

IVI-IPO 2004 WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 1

DATE: January 9, 2004

PARTY: DEMOCRAT

NAME: BARBARA MCGOWAN

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CAMPAIGN MANAGER: SANDRA HARRIS

NUMBER OF PETITION SIGNATURES FILED: 22,000

NUMBER REQUIRED: 5,154

Please use an additional sheet to complete the following background information:

A) Elective or appointive public or party offices previously held including dates.

Commissioner Metropolitan Water Reclamation District (MWRD)1998, Clinton Delegate 7th Congressional District 1996, Gore Delegate 7th Congressional District 2000

B) Other elective offices for which you have been a candidate.

None

C) Principal business, education, professional and civic activities of the past ten years.

Assistant to Deputy Executive Director at Chicago Housing Authority.

Office Manager at PEP. (Political Education Project)

Assistant to Commissioner at MWRD

IVI-IPO..

29th Ward Democrat Organization.

Westside N.A.A.C.P.

D) What subjects have you studied and what experience have you had which will be most helpful to you in the office you seek?

1) Served as Assistant to the Commissioner of MWRD

2) Currently I am an incumbent finishing a six-year term.

E) Activities for other candidates. Please be specific.

Campaign Manager- Joe Gardner, Commissioner, Office Manager- Joe Gardner, Mayor, Ward Coordinator- Harold Washington, Mayor, Office Coordinator- CHA liaison- Harold Washington, Mayor, Office Manager- Cardiss Collins, 7th Congressional District, CHA liaison- Bill Clinton, President, Precinct Coordinator- Ed Smith, Percy Giles, Sam Burrell, Isaac "Ike" Carothers, Campaign Consultant- Barack Obama, State Senator, Cora McGruder, State Central Committeewoman, James Harris, Commissioner of MWRD

F) Please list all endorsements you have received so far.

Alderman/ Committeemen Carrie M. Austin 34th Ward, Alderman/ Committeemen Isaac "Ike" Carothers 29th Ward, Alderman/ Committeemen Leslie Hairston 5th Ward, Alderman/ Committeemen Emma Mitts 37th Ward, Alderman/ Committeemen Toni Preckwinkle 4th Ward, Alderman/ Committeemen Ed Smith 28th Ward, Alderman/ Committeemen Dorothy Tillman 3rd Ward, Chicago Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, Chicago & Northeast Illinois District Council of Carpenters, Commissioner Frank Avila, Commissioner James Harris, Commissioner Kathleen Meany, Commissioner Cynthia Santos, Commissioner Harry "Bus" Yourell, Cook County Clerk David Orr, Cook County Commissioner Bobbie Steele, Cook County Commissioner Debra Sims, Local 126 Machinist, President Terrence O'Brien, Senator Kimberly Lightford, State Representative Connie Howard

G) As concisely as possible, please state why you feel you should be endorsed over the other candidate(s). What goals for the office you seek are most important to you personally?

For the past six years as a Commissioner with the MWRD, I have served the citizens of Cook County with integrity and professionalism. I have served on several committees and have taken a leadership role in many study sessions, which explored ways by which we can serve the public. Before being elected to the MWRD Board of Commissioners, for eight years, I functioned as the Assistant to the late Commissioner Joseph E. Gardner.

My fellow Commissioners elected me as Chairperson of the Committee on Affirmative Action. We were responsible for including minorities and women on various Bond Issues; depositing \$40,000,000 in District funds in the Community Bank of Lawndale, Seaway National Bank, Banco Popular, and Highland National Bank. We strengthen the District's Affirmative Action Ordinance to include fines and penalties to contractors that violate the inclusion of minorities and women contractors. Our apprentice program has allowed over 300 minority and female apprentices to perform work on district construction contracts.

As a Commissioner and Chairman of the Committee on Affirmative Action. I have worked tirelessly to provide opportunities for the professional growth of our employees. The District now has it's 1st African-American female Head Attorney, 1st Hispanic Clerk/ Finance, and an African-American male who is 2nd in command at our largest treatment plant. We have also had our 1st African-American Lobbyist in Springfield.

We have pushed for diversity in the workplace, being mindful that our policies do not harm the advancement of others. None of these changes could have happened without the support of my fellow Democratic Commissioners.

My goal is to continue our work towards diversity in our work place and to ensure that minorities and women contractors have opportunities to bid on District contracts.

H) Please outline the place of patronage, personnel codes, race, gender, and sexual orientation in establishing criteria for hiring and promoting public employees.

Patronage has no place in hiring or promoting public employees.

