



October 18, 2021

Members of the Board of Commissioners  
Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission, Illinois

We have audited the financial statements of the Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission, Illinois for the year ended December 31, 2020. Professional standards require that we provide you with information about our responsibilities under generally accepted auditing standards (and, if applicable, *Government Auditing Standards* and the Uniform Guidance), as well as certain information related to the planned scope and timing of our audit. We have communicated such information in our letter to you dated October 18, 2021. Professional standards also require that we communicate to you the following information related to our audit.

### Significant Audit Findings

#### *Qualitative Aspects of Accounting Practices*

Management is responsible for the selection and use of appropriate accounting policies. The significant accounting policies used by the Commission are described in the Note 1 to the financial statements. No new accounting policies were adopted and the application of existing policies was not changed during the year ended December 31, 2020. We noted no transactions entered into by the Commission during the year for which there is a lack of authoritative guidance or consensus. All significant transactions have been recognized in the financial statements in the proper period.

Accounting estimates are an integral part of the financial statements prepared by management and are based on management's knowledge and experience about past and current events and assumptions about future events. Certain accounting estimates are particularly sensitive because of their significance to the financial statements and because of the possibility that future events affecting them may differ significantly from those expected. The most sensitive estimate affecting the business-type activities' financial statements was:

Management's estimate of the depreciation expense on capital assets is based on assumed useful lives of the underlying capital assets. We evaluated the key factors and assumptions used to develop the depreciation expense estimate in determining that it is reasonable in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

The financial statement disclosures are neutral, consistent, and clear.

#### *Difficulties Encountered in Performing the Audit*

We encountered no significant difficulties in dealing with management in performing and completing our audit.

Significant Audit Findings – Continued

*Corrected and Uncorrected Misstatements*

Professional standards require us to accumulate all known and likely misstatements identified during the audit, other than those that are clearly trivial, and communicate them to the appropriate level of management. Any material misstatements detected as a result of audit procedures were corrected by management.

*Disagreements with Management*

For purposes of this letter, a disagreement with management is a financial accounting, reporting, or auditing matter, whether or not resolved to our satisfaction, that could be significant to the financial statements or the auditor's report. We are pleased to report that no such disagreements arose during the course of our audit.

*Management Representations*

We have requested certain representations from management that are included in the management representation letter dated October 18, 2021.

*Management Consultations with Other Independent Auditors*

In some cases, management may decide to consult with other accountants about auditing and accounting matters, similar to obtaining a "second opinion" on certain situations. If a consultation involves application of an accounting principle to the Commission's financial statements or a determination of the type of auditor's opinion that may be expressed on those statements, our professional standards require the consulting accountant to check with us to determine that the consultant has all the relevant facts. To our knowledge, there were no such consultations with other accountants.

*Other Audit Findings or Issues*

We generally discuss a variety of matters, including the application of accounting principles and auditing standards, with management each year prior to retention as the Commission's auditors. However, these discussions occurred in the normal course of our professional relationship and our responses were not a condition to our retention.

Other Matters

We were engaged to report on the supplemental schedules, which accompany the financial statements but are not RSI. With respect to this supplementary information, we made certain inquiries of management and evaluated the form, content, and methods of preparing the information to determine that the information complies with the accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, the method of preparing it has not changed from the prior period, and the information is appropriate and complete in relation to our audit of the financial statements.

Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission, Illinois  
October 18, 2021  
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Other Matters – Continued

We compared and reconciled the supplementary information to the underlying accounting records used to prepare the financial statements or to the financial statements themselves.

Restrictions on Use

This information is intended solely for the use of the Board of Commissioners and management of the Commission and is not intended to be, and should not be, used by anyone other than these specified parties.

We wish to express our gratitude to the Board of Commissioners and staff (in particular the Finance Department) of the Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission, Illinois for their valuable cooperation throughout the audit engagement.

*Lauterbach & Amen, LLP*

LAUTERBACH & AMEN, LLP

# MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS

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MANAGEMENT LETTER

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED  
DECEMBER 31, 2020



October 18, 2021

Members of the Board of Commissioners  
Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission, Illinois

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements of the Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission, Illinois (the Commission), for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2020, we considered its internal control structure in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control structure.

We do not intend to imply that our audit failed to disclose commendable aspects of your system and structure. For your consideration we herein submit our comments and suggestions which are designed to assist in effecting improvements in internal controls and procedures. Those less significant matters, if any, which arose during the course of the audit, were reviewed with management as the audit field work progressed.

The accompanying comments and recommendations are intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Commissioners, management, and others within the Commission.

We will review the status of these comments during our next audit engagement. We have already discussed many of these comments and suggestions with various Commission personnel. We would be pleased to discuss our comments and suggestions in further detail with you at your convenience, to perform any additional study of these matters, or to review the procedures necessary to bring about desirable changes.

We commend the finance department for the well prepared audit package and we appreciate the courtesy and assistance given to us by the entire Commission staff.

