights to break. Flights are scrapers that scrape the basin floor to collect the sludge. Maintenance removed and replaced three broken flights; this process consisted of cutting out the nuts and bolts that were rusted. After the new flights were installed, Maintenance realigned the flights which required removing links from the flight chains. Afterwards, other hardware associated with the flights received an overall inspection. Additionally, the drive chain was inspected and tightened if found loose. Maintenance performed a walk-through of the basin and looked for any other issues that would hinder the operation of the basin. Since no issues were found, the maintenance technicians did a final test run of Basin 1A before releasing back to Operations.



Chemist Team Leader Wajid Khan at Sedimentation Basin 1A

#### Chemists Laboratory Dishwasher

The Water Works Park Maintenance Team replaced the VWR Chemists' laboratory dishwasher and connected the Thermo Distill to its process. The Thermo Distill is required by EGLE to keep detergents from forming in the bottles. This is why EGLE Auditors want the final rinse to be distilled water to avoid bacterial growth. The detergents have phosphates which act as food to the bacteria and algae.



The new glassware washer and distillation unit is more energy efficient, cost effective, and is simple and easy to operate. In addition, the condition of the cartridges is visible and easy to replace.



## Systems Control Center (SCC)





## Engineering

#### Employee Recognition

The Water Engineering Team would like to take a moment to recognize and say "Great job" to our newest team member, Corey Brecht. Corey has demonstrated what effective communication can accomplish when it comes to work.



As a Lifecycle Project Manager, Corey has been placed in charge of the 96" Main Relocation Project and has been doing an outstanding job inclusive of working with our member partners in the area to provide jobsite tours.

Below are a few photos from his most recent tour with our member partner, Rochester Hills staff.





### Project Spotlights

*Contract No. 2002193 – Southwest WTP Chlorine Scrubber and Raw Water Screens Replacement.* The contractor, Kokosing Industrial, is nearing the end of contract work for this project at the Southwest Water Treatment Plant. The three new raw water screens have been running since December 2022. This includes the booster pumps that were installed to pressurize the backwash water used to clean the screens of debris. The plant staff has been properly trained on the operation and maintenance of the screens and is operating them on a daily basis.

Related to the chlorine system, the new chlorine scales, emergency electrical equipment, and chlorine scrubber have been substantially installed. The chlorine scales have been calibrated to measure the remaining weight of chlorine in the pressurized cylinders as they dose into the treatment process. The electrical equipment consists of a new automatic transfer switch and motor control center. These connect the chlorine scrubber to two different electrical feeds – including the emergency generator – so that the chlorine scrubber will be powered in the event of an outage. The new chlorine scrubber has been installed and filled with the dry, granular scrubbing media. The chlorine scrubber is used in the event of a chlorine leak and removes the gaseous chlorine from the air prior to venting outside. Final testing and training of the chlorine scrubber will then be demolished, and the contractor will be addressing other punch list items prior to final completion.



Figure 2: The booster pumps (foreground) and raw water screens (background) including level monitors and control panel



*Figure 2:* The new motor control center (EMCC-2B-10) and automatic transfer switch (ATS-2)



Figure 3: New chlorine scrubber system including ductwork and blowers



## Contract No. DB-150 – Design-Build / Repair for Portions of the Pennsylvania, Springwells and Northeast Raw Water Tunnels (Phase 2)

All work for this low demand season has been completed (October 2022 – April 2023) which primarily consisted of work within the Pennsylvania Tunnel. The primary focus of work performed for this low demand season was the prep work for the Springwells Water Treatment Plant Tunnel and the stainless-steel liner plate installation in the Northeast Water Treatment Plant Tunnel. Stainless steel liner plate installation started in November 2022, beginning with inserting BURT (Ballard Underwater Ring Transporter) into the Northeast Tunnel access shaft. The contractor worked during overnight hours in reduced flow conditions of 60 MGD. Of the 463.5 linear feet of liner plates required for the Northeast Tunnel, the contractor has installed 414 linear feet. Installation of bulkheads every 50 feet have also been installed in preparation for grouting of the annulus space which will occur next low demand season (October 2023 – April 2024). The contractor has also verified the measurements required for the stainless-steel access shaft collars and closure piece for the Northeast Tunnel.

