

A regular meeting of the Gratiot Area Water Authority was held at the Alma Public Library and called to order at 12:02 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, Bill Leonard, and Jim Wheeler.

Authority Board members absent: None.

Others present: Dave Ringle and Keith Risdon.

*Approval of Agenda*

**Motion by Authority Member Leonard, seconded by Authority Member Harrington, 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 Harrington, seconded by Authority Member Leonard, to approve the minutes of July 14, 2023. Motion carried with a voice vote.**

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

**Nay:** None.

**Absent:** None.

*Communications*

**Motion by Authority Member Harrington, seconded by Authority Member Wheeler, to receive the letter from the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy regarding approval of the Gratiot Area Water Authority Source Water Protection Plan.**

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

**Nay:** None.

**Absent:** None.

*Requests for Payment*

*Requests for Purchase*

*New Business*

Chairman Giles offered discussion on the proposal from Nelson Tank Engineering & Consulting, Inc. to paint and repair the northern clarifier. Dave Ringle, Director of Public Services, mentioned the budget for this project would be around \$250,000.00. Dave will work on getting prices to share at the next meeting.

**Motion by Authority Member Wheeler, seconded by Authority Member Ripley, to accept the consulting services from Nelson Tank Engineering & Consulting, Inc. Motion carried with a voice vote.**

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

**Nay:** None.

**Absent:** None.

Chairman Giles offered discussion on the Arcada area Groundwater level monitoring. There are three wells being monitored for groundwater levels. Monitoring will probably continue for the next two years, and then the Authority can reevaluate if it is necessary to continue. Chairman Giles said they should have a proposal for the next meeting to discuss.

Chairman Giles offered discussion about moving the monthly water authority meetings to quarterly. Other members agreed that it might be a good idea to change the meeting times. Authority Member Wheeler mentioned this would be his last meeting and would be submitting a letter of resignation.

Chairman Giles offered discussion about replacing the Internet switch from an 8 port to a 12 port so that St. Louis has access to the SCADA system at the water plant. Chairman Giles would like to look at a 24 port. Dave Ringle, Director of Public Services, it would cost around \$2,500 to \$4,000.

**Motion by Authority Member Wheeler, seconded by Authority Member Harrington, to approve replacing the Internet switch. Motion carried with a voice vote.**

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

**Nay:** None.

**Absent:** None.

#### *Unfinished Business*

Chairman Giles offered discussion on the Fishbeck proposal for the conceptual design services for security upgrades at the water plant. Brief discussion followed.

**Motion by Authority Member Harrington, seconded by Authority Member Ripley, to approve a request for conceptual design services for security upgrades to the water plant. Motion carried with a voice vote.**

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

**Nay:** None.

**Absent:** None.

#### *Reports*

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

Chairman Giles offered discussion on the Financial Statements through October 31, 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 Ripley, seconded by Authority Member Harrington, to receive the Water Production Reports, August 2023 through October 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 Harrington, seconded by Authority Member Ripley, to approve and ratify the claims and accounts for August 2023 through October 2023 in the amount of \$246,009.83. Motion carried with a voice vote.**

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

**Nay:** None.

**Absent:** None.

#### *Public Comment*

*Adjournment*

**Motion by Authority Member Wheeler, seconded by Authority Member Ripley, to adjourn the meeting. Chairman Giles adjourned the meeting at 12:35 p.m.**



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Kim Fellows, Recording Secretary



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Date of Approval