*Lauterbach & Amen, LLP*

LAUTERBACH & AMEN, LLP

## CURRENT RECOMMENDATION

### 1. GASB STATEMENT NO. 87 LEASES

#### Comment

In June 2017, the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) issued Statement No. 87, *Leases*, which provides guidance regarding the information needs of financial statement users by improving accounting and financial reporting for leases by governments. It establishes a single model for lease accounting based on the foundational principle that leases are financings of the right to use an underlying asset. Under this Statement, a lessee is required to recognize a lease liability and an intangible right-to-use lease asset, and a lessor is required to recognize a lease receivable and a deferred inflow of resources, thereby enhancing the relevance and consistency of information about governments' leasing activities. In accordance with GASB Statement No. 95, *Postponement of the Effective Dates of Certain Authoritative Guidance*, which was issued as temporary relieve to governments and other stakeholders in light of the COVID-19 pandemic, GASB Statement No. 87, *Leases* is applicable to the Commission's financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2022.

#### Recommendation

Lauterbach & Amen, LLP will work directly with the Commission to review the new lease criteria in conjunction with the Commission's current leases to determine the appropriate financial reporting for these activities under GASB Statement No. 87.

#### Management Response

Management acknowledges this comment and, if applicable, will work to implement it for the year ended December 31, 2022, as required by GASB.

## PRIOR RECOMMENDATIONS

### 1. DEFICIT NET POSITION

#### Comment

Previously and during our current year-end audit procedures, we noted the Commission had deficit net position.

<u>Fund</u>	<u>12/31/19</u>	<u>12/31/20</u>
Commission	(1,670,031)	(970,200)

#### Recommendation

We recommended the Commission investigate the causes of the deficit and adopt appropriate future funding measures.

#### Status

This comment has not been implemented and will be repeated in the future.

#### Management Response

The new water system began operations in December 2019. There are several contracts that need to be finalized but those contracts did not affect the distribution of water to the member communities. In 2019, invoicing for water purchase began to all member communities. This invoicing has improved the financial position of the Commission. The additional revenue from water sales with controlled operational costs will continue to improve the Commissions position.

## **PRIOR RECOMMENDATIONS – Continued**

### **2. NET POSITION POLICY**

#### Comment

During our prior and current year-end audit procedures, we noted that the Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission does not have a formal net position policy. A net position policy establishes a minimum level at which the projected end-of-year net position should be maintained, taking into account the constraints imposed upon the resources reported by the proprietary funds. A net position policy assists in providing financial stability, cash flow for operations, and the assurance that the Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission will be able to respond to emergencies with fiscal strength.

It is essential to maintain adequate levels of net position to mitigate current and future risks and to ensure tax rates. Net position levels are also crucial consideration in long-term financial planning. Credit rating agencies carefully monitor levels of net position to evaluate the Water Commission's continued creditworthiness.

#### Recommendation

We recommended the Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission create and adopt a net position policy to be in compliance with GASB Statement No. 54. The Water Commission should address net position reporting categories (restricted and unrestricted) as well as review minimum net position policies.

#### Status

This comment has not been implemented and will be repeated in the future.

#### Management Response

The Commission will adopt a fund balance policy in fiscal year end December 31, 2021 once the water system is fully operational.



## PRIOR RECOMMENDATIONS – Continued

### 3. CAPITAL ASSET POLICY

#### Comment

During our prior and current year-end audit procedures, we noted the Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission does not have a formal capital asset policy to provide guidance on the financial aspects and stewardship of capital assets. With respect to the financial aspects, guidance should be provided on the minimum dollar amount and minimum useful life for an item to be capitalized as a capital asset. Stewardship issues include the physical custody of capital assets.

#### Recommendation

We recommended that the Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission adopt a capital asset policy, which addresses both financial and stewardship issues. As part of developing the capital asset policy, a review of the current capitalization amount and estimated useful life should be performed for both financial reporting and stewardship. The capital asset policy should also establish standard depreciation methods and useful lives to be applied to specific categories of assets. With respect to stewardship, the policy should address location of assets, tagging, physical access and security and frequency of periodic inventories.

#### Status

This comment has not been implemented and will be repeated in the future.

#### Management Response

The Commission is working with its engineer to develop a capital asset policy. It is anticipated that the policy will be adopted in fiscal year end December 31, 2021 once the Commission is fully operational.

MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER  
COMMISSION, ILLINOIS

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ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED  
DECEMBER 31, 2020

**MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS**

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## **FINANCIAL SECTION**

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**



## **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT**

October 18, 2021

Members of the Board of Commissioners  
Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission, Illinois

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of the Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission, Illinois, as of and for the year ended December 31, 2020, and the related notes to the financial statements, which collectively comprise the Commission's basic financial statements as listed in the table of contents.

### **Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements**

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express opinions on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the Commission's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Commission's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions.