I) What is your campaign budget? How much have you raised to date?

1) \$75,000.00 2) 12,000.00

J) How many people are on your campaign staff? How many volunteers are on your list?

1) 10 2) 500

IVI-IPO 2004 WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT QUESTIONNAIRE – Section 2

1. Should the Water Reclamation District be a separate special government unit or should it be subordinate to the County Board?

The MWRD should be a separate special governed unit.

2. Should Commissioners be elected
 - a. at-large?
 - b. by district?**
 - c. by cumulative voting?

3. Do you have a business relationship with any entity doing business with the MWRD or other governmental bodies in Cook County? No

4. Will you accept or have you accepted campaign donations from current or potential suppliers or employees of the District?

Yes, I worked at the MWRD for several years before I was elected in 1998. Doing this time, I developed and maintained relationships. Therefore some of my campaign funds have been raised through those individuals.

5. a. In what circumstances should the District contract for outside professional services?

We should contract for outside professional services where there is an obvious lack of professional expertise. The protection of the taxpayers dollars is of the utmost importance. Where there is a need to address a serious deficiency in our staff capabilities and the dollar value of the contract is not excessive we should seek outside support.

- b. In what circumstances should competitive bidding for contracts be required?

Competitive bidding should be required in some form for all contracts.

- c. Please comment on any existing abuses.

There are no existing abuses within our system that I am aware of.

6. Should MWRD tradespersons be paid the prevailing wage rate? Yes

7. Do you favor permitting MWRD employees to hold other public sector employment concurrently?

Each employee's financial situation should be examined before a determination can be made.

8. Do you favor permitting MWRD employees to have outside employment or contracts with entities, which do business with the district? NO

9. Is the District in good financial condition? Please comment on both expenditures and sources of revenues.

Yes, The District has a triple "AAA" Bond rating. (Please see attached)

10. a. What should be the MWRD's role in policy on lakefront, riverfront and canal development?

The MWRD should take a leadership role and work with other entities environmental agencies, developers, the community and other governmental agencies to determine the need of existing lakefront, riverfront, and canal development.

b. What responsibility should it have for planning or monitoring such development?

We should maintain a seat at any table that adopts policies for the re-development of the waterway system.

11. a. Do you support public access to the Chicago River and should access be a priority for the MWRD?

Yes, I whole – heartily support public access to the Chicago River. The MWRDGC should be at the forefront in making public access to the Chicago River a priority.

b. Do you support the recent agreement between the district and the property owners on the north branch of the river?

Yes I was one of the first commissioners to disagree with the private use of public property. I agreed with the recommendation that the docks presently built be demolished. This is a gross misuse of public land. When we conducted a tour of the docks, I was appalled by the fact that the public was not allowed access to public areas taken by these docks along the Chicago River.

12. Are present systems for monitoring and eliminating water pollution from industrial and domestic waste adequate and appropriate?

Yes. Our Research and Development Department (R & D) has two major objectives. One is the protection of the sewage system, receiving waterways and bio-solids quality by administration of our Sewage and Waste Control Ordinance (SWCO) and assurance of proportional recovery of wastewater treatment costs by administration of our User Charge Ordinance (UCO). Another major objective of R & D is providing analytical laboratory services to support the Maintenance and Operation Department (M & O) in their operational monitoring and control of the sewage treatment processes. By keeping these systems strong we are doing our part in protecting our waterways.

13. Should the MWRD assume responsibility for solid and other wastes in addition to its current responsibilities to prevent water pollution? If so, what should be the scope of the responsibility and how should it be exercised?

Yes. The District should assume responsibilities for solid and other wastes. The District is already experienced in the knowledge of solids and other waste processing. We could take the lead in bringing together the skills of other environmental entities to develop a comprehensive plan to prevent further waste pollution.

14. How do you propose to address issues of flooding and pollution before TARP is completed?

We will continue to rely on our R & D and M & O departments to continue to do their jobs. As always, we will continue to support our citizens through our waterways program and provide community outreach to keep them informed as how to prevent and protect against flooding and water pollution.

15. What precautions, if any, do you believe should be implemented to protect the environment surrounding the TARP wastewater reservoirs?

We will continue to ensure that the drainage water that is directed to our reservoirs is pumped to our plants for treatment as soon as possible. We will continue the proper soil and drinking water testing in the surrounding communities to ensure safety. We must also continue to maintain our odor control process, and ensure that these areas are secure. It is important that the citizens in the area of our reservoirs have a venue by which they can register complaints and concerns.