

A regular meeting of the Gratiot Area Water Authority was held at the Alma Public Library and called to order at 12:07 p.m. by Chairman Kurt Giles. A quorum of the Authority Board was present.

*Roll Call*

Authority Board members present: Kurt Giles, Aeric Ripley, Roxann Harrington and Kasey Zehner.

Authority Board members absent: Bill Leonard and Kevin Palmer.

Others present: David Ringle and Doug Sierakowski.

*Approval of Agenda*

**Motion by Authority Member Ripley, seconded by Authority Member Harrington, to approve the Agenda.**

**Motion carried with a voice vote.**

**Aye:** Giles, Ripley, Harrington and Zehner.

**Nay:** None.

**Absent:** Leonard and Palmer.

*Approval of Minutes*

**Motion by Authority Member Palmer, seconded by Authority Member Ripley, to approve the minutes of February 9, 2024. Motion carried with a voice vote.**

**Aye:** Giles, Ripley, Harrington and Zehner.

**Nay:** None.

**Absent:** Leonard and Palmer.

*Communications*

*Requests for Payment*

*Requests for Purchase*

Chairman Giles offered discussion on quotes for battery replacement for the Uninterruptable Power Supply system. Brief discussion followed.

**Motion by Authority Member Ripley, seconded by Authority Member Harrington, to approve the lowest bid from Vertiv for the battery. Motion carried with a voice vote.**

**Aye:** Giles, Ripley, Harrington and Zehner.

**Nay:** None.

**Absent:** Leonard and Palmer.

*Recommendations on Bids*

*New Business*

**Resolution 2024-001**  
GRATIOT AREA WATER AUTHORITY  
2024-2025 Operating Budget

Minutes of the regular meeting of the Gratiot Area Water Authority Board (GAWA Board) held at the City of Alma Municipal Building, 525 E. Superior Street, Alma, Michigan held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024, at 12:00 p.m.

**Present:** Kurt Giles, Aeric Ripley, Roxann Harrington, and Kasey Zehner.

**Absent:** Bill Leonard and Kevin Palmer.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Harrington and seconded by Member Zehner.

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the Gratiot Area Water Authority Articles of Incorporation, ARTICLE XI.C., the Board shall, prior to March 1 of each year, prepare, adopt and file with the legislative bodies of the Constituent Municipalities, an annual budget for the next fiscal year covering the proposed expenditures to be made for the organization and operation of the Authority, and

**WHEREAS**, the Finance Committee has submitted and filed with the Gratiot Area Water Authority Board (Board) a proposed estimate of revenues and operating expenses for 2024-25 fiscal year on April 12, 2024. Lateness of this budget being due to time constraints and workload of available respective staff.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, the Board does hereby adopt the operating budget as presented and attached Said Total Operating Expenses being \$1,263,544, with total expenses including depreciation expected to be \$2,188,544.

Ayes: Giles, Ripley, Harrington, and Zehner.  
Nays: none.  
Absent: Leonard and Palmer.

**Resolution declared adopted this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.**

**Resolution 2024-002**  
GRATIOT AREA WATER AUTHORITY  
Wholesale Water Rate Change

Minutes of a Regular meeting of the Gratiot Area Water Authority held at the City of Alma Meeting Room, 525 E Superior St. Alma, County of Gratiot, Michigan held on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024, at 12:00 P.M.

Present: Kurt Giles, Aeric Ripley, Roxann Harrington, and Kasey Zehner.  
Absent: Bill Leonard and Kevin Palmer.

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Zehner and supported by Member Harrington.

**WHEREAS**, the Gratiot Area Water Authority has determined that all operational costs will be covered by rates each year and as much of depreciation shall be funded as possible without causing an unreasonable increase in fees.

**WHEREAS**, the Gratiot Area Water Authority has tasked its Finance Committee to recommend a rate reflective of such desires, and such committee has offered a recommendation of an increase.

**NOW THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED**, the Gratiot Area Water Authority Board of Directors will set the wholesale water rates to the cities of Alma and St. Louis at \$3.45 per thousand-gallon unit, effective with service beginning July 1, 2024.

Ayes: Giles, Ripley, Harrington, and Zehner.  
Nays: none.  
Absent: Leonard and Palmer.

**Resolution declared adopted this 12<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024.**

Chairman Giles offered discussion the Five-year Capital Improvement Program. David Ringle, Director of Public Services, spoke about the program. The second clarifier should be about done soon with repainting and upgrades. The city is waiting to put bids out again for security upgrades. David mentioned possibly having the Department of Public Works do some of the work for now since we had problems getting bids for the project. He has been talking with one of the vendors to work through some of the issues of the bid.

**Motion by Authority Member Zehner, seconded by Authority Member Harrington, to approve the Five-year Capital Improvement Program. Motion carried with a voice vote.**

Aye: Giles, Ripley, Harrington and Zehner.  
Nay: None.  
Absent: Leonard and Palmer.

Chairman Giles offered discussion on support renewal for the VTScada license. Brief discussion followed.

**Motion by Authority Member Harrington, seconded by Authority Member Zehner, to approve the support renewal for the VTScada license. Motion carried with a voice vote.**

Aye: Giles, Ripley, Harrington and Zehner.  
Nay: None.  
Absent: Leonard and Palmer.

*Unfinished Business*

*Reports*

Chairman Giles offered discussion on the Water Production Reports. Brief discussion followed.

Chairman Giles offered discussion on the Financial Statements through March 31, 2024. Brief discussion followed.

Chairman Giles offered discussion on the email update from John Willemin of Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber regarding the SLWSR project. Brief discussion followed.

**Motion by Authority Member Ripley, seconded by Authority Member Harrington, to receive the Water Production Reports, March 2024 Financial Statements, and SLWSR Construction Update. Motion carried with a voice vote.**

Aye: Giles, Ripley, Harrington and Zehner.  
Nay: None.  
Absent: Leonard and Palmer.

*Appropriations*

**Motion by Authority Member Zehner, seconded by Authority Member Harrington, to approve and ratify the claims and accounts for February 2024 in the amount of \$171,256.20. Motion carried with a voice vote.**

Aye: Giles, Ripley, Harrington and Zehner.  
Nay: None.

**Absent:** Leonard and Palmer.

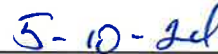
*Public Comment*

*Adjournment*

**Motion by Authority Member Ripley, seconded by Authority Member Harrington, to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Giles adjourned the meeting at 12:43 p.m.**



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Kim Fellows, Recording Secretary



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Date of Approval