### **Opinions**

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission, Illinois, as of December 31, 2020, and the respective changes in financial position and, where applicable, cash flows thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

## **Other Matters**

### *Required Supplementary Information*

Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that the management's discussion and analysis as listed in the table of contents and budgetary information reported in the required supplementary information as listed in the table of contents, be presented to supplement the basic financial statements. Such information, although not a part of the basic financial statements, is required by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board, who considers it to be an essential part of financial reporting for placing the basic financial statements in an appropriate operational, economic, or historical context. We have applied certain limited procedures to the required supplementary information in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which consisted of inquiries of management about the methods of preparing the information and comparing the information for consistency with management's responses to our inquiries, the basic financial statements, and other knowledge we obtained during our audit of the basic financial statements. We do not express an opinion or provide any assurance on the information because the limited procedures do not provide us with sufficient evidence to express an opinion or provide any assurance.

### *Other Information*

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming opinions on the financial statements that collectively comprise the Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission, Illinois' basic financial statements. The supplemental schedules are presented for purposes of additional analysis and are not a required part of the basic financial statements.

The supplemental schedules are the responsibility of management and were derived from and relate directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and certain additional procedures, including comparing and reconciling such information directly to the underlying accounting and other records used to prepare the basic financial statements or to the basic financial statements themselves, and other additional procedures in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America. In our opinion, the supplemental schedules are fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the basic financial statements as a whole.

*Lauterbach & Amen, LLP*

LAUTERBACH & AMEN, LLP

## **MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS**



MORTON GROVE NILES WATER COMMISSION  
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS  
December 31, 2020

The Morton Grove Niles Water Commission (the Commission) Management's Discussion and Analysis is designed to (1) assist the reader in focusing on significant financial issues, (2) provide an overview of the Commission's financial activity, (3) identify changes in the Commission's financial position (its ability to address the next and subsequent year challenges), (4) identify any material deviations from the financial plan (the approved budget), and (5) identify individual issues and concerns.

Since the Management's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) is also designed to focus on the current year's activities, resulting changes and currently known facts, please read it in conjunction with the Commission's financial statements.

#### FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The Commission's net position increased by \$699,831 in 2020 created an ending net position of (\$970,200) after the restatement.
- During the year, the Commission incurred \$4,011,878 of capitalized engineering and construction costs and Land Purchases related to the design and construction of the Water System.
- As of December 31, 2020, the Commission maintained \$15,845,588 in cash and investments.

#### OVERVIEW OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

This discussion and analysis are intended to serve as an introduction to the Commission's basic financial statements. The basic financial statements are comprised of two components:

- Fund financial statements
- Notes to the financial statements.

This report also contains other supplementary information in addition to the basic financial statements.

#### *Fund Financial Statements*

A fund is a grouping of related accounts that is used to maintain control over resources that have been segregated for specific activities or objectives. The Commission uses fund accounting to ensure and demonstrate compliance with finance related legal requirements. The Commission is unique to many governments since it is an entity with only one fund, proprietary in nature.

*Notes to the Financial Statements*

The notes to the financial statements provide additional information that is essential to a full understanding of the data provided in the entity-wide and fund financial statements.

*Other Information*

In addition to the basic financial statements and accompanying notes, this report also presents certain required supplementary and other information concerning the Commission’s progress in funding its obligation to provide pension benefits to its employees.

FINANCIAL ANALYSIS OF THE COMMISSION

Table 1 – Condensed Statement of Net Position

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Capital Assets, net of depreciation	\$ 91,748,855	\$ 89,401,190
Current and other assets	17,792,575	19,486,273
Total Assets	<u>109,541,430</u>	<u>108,887,463</u>
Other liabilities	1,214,629	2,798,443
Noncurrent Liabilities	109,297,001	107,759,051
Total Liabilities	<u>110,511,630</u>	<u>109,314,412</u>
Net Investment in Capital Assets	(4,644,097)	(198,855)
Unrestricted Net position	3,673,897	(1,471,176)
Total Net position	<u>(970,200)</u>	<u>(1,670,031)</u>

Table 2 – Condensed Statement of Changes in Net Position

	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Operations		
Sale of Water	\$ 7,250,152	\$ 5,344,637
Municipal Contribution	45,908	506,871
Interest Income	53,405	184,366
Total Operating Revenues	<u>7,349,465</u>	<u>6,035,874</u>
Operating Expenses		
Operations	4,988,961	2,079,839
Depreciation	1,660,673	641,409
Interest Expense	2,351,041	1,037,825
Total Operating Expenses	<u>6,649,634</u>	<u>3,759,073</u>
Increase/(Decrease) in Net Position	699,831	2,276,801

The Commission began selling water to the Members in late 2020. The rates were adjusted to accommodate for the delay in the completion of construction. The Commission saw declines in the interest income due to difficulties in the market conditions in relation to COVID-19.

The total administrative expenses for the Commission were \$2,637,920. These costs include contract costs for superintendent, insurance and other administrative costs.