All work that required the use of BURT has been completed and the Underwater Ring Transporter has been removed from the Northeast Tunnel and has been shipped back to the Ballard shop to have maintenance performed in preparation for its use on the Springwells Tunnel next season.



Two of the three sections that make up one ring being lowered into access shaft



Stainless steel access shaft collar delivered





Removal of BURT from the Northeast Tunnel

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

In the past month, the IT Security team has proactively blocked or thwarted 51,056 spam messages, 13,836 spoofed messages and 15 viruses. Additionally, 3,878 phishing attempts have been caught and 3,566 malware attempts have been blocked.

The IT Business Productivity team, along with Organizational Development and Financial Services, continues to make good progress on our Workday implementation, which will replace our BS&A financial (FINS) system and the Ceridian Human Resource Management (HCM) system. Now that the baseline configuration is established, the timelines for HCM and FINS have diverged. HCM is progressing at a pace for a December 2023 launch, and FINS is on pace for a June 2024 launch. The HCM/payroll team has completed configuration testing and has launched end-to-end testing, during which business processes will be tested from start to finish. The FINS team is continuing configuration testing, which will be complete in mid-May. Both teams are also working on needed integrations with other systems.

The IT Infrastructure team, along with the IT Project Management team, has completed the implementation of the Cloud Backup Project. With the completion of the project GLWA is now retaining their data to Amazon Web Services. With implementation of the new technologies, all GLWA data is air gapped and immutable in the event of Ransomware.

The IT Enterprise Asset Management Systems team has completed upgrades to Power BI bringing it to the most current version, January 2023. By keeping Power BI up to date, the newest available features and functionality are available to report and dashboard creators across GLWA. In addition, the most current software delivers security patches that keeps GLWA's reporting data more secure. Currently, the IT PMO is managing 18 active projects and is processing three project requests. Additionally, the PMO team is providing assistance for 10 non-project initiatives.



## **PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

## Drinking Water Week

As part of Drinking Water Week, Public Affairs helped schedule and coordinate a tour of Water Works Park for a reporter from the Detroit Free Press, as well as one from the Daily Detroit podcast. GLWA's Chief Operating Officer of Water and Field Services Cheryl Porter led the tour. The final outcome was an article in the Detroit Free Press which praised the quality of GLWA's drinking water, and can be read by clicking <u>HERE</u>, as well as a segment on the Daily Detroit podcast.

#### **One Water News Drop**

Public Affairs has produced a new One Water News Drop focused on GLWA's Chief Operating Officer of Water and Field Services Cheryl Porter who has made history in the nation's largest organization for water professionals, being elected as the incoming president-elect of the American Water Works Association. You can watch the video by clicking <u>HERE</u>.



Tours Resume at Water Works Park and WRRF

For the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic, facility tours have resumed at Water Works Park Water Treatment Plant and the Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF). A new tours page on GLWA's public-facing website was created and has helped to streamline the tour booking process, which is coordinated by Public Affairs. Already we have seen an incredible interest in booking tours!



## PUBLIC AFFAIRS (continued)

## Young Professionals Initiatives

Public Affairs and Organizational Development have partnered to oversee the launch of two new Young Professionals (YP) initiatives: a YP-only Crucial Conversations Training course and a webinar preparing team members for progression and final performance evaluations. The webinar took place on April 13 with guest speaker Organizational Development Manager Pat Butler. There will be two Crucial Conversations training courses offered to YPs in May and June.

