



HOLLAND BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GRAS, STOREY, HEMINGWAY NAMED TO HOLLAND BPW BOARD LEADERSHIP POSTS

HOLLAND, MI (Feb. 25, 2009) – The Holland Board of Public Works (HBPW) has announced that board vice chair Bryan Gras has been named chairman of the municipal utility, and that board member James (Jim) Storey has been appointed vice chair. Also announced was the appointment of Tim Hemingway to fill a board vacancy.

Gras has been a member of the HBPW Board of Directors since 2007. A veteran of the Holland banking industry, Gras has worked in leadership roles for area financial institutions since 2004, most recently as Vice President of Commercial Lending for Mercantile Bank. He succeeds former chair Maryam Komejan, who recently resigned from the HBPW board due to a change in employment.

Storey has extensive experience in public board service, having served the boards governing Tulip City Airport from 1997-2007. Over the past year, he has successfully managed the Say Yes to Sunday beer and wine repeal and airport millage campaigns.

Hemingway retired last fall as president of SAF-Holland following a 34-year career. He was appointed to the board last month by Mayor Al McGeehan to fill the vacancy created by Komejan's resignation.

The three are joined on the board by board veterans Rich Cook and Paul Elzinga. City Manager Soren Wolff also serves on the board as an Ex-Officio Member.

"This board is deep in knowledge skill-sets and enthusiasm. It is an honor to be selected to lead it during these challenging times," commented Gras. "With the team we have in place, we intend to keep the HBPW a modern, efficient, innovative and growing utility that is responsive to customers and the communities it serves," he added. The Holland Board of Public Works is a community-owned enterprise providing utility services (electric generation and distribution, fiber optics, water and wastewater treatment) to 30,000 business and residential customers in the City of Holland and surrounding communities. For more information, visit www.hollandbpw.com

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Attachments: Photos of Gras, Storey, and Hemingway