#### Budgetary Highlights

There were no budget amendments to the commissions budget. For the current year, the operating revenues were over budget as there were additional revenues received for certain projects completed by the Commission. The operating expenditures were under budget for the Commission during the year. As a developing entity, the budget is evolving as the Commissions identifies the true costs of operation.

#### Capital Assets

By the end of 2020, the Commission had invested \$91.7 million in engineering, land purchases and construction for approximately eight (8) miles of water transmission main from the City of Evanston at McCormick and Emerson to the Member points of delivery, three vertical structures including two pumping stations located in Evanston and Morton Grove, and one seven (7) million-gallon reservoir located in Morton Grove. Detail of Capital Assets can be found in Note 3.

There were certain portions of the construction that were put in operation in 2020. Those building and improvements and infrastructure costs were \$93,013,457 and had depreciation in the amount of \$2,309,162 during the year.

#### Long Term Debt

The Commission is utilizing long term debt to finance the construction of the water system of the Commission. As of December 31, 2020, and 2019, the Commission had \$79,179,815 and \$77,638,328 respectively of Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Loans outstanding and \$25,000,000 of General Obligation Alternate Revenue Bonds. Detail of Long-Term Debt can be found Note 3.

#### Factors Bearing on the Commission's Future

Construction completed and full operation of the system began in 2020. The contract with Evanston includes clauses related to infrastructure costs of Evanston. These costs are outside of the Commissions control and can have large ramifications on the financials future of the Commission.

#### CONTACTING THE COMMISSION'S FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

This financial report is designed to provide our customers, investors and creditors with a general overview of the Commission's finances and to demonstrate the Commission's accountability for the money it receives. Questions concerning this report or requests for additional financial information should be forwarded to the Morton Grove Niles Water Commission, PO Box 480235, Niles, Illinois 60714.

## **BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

# MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS

## Statement of Net Position December 31, 2020

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<b>ASSETS</b>	
Current Assets	
Cash and Investments	\$ 9,871,469
Restricted Cash and Investments	5,974,119
Accounts Receivable	437,770
IEPA Receivable	1,509,217
Total Current Assets	<u>17,792,575</u>
Noncurrent Assets	
Capital Assets	
Nondepreciable	1,044,560
Depreciable	93,013,457
Accumulated Depreciation	(2,309,162)
Total Noncurrent Assets	<u>91,748,855</u>
Total Assets	<u>109,541,430</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	692,698
Retainage Payable	435,485
Accrued Interest	86,446
Total Current Liabilities	<u>1,214,629</u>
Noncurrent Liabilities	
Due to Members	5,007,439
General Obligation ARS Bonds	25,109,747
IEPA Loan Payable	79,179,815
Total Noncurrent Liabilities	<u>109,297,001</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>110,511,630</u>
<b>NET POSITION</b>	
Net Position	
Net Investment in Capital Assets	(4,644,097)
Unrestricted (Deficit)	<u>3,673,897</u>
Total Net Position	<u>(970,200)</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

**MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS**

**Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position  
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020**

	Final		Actual
	Original	Final	
Operating Revenues			
Sale of Water	\$ 6,894,584	6,894,584	7,250,152
Municipal Contribution	172,200	172,200	45,908
Total Operating Revenues	<u>7,066,784</u>	<u>7,066,784</u>	<u>7,296,060</u>
Expenses			
Operations			
Professional Fees	15,648,815	15,648,815	2,637,920
Depreciation and Amortization	-	-	1,660,673
Total Operations	<u>15,648,815</u>	<u>15,648,815</u>	<u>4,298,593</u>
Operating Income	<u>(8,582,031)</u>	<u>(8,582,031)</u>	<u>2,997,467</u>
Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)			
Interest Income	172,200	172,200	53,405
Interest Expense	<u>(3,510,070)</u>	<u>(3,510,070)</u>	<u>(2,351,041)</u>
	<u>(3,337,870)</u>	<u>(3,337,870)</u>	<u>(2,297,636)</u>
Change in Net Position	<u>(11,919,901)</u>	<u>(11,919,901)</u>	699,831
Net Position			
Beginning - As Restated			<u>(1,670,031)</u>
Ending			<u>(970,200)</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

## MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS

### Statement of Cash Flows For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020

Cash Flows from Operating Activities	
Receipts from Customers and Users	\$ 9,293,342
Payment to Suppliers	(4,221,731)
	<u>5,071,611</u>
Cash Flows from Capital and Related Financing Activities	
Purchase of Capital Assets	(4,011,878)
Debt Issuance	4,720,258
Payment of Loan Principal	(3,178,771)
Interest on Capital Related Debt	(2,351,041)
	<u>(4,821,432)</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities	
Interest Received	53,405
	<u>53,405</u>
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents	303,584
Cash and Cash Equivalents	
Beginning	<u>15,542,004</u>
Ending	<u><u>15,845,588</u></u>
Reconciliation of Operating Income to Net Cash Provided (Used)	
by Operating Activities	
Operating Income (Loss)	2,997,467
Adjustments to Reconcile Operating Income to	
Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities:	
Depreciation and Amortization Expense	1,660,673
(Increase) Decrease in Current Assets	1,997,282
Increase (Decrease) in Current Liabilities	(1,583,811)
	<u>5,071,611</u>

The notes to the financial statements are an integral part of this statement.