## Hurlbut Gate Restoration Video

Public Affairs captured video of the iconic stone Beaux-Arts eagle statue being returned to the top of the Hurlbut Memorial Gate located at GLWA's Water Works Park Water Treatment Plant. The statue and monument suffered extensive damage after being struck by lightning in 2019. The video was distributed alongside a news release about the ongoing restoration of the Hurlbut Gate. You can watch video of the installation by clicking <u>HERE</u>.



## **Open Enrollment Campaign – Team Member Photos**

Public Affairs once again teamed up with Organizational Development to help prepare for the upcoming 2024 Open Enrollment. Public Affairs gathered photos of team members for use in the 2024 One Water Wellness Open Enrollment Guide. The photos help show how GLWA's health and group benefits support the time spent with our loved ones.

## **SECURITY AND INTEGRITY**

The Hazmat Unit coordinated and completed a total of 323 hours of training during the month.

Security and Integrity attended the Flood Mitigation & Resiliency Planning meeting at Madonna University. The group also attended an informational sharing meeting with the FBI at the North Service Center, and attended the Detroit Local Emergency Planning Committee meeting.

Lastly, K-9 Officer Wright and Delta, along with other agencies, responded to Plymouth High School to search and secure the building during a bomb threat.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

## Performance Team

The FY23 Final Performance Reviews launched on April 26, 2023, and are due May 24, 2023.



## **ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT** (continued)

## **Apprenticeships**

**Apprentice Onboarding**: Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation (DESC)/Detroit At Work, the official Workforce Agency for the City of Detroit, is now a participant in GLWA's onboarding process for apprentices. Detroit at Work shares information with the apprentices on the various wrap-around services offered through their organization that can help overcome barriers to successful employment.

Water Technician: Two new water technician apprentices were added during April. GLWA currently has 14 water technician apprentices.

## Internship

GLWA has nine candidates who have accepted internship opportunities with GLWA. Four additional candidates are currently completing the pre-hire process. The Summer Internship program launched on Monday, May 1.

## Outreach

During April, GLWA recruited for GLWA's apprenticeships and internships at the following events:

- LinkedIn Career Fair
- Wayne Community College District Downriver
- Tri-County Adult Educational Center, Ferndale
- Western International High School Hiring Fair, Southwest Detroit

## **Benefits and Wellness**

## Blue Cross Blue Shield Wellness Wednesday Meditations

The April 2023 Blue Cross Blue Shield Meditations introduced GLWA team members to breathing techniques and spring scenery. Topics included:

- Relaxing Body Scan
- Sigh Breathing
- Morning Sunrise Along the St. Clair River
- Reflective Labyrinth Walk



## **ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT** (continued)

## Blue Cross Blue Shield Drop 5 Virtual Weight-Loss Community

The second quarter Blue Cross Blue Shield Drop 5 Virtual Weight-Loss Community introduced GLWA team members to legacy planning, physical activities, spotlight foods, recipes, and healthy living. April topics included:

- Estate Planning, Wills and Trusts
- Seven Tips for a Successful Garden
- o Popular Functional Training Moves Demonstration
- Brrrr! Take a Cold Plunge





## **MissionSquare Education Sessions**

MissionSquare retirement plan specialists held virtual and in-person education sessions at the Lake Huron Water Plant. GLWA team members were also able to review their retirement goals and portfolio performance with

MissionSquare one-on-one consultations.

## KAGLE Leadership Collaborative

GLWA team members held a Microsoft Teams virtual meeting on April 22 to follow up with approximately 40 high school and college students from Kagle Leadership Collaborative. They visited Water Works Park and were introduced to GLWA careers, and processes.

Kagle Leadership



## Friday is For Foodies!

GLWA team members were able to take part in a 3-part webinar series with the Health Alliance Plan (HAP) registered dietician, Debbie Cavender, RD. The series focused on foods and nutritional substances that can have

healing effects on the body. Participants also learned about foods that have been shown to be harmful, ways to lose weight naturally, and other science-based ways to help you live longer and avoid long-term illnesses.

## Training

During the month of April, 274 GLWA team members completed 29 safety courses and 25 nonsafety courses for a total of 354 instructor-led training hours. Also, 14 GLWA team members and four Member Partners completed 16 360Water online courses.



