

A regular meeting of the Gratiot Area Water Authority was held at the Alma Public Library and called to order at 12:03 p.m. by Chairman Kurt Giles. A quorum of the Authority Board was present.

Roll Call

Authority Board members present: Kurt Giles, Aeris Ripley, Roxann Harrington, Bill Leonard, and Jim Wheeler.

Authority Board members absent: None.

Others present: Dave Ringle and Keith Risdon.

Approval of Agenda

Motion by Authority Member Ripley, seconded by Authority Member Wheeler, to approve the Agenda. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Aye: Giles, Ripley, Harrington, Leonard, and Wheeler.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Authority Member Ripley, seconded by Authority Member Wheeler, to approve the minutes of March 10, 2023. Motion carried with a voice vote.

Aye: Giles, Ripley, Harrington, Leonard, and Wheeler.

Nay: None.

Absent: None.

Communications

Requests for Payment

Requests for Purchase

New Business

Resolution 2023-0001
GRATIOT AREA WATER AUTHORITY
2022-2023 Operating Budget

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

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 2023-24 fiscal year on May 11, 2023. Lateness of this budget being due to extenuating circumstances of 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 \$1,205,557.00, with total expenses including depreciation expected to be \$2,130,557.00.

Ayes: Giles, Ripley, Harrington, Leonard and Wheeler.

Nays: none.
Absent: none.

Resolution declared adopted this 11th day of May 2023.

Resolution 2023-0002
GRATIOT AREA WATER AUTHORITY
Wholesale Water Rate Change

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

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 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 \$3.28 per thousand-gallon unit, effective with service beginning July 1, 2023.

Ayes: Giles, Ripley, Harrington, Leonard, Reed, and Wheeler.
Nays: none.
Absent: none.

Resolution declared adopted this 11th day of May 2023.

Unfinished Business

Chairman Giles offered discussion on the design work for the security upgrades at the Water Plant. Dave Ringle, Public Services Director, discussed the options which include glazing the windows, installing metal doors, or etching on the glass bullet resistant glass. Bollards will be placed at the entrance to prevent vehicles from driving into the building. Dave will have Fishbeck, Thompson, Carr & Huber get the specs ready for bids.

Motion by Authority Member Harrington, seconded by Authority Member Wheeler, to move forward with design option #3 for security upgrades at the Water Plant.

Aye: Giles, Ripley, Harrington, Leonard, and Wheeler.
Nay: none.
Absent: none.

Reports

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

Chairman Giles offered discussion on the Financial Statements through April 30, 2023. 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 Wheeler, seconded by Authority Member Leonard, to receive the March 2023 through April 2023 Water Production Reports, March 2023 through April 2023 Financial Statements, and SLWSR Construction Update. Motion carried with a voice vote.

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

Appropriations

Motion by Authority Member Wheeler, seconded by Authority Member Ripley, to approve and ratify the claims and accounts for March 2023 through April 2023 in the amount of \$176,596.80. Motion carried with a voice vote.

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

Public Comment


Authority Member Ripley asked to rescind the motion to approve the previous meetings minutes at the beginning as presented. Member Ripley then moved to approve the minutes with the recommended amendments.

Motion by Authority Member Ripley, seconded by Authority Member Leonard, to approve the minutes of March 10, 2023, as amended. Motion carried with a voice vote.

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

Adjournment

Motion by Authority Member Ripley, seconded by Authority Member Leonard, to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Giles adjourned the meeting at 12:28 p.m.



Kim Fellows, Recording Secretary



Date of Approval