# **MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2020**

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### **NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

The Morton Grove-Niles Water Commission (the Commission) was formed in March of 2017 to design, construct, finance and operate a regional water supply system that transports and delivers clean, safe and affordable Lake Michigan water to the Villages of Morton Grove and Niles. The water supply comes from the City of Evanston. The Commission is invested in long-term water supply planning and management at stabilized rates that allow for needed infrastructure improvements.

The government-wide financial statements are prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP). The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) is responsible for establishing GAAP for state and local governments through its pronouncements (Statements and Interpretations). The more significant of the Commission’s accounting policies established in GAAP and used by the Commission are described below.

#### **REPORTING ENTITY**

The Commission is considered to be a primary government pursuant to GASB Statement No. 14 as amended by GASB Statement No. 61 since it is legally separate and fiscally independent. These financial statements include all functions, programs, and activities under the control of the Board of Commissioners.

As required by GAAP, these financial statements present the Commission and its component units, entities for which the Commission is considered to be financially accountable. There are no component units of the Commission, and the Commission should not be included as a component unit of any of its members.

#### **BASIS OF PRESENTATION**

In the Statement of Net Position, the Commission’s activities are reported on a full accrual, economic resources basis, which recognizes all long-term assets and receivables as well as long-term liabilities obligations.

The Commission uses funds to report on its financial position and the results of its operations. Fund accounting is designed to demonstrate legal compliance and to aid financial management by segregating transactions related to certain government functions or activities. A fund is a separate accounting entity with a self-balancing set of accounts.

The Commission utilizes a single proprietary fund. Proprietary funds are used to account for activities similar to those found in the private sector, where the determination of net income is necessary or useful to sound financial administration. Goods or services from such activities are provided to outside parties.



# **MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2020**

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### **NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – Continued**

#### **MEASUREMENT FOCUS AND BASIS OF ACCOUNTING**

##### **Measurement Focus**

All proprietary funds utilize an “economic resources” measurement focus. The accounting objectives of this measurement focus are the determination of operating income, changes in net position, financial position, and cash flows. All assets and liabilities (whether current or noncurrent) associated with their activities are reported. Proprietary fund equity is classified as net position.

##### **Basis of Accounting**

The Commission’s basic financial statements are presented using the accrual basis of accounting. Under the accrual basis of accounting, revenues are recognized when earned and expenses are recorded when the liability is incurred or economic asset used.

Proprietary funds distinguish operating revenues and expenses from nonoperating items. Operating revenues and expenses generally result from providing services and producing and delivering goods in connection with a proprietary fund’s principal ongoing operations. The principal operating revenues of the Commission are charges to customers for services. Operating expenses include the cost of services, administrative expenses, and depreciation and amortization on capital assets. All revenues and expenses not meeting this definition are reported as nonoperating revenues and expenses.

#### **ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND NET POSITION OR EQUITY**

##### **Cash and Investments**

For the purpose of the Statement of Net Position, the cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments with original maturities of three months or less from the date of purchase. For the purpose of the proprietary funds’ Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents are considered to be cash on hand, demand deposits, cash with fiscal agent, and all highly liquid investments with an original maturity of three months or less.

Investments are generally reported at fair value. Short-term investments are reported at cost, which approximates fair value. For investments, the Commission categorizes its fair value measurements within the fair value hierarchy established by generally accepted accounting principles. The hierarchy is based on the valuation inputs used to measure the fair value of the asset. Level 1 inputs are quoted prices in active markets for identical assets; Level 2 inputs are significant other observable inputs; Level 3 inputs are significant unobservable inputs. The Commission has no investments at year-end.

# MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS

## Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2020

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### NOTE 1 – SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES – Continued

#### ASSETS, LIABILITIES, AND NET POSITION OR EQUITY – Continued

##### Capital Assets

Capital assets purchased or acquired are reported at historical cost or estimated historical cost. Renovations to buildings and land improvements that significantly increase the value or extend the useful life of the structure are capitalized. Routine repairs and maintenance are charged to operating expense in the year in which the expense was incurred. Donated capital assets are recorded at acquisition value at the date of donation.

##### Long-Term Obligations

In the financial statements and proprietary fund types in the fund financial statements, long-term debt and other long-term obligations are reported as liabilities in the applicable business-type activities or proprietary fund type Statement of Net Position. Bond premiums and discounts, are deferred and amortized over the life of the bonds using the effective interest method. Bonds payable are reported net of the applicable bond premium or discount. Bond issuance costs are reported as expenses at the time of issuance.