## **ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT** (continued)

## Staffing

The table below provides a breakdown of GLWA Team Members since the last CEO report:

| Number of New Hires                 | 25  |
|-------------------------------------|-----|
| Number of Separations               | 7   |
|                                     |     |
| Total Staffing - Regular FTEs (YTD) | 994 |
|                                     |     |

## Math Boot Camp

A total of 11 GLWA team members were enrolled in our 6-week Math Boot Camp. The students achieved an average score of 82 percent on the post-assessment. This is a 24 percent improvement from the 58 percent pre-assessment score. The participants were engaged in the instruction and engaged in problem solving during breakout sessions. The Math Boot Camp cohort was a success! The next cohort is scheduled to begin in June.

## FINANCIAL SERVICES AREA

## April 2023 Audit Committee Recap

The most recent regular monthly Audit Committee meeting was held on Friday, April 28, 2023. The GLWA Audit Committee binders are publicly available at www.glwater.org/financials/. The meeting included the following topics:

- ✓ Introduction of a series ordinance authorizing the issuance of a GLWA Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan second segment of the 96-inch water main relocation project (7532-02).
- ✓ Requests to recommend for Board approval two Drinking Water State Revolving Fund project plans, one relating to a DWSD Water Main Replacement and another relating to GLWA Transmission Main Metering for Detroit, Dearborn, and Highland Park in support of their application for possible FY 2024 State funding.
- Report that there is not a need for 3rd Quarter Budget Amendments. The budget continues to be monitored as we proceed into the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of FY 2023
- ✓ Review of the January 2023 Monthly Financial Report (Executive Summary attached).
- ✓ Monthly updates on the Business Inclusion and Diversity (B.I.D.) program, Charges Outreach and Modeling team efforts, and Affordability & Assistance team initiatives.
- ✓ Presentation of the Quarterly Gifts, Grants & Other Resources report through March 31, 2023, and a Shared Services update for activity through April 2023.
- ✓ A CFO update including emerging topics in utility finance, status on GLWA efforts to implement a Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) Framework, and updates regarding new State Revolving Loan Fund guidance regarding overburdened community status (formerly referred to as disadvantaged community status).
- ✓ Circulation of the latest Procurement Pipeline edition for April 2023. (Attached)



#### **Grant Management Training**

GLWA Grants & Intergovernmental Relations Manager Alicia Schwartz, Procurement Director Sonya Collins, and Procurement Management Professional Cynthia Nelson-Walters of the Financial Services Area along with GLWA Associate General Counsel Kirsten Silwanowicz attended the Annual Grants Training (AGT) the week of April 10 in Washington, D.C. AGT is a three-day, in-person event the National hosted by Grants Management Association. It is ideal for grant professionals at all career levels



Left to Right: GLWA Associate General Counsel Kirsten Silwanowicz, Grants & Intergovernmental Relations Manager Alicia Schwartz, and Procurement Management Professional Cynthia Nelson-Walters (not pictured Procurement Director Sonya Collins)

held and includes keynote speakers, plenary panels, over 40 breakout sessions, an exposition area and networking opportunities with other grants management professionals. Alicia and Kirsten stayed for extended training known as the Grants Management Body of Knowledge. This in-depth training assisted Alicia and Kirsten in gaining an understanding of the full grant lifecycle, from solicitation and evaluation of applications to closeout and audit. This important training included learning about laws, regulation and policies affecting federal grants as well as reviewing the latest updates to the Uniform Grants Guidance published at 2 CFR 200.



