



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 6, 2020

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GREAT LAKES WATER AUTHORITY BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTS NEW CHAIR; WELCOMES NEW WAYNE COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE

Mott Community College President Beverly Walker-Griffea to serve as Chair; John J. Zech is regional authority's newest member and Vice Chair

DETROIT - The Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) Board of Directors has elected Beverly Walker-Griffea, PhD., the board representative for the state of Michigan as its new chair. The Board is also pleased to announce that John J. Zech has been appointed by Wayne County Executive Warren Evans to serve as the Wayne County representative on the Authority's Board of Directors and will serve as its vice chair.

Dr. Walker-Griffea joined the Authority as the state of Michigan representative in September 2019. She brings more than 30 years of experience in higher education and is the current president of Mott Community College. Walker-Griffea is very active in the Flint community, with various organizational involvements including the Greater Flint Health Coalition Board of Directors, Metro Community Development Board of Directors, McLaren-Flint Health Care Board of Trustees, Carriage Town Ministry Board of Trustees, and chair of The Ivy House Board of Directors. She also previously served as a member of the Flint City Water Response Team.

Zech has more than 40 years of public service experience, serving in leadership roles with a number of communities across southeast Michigan including the cities of Wayne, Allen Park, Lincoln Park, Plymouth and Southgate.

He is active in the community, currently serving on the St. Mary of Wayne Catholic Church Finance Council and as a member of the Growth Works, Inc. Board of Directors, and previously served on the Board of Directors for the Michigan Municipal League. Zech has earned Life Membership status with the International City Management Association. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from the University of Detroit.

"John's years of municipal leadership experience and his understanding of the myriad of issues that face local government make him the ideal candidate for the position, and we welcome him to the board," said Dr. Beverly Walker-Griffea, chair, GLWA board. "From the board's regional perspective, we look forward to working with John and hearing his

viewpoint as we continue our mission of providing water of unquestionable quality and efficient and effective wastewater to the people of southeast Michigan.”

The Board elected new officers, and Zech was appointed, as a result of the passing of Wayne County Representative Abe A. Munfakh in March 2020.

Oakland County Representative Jaye Quadrozzi remains in her role as board secretary.

The current GLWA board is comprised of the following members:

- Beverly Walker-Griffea, Ph.D., board chair; representative for the state of Michigan
- John J. Zech, vice chair; representative for Wayne County
- Jaye Quadrozzi, board secretary; representative for Oakland County
- Brian Baker, director; representative for Macomb County
- Freman Hendrix, director; board representative for the city of Detroit
- Gary A. Brown, director; board representative for the city of Detroit

For more information on GLWA, please visit www.glwater.org.

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About the Great Lakes Water Authority

The Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) is the provider-of-choice for drinking water services to nearly 40 percent and efficient and effective wastewater services to nearly 30 percent of Michigan’s population. With the Great Lakes as source water, GLWA is uniquely positioned to provide those it serves with water of unquestionable quality. GLWA also has the capacity to extend its service beyond its 88 member partner communities. As part of its commitment to water affordability, the Authority offers a Water Residential Assistance Program to assist low-income households in participating member communities throughout the system. GLWA’s board includes one representative each from Oakland, Macomb and Wayne counties, two representatives from the city of Detroit and one appointed by the Michigan governor to represent customer communities outside of the tri-county area.