##### Net Position

In the government-wide financial statements, equity is classified as net position and displayed in two components:

Net Investment in Capital Assets – Consists of capital assets including restricted capital assets, net of accumulated depreciation and reduced by the outstanding balances of any bonds, mortgages, notes or other borrowings that are attributable to the acquisition, construction, or improvement of those assets.

Unrestricted – All other net position balances that do not meet the definition of “net investment in capital assets.”

## **MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2020**

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#### **NOTE 2 – STEWARDSHIP, COMPLIANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

##### **BUDGETARY INFORMATION**

Budgets are adopted on a basis consistent with generally accepted accounting principles. The Commission shall operate within a Balanced Budget in each fiscal year. Not later than forty-five (45) days before the end of each fiscal year, the Superintendent must submit to the Board the proposed Balanced Budget for the next fiscal year. “Balanced Budget” means, with respect to a fiscal year, a budget in each case approved by the Board in which (i) the amount of projected revenues and the amount of projected expenses are equal, and (ii) any prior year encumbrance is reflected in such budget as an expense which is offset by a corresponding prior year fund balance relating to such expense included in such budget.

##### **DEFICIT NET POSITION**

The Commission had deficit net position of \$970,200 as of the date of this report.

#### **NOTE 3 – DETAILED NOTES ON THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

##### **DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS**

Permitted Deposits and Investments – Statutes authorize the Commission to make deposits/invest in commercial banks, savings and loan institutions, obligations of the U.S. Treasury and U.S. Agencies, obligations of States and their political subdivisions, credit union shares, repurchase agreements, commercial paper rated within the three highest classifications by at least two standard rating services.

##### **Interest Rate Risk, Credit Risk, Custodial Credit Risk and Concentration Risk**

*Deposits.* At year-end, the carrying amount of the Commission’s deposits totaled \$15,845,588 and the bank balances totaled \$16,315,471.

*Interest Rate Risk.* Interest rate risk is the risk that changes in interest rates will adversely affect the fair value of an investment. The Commission’s investment policy states it will minimize interest risk by structuring the investment portfolio so that securities mature to meet cash requirements for ongoing operations and investing operating funds primarily in shorter-term securities or investment pools.

## MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2020

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#### NOTE 3 – DETAILED NOTES ON THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – Continued

##### DEPOSITS AND INVESTMENTS – Continued

##### Interest Rate Risk, Credit Risk, Custodial Credit Risk and Concentration Risk – Continued

*Credit Risk.* Credit risk is the risk that an issuer or other counterparty to an investment will not fulfill its obligations. The Commission's investment policy will limit its investments to the safest types of securities, pre-qualifying the financial institutions, brokers, intermediaries and advisers with which the Commission will do business, and diversifying the investment portfolio so potential losses on individual securities will be minimized.

*Custodial Credit Risk.* In the case of deposits, this is the risk that in the event of a bank failure, the Commission's deposits may not be returned to it. The Commission's investment policy states a third-party institution will hold pledged securities in trust on behalf of the Commission's financial institution. At year end, the entire bank balance was covered by collateral, federal depository or equivalent insurance.

For an investment, this is the risk that, in the event of the failure of the counterparty, the Commission will not be able to recover the value of its investments or collateral securities that are in the possession of an outside party. The Commission's investment policy requires full collateralization of all investments in accordance with the collateral agreement. The Commission will allow the use of FDIC coverage as part of the calculation of full collateralization. At December 31, 2020, the Commission's does not have any investments.

*Concentration of Credit Risk.* This is the risk of loss attributed to the magnitude of the Commission's investment in a single issuer. The Commission's investment policy requires the Superintendent or his designee to review the investment portfolio at least quarterly. Such review shall examine the general performance of the portfolio, as well as determining that current levels of safety, liquidity, rate of return and diversification meet or exceed minimum levels contained herein. At year-end, the Commission does not have any investments over 5 percent of the total cash and investment portfolio (other than investments issued or explicitly guaranteed by the U.S. government and investments in mutual funds, external investment pools, and other pooled investments).

## MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS

### Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2020

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#### NOTE 3 – DETAILED NOTES ON THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – Continued

##### CAPITAL ASSETS

The following is a summary of capital assets as of the date of this report:

	Beginning Balances	Additions	Deletions	Ending Balances
Nondepreciable Capital Assets				
Land	\$ 1,044,560	-	-	1,044,560
Construction in Progress	25,178,542	4,011,878	29,190,420	-
Total Nondepreciable Capital Assets	26,223,102	4,011,878	29,190,420	1,044,560
Depreciable Capital Assets				
Buildings and Improvements	-	26,599,180	-	26,599,180
Infrastructure	63,823,037	2,591,240	-	66,414,277
Total Nondepreciable Capital Assets	63,823,037	29,190,420	-	93,013,457
Less Accumulated Depreciation				
Buildings and Improvements	-	322,490	-	322,490
Infrastructure	644,949	1,341,723	-	1,986,672
	644,949	1,664,213	-	2,309,162
Total Net Depreciable Capital Assets	63,178,088	27,526,207	-	90,704,295
Total Net Capital Assets	89,401,190	31,538,085	29,190,420	91,748,855

**MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
December 31, 2020**

**NOTE 3 – DETAILED NOTES ON THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – Continued**

**LONG-TERM DEBT**

**Alternate Revenue Source Bonds**

The Commission issues bonds to provide funds for the acquisition and construction of major capital facilities. Alternate revenue source bonds provide for the collection, segregation and distribution of certain income taxes received by the Commission for the payment of principal and interest on the alternate revenue source bonds. Alternate revenue source bonds outstanding are as follows:

Issue	Beginning Balances	Issuances	Retirements	Ending Balances
General Obligation Water Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source) of 2018A (\$25,000,000), due in annual installments of \$1,820,000 to \$2,750,000, plus interest at 4.00% to 5.00% through December 1, 2050.	\$ 25,000,000	-	-	25,000,000

**IEPA Loans Payable**

The Commission has entered into loan agreements with the IEPA to provide low interest financing for capital improvements. Final repayment schedule for the IEPA Loans Payable of 2017 is not available at the time of the issuance of this report. IEPA loans currently outstanding are as follows:

Issue	Restated Beginning Balances	Issuances	Retirements	Ending Balances
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) Loan Payable of 2017, due in annual installments of including interest at 1.76% through January 1, 2039.	\$ 77,638,328	4,720,258	3,178,771	79,179,815

**MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS**

**Notes to the Financial Statements  
December 31, 2020**

**NOTE 3 – DETAILED NOTES ON THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – Continued**

**LONG-TERM DEBT – Continued**

**Long-Term Liability Activity**

Changes in long-term liabilities during the fiscal year were as follows:

Type of Debt	Restated Beginning Balances	Additions	Deductions	Ending Balances	Amounts Due within One Year
General Obligation Water Bonds (ARS)	\$ 25,000,000	-	-	25,000,000	-
Unamortized Premium	113,287	-	3,540	109,747	-
IEPA Loans Payable	77,638,328	4,720,258	3,178,771	79,179,815	-
	<u>102,751,615</u>	<u>4,720,258</u>	<u>3,182,311</u>	<u>104,289,562</u>	<u>-</u>

**NET POSITION CLASSIFICATION**

Net investment in capital assets was comprised of the following as of December 31, 2020:

Business-Type Activities	
Capital Assets - Net of Accumulated Depreciation	\$ 91,748,855
Plus:	
Unspent Bond Proceeds	6,402,334
Non Capital Related Debt	1,494,276
Less Capital Related Debt:	
General Obligation Water Bonds (ARS)	(25,000,000)
Unamortized Premium	(109,747)
IEPA Loan Payable of 2017	<u>(79,179,815)</u>
Net Investment in Capital Assets	<u><u>(4,644,097)</u></u>

# MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS

## Notes to the Financial Statements December 31, 2020

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### NOTE 3 – DETAILED NOTES ON THE BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – Continued

#### NET POSITION RESTATEMENT

Beginning net position was restated due to the IEPA loan not including capitalized interest in the prior years. The following is a summary of the net position as originally reported and as restated:

	<u>As Reported</u>	<u>As Restated</u>	<u>(Decrease)</u>
Net Position	\$ (426,949)	(1,670,031)	(1,243,082)

### NOTE 4 – OTHER INFORMATION

#### RISK MANAGEMENT

The Commission is exposed to various risks of loss related to torts; theft of, damage to and destruction of assets; errors and omissions; natural disasters; and injuries to the Commission’s employees. These risks are covered by commercial insurance. This is the first year of operations, therefore there has been no significant reduction in coverage in any program from coverage in the prior year. For all programs, settlement amounts have not exceeded insurance coverage for the current or prior year (from inception).

#### CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

##### Litigation

The Commission is not a defendant in any lawsuits.

##### Grants

Amounts received or receivable from grantor agencies are subject to audit and adjustment by grantor agencies, principally the federal government. Any disallowed claims, including amounts already collected, may constitute a liability of the applicable funds. The amount, if any, of expenditures which may be disallowed by the grantor cannot be determined at this time although the Commission expects such amounts, if any, to be immaterial.

#### OTHER POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

The Water Commission has evaluated its potential other postemployment benefits liability. The Water Commission does not have a health insurance policy and does not offer health insurance through the Water Commission to current or retired employees, and thus there is no liability to calculate in accordance with GASB Statement No. 75, *Accounting and Financial Reporting for Post-Employment Benefits Other Than Pensions*. Therefore, the Water Commission has not recorded a liability as of December 31, 2020.