## Vendor Outreach Update



Left to Right: Procurement team members Michael Lasley, Megan Savage, Joan Salwasser, and Tina Clinkscales

April 28, 2023, On representatives from the GLWA Procurement Team, including Michael Lasley, Megan Savage, Joan Salwasser. Tina and Clinkscales, attended the 14th Annual Michigan Public Purchasing Officers Association (MPPOA) Fair Reverse Trade in Michigan. Lansing, The Reverse Trade Fair, which was held in-person at the Lansing Center, provided suppliers, contractors, and consultants with the opportunity to meet with procurement professionals from around the state of Michigan. Procurement

representatives from 29 publicly funded agencies, including GLWA, staffed the tables while over 100 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 large variety of new vendors, while vendors had an efficient and cost-effective way to meet with numerous agencies in a single place during a single day – no vendor booth required!

Throughout the day, 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 fulfill the requirements for GLWA's Business Inclusion and Diversity (B.I.D.) Program. As always, GLWA welcomed the opportunity to meet with so many new and familiar faces within the Vendor Community and thanks the MPPOA for hosting the event.



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

In early April, Charges Outreach and Modeling (CO&M) Manager Matt Lane completed the Accounting and Rate Setting course through the Institute of Public Utilities at Michigan State University. He was joined in this three-day class by finance and regulatory staff from utilities and public service commissions from across the country. He was able to network with colleagues from various organizations including water & sewer utilities, electric utilities, railroad commissions, industry regulators and even the Postal Regulatory Commission.



MICHIGAN STATE



In addition to on-going training and development, Matt has also been able to contribute to the quarterly trade magazine, Water Works News, as an active member of the American Water Works Association -Michigan Section Communications Council. In the Spring 2023 Edition published in April, he provided a teaser for a new semi-annual feature article series titled," *Water Warriors: Teams on the Frontline of Water Quality.*" This series will tell stories of teamwork and problem-solving from utilities across

the state, including GLWA. The articles will be featured in the Spring and Fall editions.

## Affordability & Assistance Update

GLWA has sent out email communications and mailed letters to Member Partner Communities to encourage them to take advantage of available funding through the Low-Income Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). LIHWAP is a statewide program that is federally funded and administered through the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS). Communities must formally opt-in to the program for their residents to access available funding. LIHWAP covers past due balances and arrearages and is delivered through community action agencies. WRAP Service Delivery Partners leverage both LIHWAP and WRAP for residents of the GLWA service area.







Affordability & Assistance Manager Madison Merzlyakov was able to take advantage of a new training offered this month through the Michigan Section of the American Water Works Association (MI-AWWA) Michigan Water Academy on Management and Supervision. She joined fellow GLWA team members and other representatives from Michigan communities in learning about leadership styles and managing today's diverse workforce.

#### **Procurement Pipeline**

Attached in the CEO's Report is the April Procurement Pipeline issue. This month's edition includes the Procurement Tip of the Month, "What to Expect from a Solicitation Debriefing Meeting," as well as details on forthcoming GLWA vendor outreach events, who to contact for virtual vendor introduction meetings, and a list of upcoming solicitations.

The General Counsel's May Report is an attachment to the Chief Executive Officer's Report

Respectfully submitted,

Suganne R. Coller

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

SRC/dlr Attachments

- January 2023 Executive Summary
- April 2023 Procurement Pipeline
- General Counsel Report





## **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. Budget amendments are prepared and presented quarterly based on most current information. This report reflects second quarter budget amendments recommended to the GLWA Board of Directors by the GLWA Audit Committee on February 24, 2023, reviewed by the GLWA Board of Directors at their March 24, 2023 Board of Directors meeting, and currently scheduled for approval on the April 26, 2023 GLWA Board of Directors meeting consent agenda.

