



GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA DATE: April 22, 2026

AGENDA ITEM: Consider a motion to ratify the procurement contract with Graybar Inc. for a Yaskawa 180 amp variable frequency drive for the industrial screen house for \$11,134.07.

PREPARED BY: Steve Mattson, Water/Wastewater Department Manager

BACKGROUND:

This procurement is for an approved Water Wastewater capital project with a budget of \$20,745. \$0 has been spent to date.

The asset management plan on the screen house identified that all 4 of the current variable frequency drives (VFD) are beyond their usual life and require replacement. GRPU is planning a phased replacement approach over the next few years to get the VFD's modernized.

The GRPUC Procurement Policy was followed. GRPU has two quotes for identical Yaskawa VFD's from two different suppliers and also a quote for a similar sized VFD from another manufacturer (Schneider). GRPU is choosing the low quote for the Yaskawa VFD for the following reasons:

Yasakawa has the reputation for extremely long life and low failure rates. The existing Yaskawa VFD's have been functioning a long time in the warm and moist environment of the industrial screen house. Published mean time between failures figures can exceed 20 years, which is amongst the highest in the industry. The heavy-duty design of coated boards, vibration resistance and high temperature components make them strong in harsh environments such as wastewater and pulp. Furthermore, it is widely considered easy to program and commission which makes it a good fit for typical maintenance staff. It is known to be mid-range cost with premium reliability.

The vendor's Certificate of Insurance has been verified to meet the contract requirement and is on file.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve a motion to ratify the procurement contract with Graybar Inc. for a Yaskawa 180 amp variable frequency drive for the industrial screen house for \$11,134.07.