



GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA DATE: August 26, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: Consider a motion to confirm the hiring of Mark Saunders as a temporary part-time WWTP Laboratory Technician.

PREPARED BY: Julie Kennedy, General Manager

BACKGROUND:

The temporary part-time WWTP Laboratory Technician will provide immediate support to the current wastewater staff team members for a three-month period following the departure of WW Manager on September 8, 2026. Attached is the scope of services to be performed by a temporary, part-time WWTP Laboratory Technician.

Mark holds a class A wastewater operator license and has previously assisted GRPU during times of staff transition. Mark's historical experience of the GRPU wastewater operations allows him to step in and immediately provide the level of knowledge required to meet the rigorous sampling and testing necessary to maintain compliance with our NPDES permit.

The rate of pay will be \$125.00 per hour for no more than 10 hours per week from September 1 to November 30, 2026. This is a temporary part-time position. There is no expectation of continued employment, in this capacity, at the completion of the one-month period.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve hiring Mark Saunders as a temporary part-time WWTP Laboratory Technician.