For the current period, investment income, water capital spend, and sewer capital spend all reflect variances to budget outside the normal range. GLWA staff will continue to monitor these areas to see if additional budget amendments will be necessary.

| As of January 31, 2023                         |                   |                              |                   |                                 |                          |
|--|-------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Metric   | FY 2023<br>Budget | FY 2023<br>Amended<br>Budget | FY 2023<br>Actual | Variance from<br>Financial Plan | Report Page<br>Reference |
| Wholesale Water Billed Revenue (\$M)           | \$201.0           | \$201.0                      | \$202.7           | 1%                              | 47                       |
| Wholesale Water Billed Usage (mcf)             | 8,206,000         | 8,206,000                    | 8,323,000         | 1%                              |                          |
| Wholesale Sewer Billed Revenue (\$M)           | \$160.2           | \$160.2                      | \$160.2           | 0%                              | 49                       |
| Wholesale Water Operations & Maintenance (\$M) | \$84.5            | \$87.0                       | \$89.5            | 3%                              | 5                        |
| Wholesale Sewer Operations & Maintenance (\$M) | \$107.4           | \$118.5                      | \$114.9           | -3%                             | 5                        |
| Investment Income (\$M)                        | \$1.3             | \$19.0                       | \$14.8            | -22%                            | 36                       |
| Water Prorated Capital Spend w/SRA* (\$M)      | \$90.7            | \$131.7                      | \$117.4           | -11%                            | 28                       |
| Sewer Prorated Capital Spend w/SRA* (\$M)      | \$73.5            | \$81.3                       | \$53.8            | -34%                            | 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 52)



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 \$2.6 million and DWSD Sewer reports a surplus of \$5.1 million of net receipts over disbursements through January 2023.

All amounts are unaudited unless otherwise noted. 1

GLWA Audit Committee April 28, 2023





2

## Budget to Actual Analysis (page 3)

- FY 2023 information includes the second quarter budget amendments which were presented at the February 24, 2023, Audit Committee meeting and further recommended to the GLWA Board for adoption.
- The total Revenue Requirements are on target through January 2023.
- The total overall Operations & Maintenance expenses are at 58.0% of budget through January 2023 which is slightly below the pro-rata benchmark of 58.3%. This positive variance equates to a dollar amount of \$1.1 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 2023 is \$49.9 million for the Water fund (23.1% of total revenues) and \$65.7 million for the Sewer fund (23.5 % of total revenues).
- Water Net Position increased by \$ 13.3 million, and Sewage Disposal Net Position increased by \$ 16.5 million for the year to date through January 2023.

## Capital Improvement Plan Financial Summary (page 28)

- The Water system exceeds the amended 116.2% Capital Spend Ratio assumption.
- The Sewer system falls short of the amended 110.7% Capital Spend Ratio assumption.

## Master Bond Ordinance Transfers (page 31)

- For January, transfers of \$13.7 million and \$19.0 million were completed for the GLWA Water and Sewer funds, respectively.
- Also, for January, transfers of \$6.0 million and \$6.0 million were completed for the DWSD Water and Sewer funds, respectively.

## Cash Balances & Investment Income (page 37)

- Total cash & investments are \$535 million for Water and \$619 million in the Sewer fund.
- Total, combined, cumulative, FY 2023 investment income through January is \$14.8 million.

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

- Water usage through January 31, 2023 is 109.84% and revenues are 106.20% of budget.
- Sewer usage through January 31, 2023 is 105.11% and revenues are 101.52% of budget.
- Combined accounts receivable balances for the water and sewer funds report an increase of \$55.4 million over the prior year.
- Past dues over 180 days make up of 68.5% the total accounts receivable balance. The current bad debt allowance covers 96.2% of past dues over 60 days.

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

- GLWA accounts receivable past due balance net of Highland Park is 16.50% 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 \$54.3 million. It includes \$40.8 million for wastewater treatment services, \$1.8 million for industrial waste control services, and \$11.7 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 \$3.0 million as of January 31, 2023.

**Questions?** Contact the Office of the Chief Financial Officer at <u>CFO@glwater.org.</u>



Procurement Pipeline

#### **Great Lakes Water Authority** (313) 964-9157

www.glwater.org

April 2023 - Volume 47

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).

## *Procurement Tip of the Month*: What to Expect from a Solicitation Debriefing Meeting

Vendors not selected for award may elect to request a solicitation debrief meeting with GLWA Procurement. The purpose of solicitation debriefing meetings is for Procurement to provide Evaluation Team feedback on the Vendor's response so that they may gain insight for improving future solicitation responses.