## **SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULES**

**MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS**

**Schedule of Operating Expenses - Budget and Actual  
For the Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2020**

	Original Budget	Final Budget	Actual
Operations			
Professional Fees			
Construction Costs			
Project Costs	\$ 10,272,291	10,272,291	455,545
Water	5,051,004	5,051,004	1,918,954
Professional Services			
Commissioner Superintendent	58,000	58,000	58,324
Deputy Commission Clerk	12,000	12,000	5,210
Accounting Services	20,000	20,000	9,084
	90,000	90,000	72,618
Other Professional Services			
Audit Expense	9,700	9,700	9,700
Insurance Costs	37,000	37,000	66,192
	46,700	46,700	75,892
Other Business Expenses	188,820	188,820	114,911
Total Professional Fees	15,648,815	15,648,815	2,637,920
Depreciation and Amortization	-	-	1,660,673
Total Operating Expenses	15,648,815	15,648,815	4,298,593

**MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS**

**Long-Term Debt Requirements**

**General Obligation Water Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2018A  
December 31, 2020**

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Date of Issue	March 6, 2018
Date of Maturity	December 1, 2050
Authorized Issue	\$25,000,000
Interest Rate	4.00% to 5.00%
Interest Dates	June 1 and December 1
Principal Maturity Date	December 1, 2050
Payable at	Amalgamated Bank

**CURRENT AND LONG-TERM PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST REQUIREMENTS**

Fiscal Year	Principal	Interest	Totals
2021	\$ -	1,037,350	1,037,350
2022	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2023	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2024	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2025	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2026	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2027	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2028	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2029	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2030	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2031	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2032	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2033	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2034	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2035	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2036	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2037	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2038	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2039	-	1,037,350	1,037,350
2040	1,820,000	1,037,350	2,857,350
2041	1,915,000	946,350	2,861,350
2042	2,010,000	850,600	2,860,600
2043	2,090,000	770,200	2,860,200
2044	2,175,000	686,600	2,861,600
2045	2,260,000	599,600	2,859,600
2046	2,350,000	509,200	2,859,200
2047	2,445,000	415,200	2,860,200
2048	2,540,000	317,400	2,857,400
2049	2,645,000	215,800	2,860,800
2050	2,750,000	110,000	2,860,000
	25,000,000	26,167,950	51,167,950

<b>MORTON GROVE-NILES WATER COMMISSION, ILLINOIS</b>				
<b>Audit Journal Entries</b>				
<b>December 31, 2020</b>				
AJE #	Account Number	Account Description	Debit	Credit
<b>1</b>	1-31010	Retained Earnings	337,654	
	1-21050	Audit Accounts Payable		337,654
<b>Entry to post FY 2019 audit entry</b>				
<b>2</b>	1-21050	Audit Accounts Payable	337,654	
	1-15105	Construction in Progress		215,934
	1-52410	Purchase of Wholesale Water:City of Evanston		102,068
	1-52210	Contracted Operating Services:Operation Management		19,652
<b>Entry to reverse FY 2019 audit entry</b>				
<b>3</b>	1-29015	Unamortized Bond Premium	3,540	
	3-7XXXX	Amortization Expense		3,540
<b>Entry to amortize bond premium at year end</b>				
<b>4</b>	1-52410	Purchase of Wholesale Water:City of Evanston	149,348	
	1-21000	Accounts Payable (A/P)		149,348
	1-52110	Contracted Management Servicea:Superintendent	4,900	
	1-21000	Accounts Payable (A/P)		4,900
	1-52210	Contracted Operating Services:Operation Management	22,819	
	1-21000	Accounts Payable (A/P)		22,819
	3-73210	Project Cost:Stanley Design Contract	34,077	
	1-21000	Accounts Payable (A/P)		34,077
	3-73210	Project Cost:Stanley Design Contract	24,719	
	1-21000	Accounts Payable (A/P)		24,719
<b>Entry to record additional AP at year end</b>				
<b>5</b>	1-29020	IEPA Loan Payable		21,539
	1-52270	Contracted Operating Services:Other Business Expenses	21,539	
<b>Entry to adjust loan payable</b>				
<b>6</b>	1-15105	Construction in Progress		29,144,512
	1-15110	Infrastructure - Transmission Mains	2,591,240	
	1-15115	Accum Depr - Infrastructure		1,033,702
	1-15120	Building and Improvements	26,599,180	
	1-42000	Capital Construction Revenue		45,908
	3-75000	Depreciation Expense	1,033,702	
<b>Entry to record capital assets at year end</b>				
<b>7</b>	1-31010	Retained Earnings	1,243,082	
	1-29020	IEPA Loan Payable		1,243,082
<b>RESTATEMENT: Entry to adjust IEPA loan payable</b>				
			<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>32,403,455</b>
				<b>32,403,455</b>
				-
<b>ALL AJEs RECORDED AS NOTED ABOVE. NO PASSED AJEs FROM THE AUDIT.</b>				