



GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA DATE: August 26, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: Consider a motion to confirm the resignation of Water-Wastewater Manager Steve Mattson, approve the Operations Manager job description and authorize staff to begin recruitment.

PREPARED BY: Julie Kennedy, General Manager

BACKGROUND:

Steve Mattson, Wastewater Operations Director, submitted notice of his resignation, with his last day of employment at GRPU being September 8, 2026. Steve has provided valuable support to GRPU's wastewater and water operations, and staff extend their appreciation for his service and contributions to the Utility and wish him well in his next endeavor.

Over the past several months, staff, the personnel committee, and the Commission have been actively reviewing the organizational restructuring process which is part of the FM 6 goal established by the Commission in the 2026-2030 strategic plan. As discussed during the July work session, GRPU HR and management staff recommend re-aligning the duties of the electric and water-wastewater manager positions into new roles: Operations Manager and Compliance and Program Manager. This restructuring is designed to achieve better alignment and focus on the essential service demands that our organization must meet.

The Operations Manager job description is attached for your review. GRPU staff recommends moving forward by starting the recruitment process for the Operations Manager position at this time. The Compliance and Program Manager hiring timeline will be determined in the coming months.

RECOMMENDATION:

Confirm the resignation of Water-Wastewater Manager Steve Mattson, approve the Operations Manager job description, and authorize an internal posting and external recruitment process, if needed.