Debriefing meetings include GLWA Procurement Team member(s) as well as Vendor attendees. During the meeting, Vendors may expect to receive the following.

- ✓ An explanation of GLWA's evaluation and award process;
- An assessment of their proposal in relation to the solicitation's evaluation criteria, including feedback on suggested improvements as well as areas in which the Vendor's response met or exceeded expectations;
- ✓ A general understanding of the basis of the award decision; and
- ✓ The rationale for not moving forward in the evaluation process.

Debriefing meetings are reserved for Request for Proposal (RFP) solicitations, including those where a Qualification Based Selection (QBS) method was used. This means that vendors were selected for award based on their qualifications and competence in relation to the scope and needs of a particular project, rather than based on price alone.

To protect the integrity of GLWA's procurement process, solicitation debriefing meetings can only be conducted *after* the solicitation contract and/or purchase order has been executed and only if you responded to the solicitation. Feedback from vendors who have participated in this process has been very positive. Please note that buyers cannot discuss responses from other Vendors. If you have any additional questions on this matter or are interested to schedule a solicitation debriefing meeting, please contact the Buyer of Record for the solicitation.

## Virtual Vendor Introduction Meetings

If you are interested in learning more about doing business with GLWA, contact us at <u>GLWAVendorOutreach@glwater.org</u> to schedule a virtual vendor introduction meeting. Topics include information on submitting a competitive bid or proposal to any GLWA solicitation.

#### Where to Meet GLWA

GLWA attends vendor outreach events throughout southeastern Michigan. We welcome you to visit us at the following upcoming events.

- Michigan Public Purchasing Officers Association (MPPOA) Reverse Trade Fair. April 28. The Lansing Center, Lansing MI. 10:30am-3pm. Registration details <u>here</u>.
- Michigan Minority Supplier Development Council (MMSDC) 2023 Michigan Minority Procurement Conference. May 2-4. Huntington Center, Detroit. Register <u>here</u>.

## 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 2023 Monthly Report, please <u>click here</u>.

## What's Coming Down the Pipe?

*Current Solicitations:* Register in GLWA's <u>Bonfire</u> <u>Procurement Portal</u> 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 <u>www.glwater.org</u> or contact us via email at <u>procurement@glwater.org</u>.

