



GRAND RAPIDS PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM

AGENDA DATE: September 24, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: Consider a motion to confirm filling the Finance Manager position with the preferred candidate, Ms. Taylor Bird.

PREPARED BY: Julie Kennedy, General Manager

BACKGROUND:

At the June 25, 2025, regular meeting, the Commission authorized the internal posting and external advertising for the Finance Manager position. This action was a result of the anticipated retirement of Jean Lane in February 2026.

No applications were received following the internal posting. Following external advertising for the position opening, GRPU received 6 applications. The applications were scored using a rubric, and initial interviews were conducted in early August with four applicants. The two top-ranked applicants were invited to second and third interviews, which were held in later August 2025. Background verifications were submitted and received, and an offer of employment was made to the selection committee's preferred applicant, Ms. Taylor Bird. The offer was accepted with a hire date of September 29, 2025.

Management staff recommends the Commission formally confirm filling the Finance Manager position with the preferred candidate, Ms. Taylor Bird.

RECOMMENDATION:

Confirm filling the Finance Manager position with the preferred candidate, Ms. Taylor Bird.