## **Upcoming Solicitations April 2023**

| Category                                      | CIP #        | Description/Project Title                                  | Budget<br>Estimate      |  |  |  |
|---|--------------|--|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| Water System (next four to nine months)       |              |  |                         |  |  |  |
| N/A   |              |  |                         |  |  |  |
| Wastewater Systems (next four to nine months) |              |  |                         |  |  |  |
| Construction                                  | 211005.2     | WRRF Pump Station 2 VFD Replacements                       | \$7,000,000             |  |  |  |
| Construction                                  | 232002       | Freud & Connor Creek Pump Station Improvements             | \$75,000,000            |  |  |  |
| Design-Bid-Build                              | 261001       | WRRF Rehabilitation of Secondary Clarifiers                | \$6,000,000             |  |  |  |
|   |              | Pump Station No. 2 Bar Racks Replacement and Grit          |                         |  |  |  |
| Construction                                  | 211007       | Collection System Improvements                             | \$82,000,000            |  |  |  |
| Water System (next th                         | ree months)  |  |                         |  |  |  |
|   |              | Reservoir Rehabilitation Construction Services Phase II at |                         |  |  |  |
| Construction                                  | 170802       | Waterworks Park, Northeast, and Booster Stations.          | \$35,972,000            |  |  |  |
| Wastewater (next thre                         | e months)    |  |                         |  |  |  |
|   |              |  |                         |  |  |  |
| Construction                                  | 260209       | Emergency and Urgent Sewer Repair II                       | \$12,400,000            |  |  |  |
| Construction                                  | 211005.3     | WRRF Pump Station 2 Mag Meter Replacements                 | \$1,000,000             |  |  |  |
| Construction                                  | 260802       |  | \$4,300,000             |  |  |  |
| Projects moved to Pro                         | curement Tea | m (Preparing for solicitation on Bonfire)                  |                         |  |  |  |
| Professional Services                         | 0&M          | CSO Facility Accusonic Meter Maintenance                   | \$3,000,000             |  |  |  |
| Professional Services                         | 0&M          | Engineering Staff Augmentation                             | \$7,000,000             |  |  |  |
|   |              | Property and Casualty Insurance Brokerage and Ancillary    |                         |  |  |  |
| Professional Services                         | 0&M          | Services   | \$1,250,000             |  |  |  |
| Professional Services                         | 0&M          | Grounds Maintenance Services                               | \$4,600,000             |  |  |  |
| T TOICSSIONAL SET VICES                       | OQM          |  | ¥ <del>1</del> ,000,000 |  |  |  |
| Professional Services                         | 0&M          | Motor Repair Contract                                      | \$1,800,000             |  |  |  |
| 1 TOTESSTOTIAL DEL VICES                      | - Cali       |  | \$1,000,000             |  |  |  |
| Professional Services                         | 0&M          | Pump Repair Contract                                       | \$1,650,000             |  |  |  |
|   | - Cali       |  | \$1,000,000             |  |  |  |
| Professional Services                         | 0&M          | Instrumentation and Controls Contract                      | \$3,011,840             |  |  |  |
|   |              |  |                         |  |  |  |
| Professional Services                         | 0&M          | Electrical Maintenance Services                            | \$4,127,300.00          |  |  |  |
| Drafaggional Commission                       | 0.6 М        | Overhead Deer Dreventative Maintenance and Develop         | ¢000 000 00             |  |  |  |
| Professional Services                         | 0&M          | Overhead Door Preventative Maintenance and Repairs         | \$980,000.00            |  |  |  |

Vendors should continue to monitor <u>Bonfire</u> for solicitation updates.

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



## Office of the General Counsel - May 24, 2023

- *Legislative Updates*: The Office is also monitoring infrastructure spending bills at the federal and state level.
- *Gordie Howe International Bridge*: GLWA filed a notice of claim with the Court of Claims related to its relocation claim.
- *June and July Rain Events:* The Office is providing legal support in response to the significant rain events in June and July. Recently, the trial court dismissed most of the lawsuits against GLWA based on governmental immunity. The Plaintiffs are appealing the decision.
- *Trenton Water Main*: The Office is negotiating the transfer of the 24-inch water main to GLWA.
- *Contract Negotiations:* Office staff completed the Designated Management Agreement with SEMCOG. The Office is negotiating 30-year wastewater disposal services contracts with sewer member partners that do not have a model contract.
- *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 is drafting a record retention policy for GLWA, which will be submitted to the State in the coming months.
- *Industrial Pretreatment Program ("IPP")*: The Office also continues to provide assistance on PFAS and PFOS matters, including comments on the new drinking water regulations.
- *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, including a class action lawsuit regarding IWC charges. GLWA received a favorable

ruling against Highland Park in the 2014 litigation, restoring GLWA's judgment against Highland Park. Recently, the Michigan Supreme Court denied Highland Park's application for leave to appeal. As a result, GLWA submitted a motion for entry of the judgment against Highland Park, which is currently pending. In the 2020 case against Highland Park, the Michigan Court of Appeals denied Highland Park's leave application challenging the trial court order requiring Highland Park to pay 65 percent of its receipts to GLWA. Through mediation, GLWA settled the *Antijuan Lacy v Argonaut-Midwest Insurance Company*, a no-fault lawsuit, for 33,000.

- *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.

#### Statistics:

| Contracts approved as to form:           | 40  |
|--|-----|
| Contracts drafted or revised:            | 127 |
| Subpoenas/Information requests received: | 7   |
| Subpoenas/Information responded to:      | 7   |