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## DIRECTOR TERESHIA HUFFMAN MAKES HISTORY AS YOUNGEST CHAIR AT BWWB PLANS TO "LEAD WITH TRANSPARENCY" ON CUSTOMER SERVICE, COMMUNITY RELATIONS

**BIRMINGHAM, Ala.** (January 11, 2023) – The Birmingham Water Works Board (BWWB) today voted Director Tereshia Huffman as its new Chairwoman. Huffman, 38, came to the BWWB as a Director in 2020 and most recently held the position of 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairwoman. She's the second woman ever to hold the utility board's top position.

Huffman, who is the Student Outreach Manager for The Birmingham Promise, is a product of the Birmingham City Schools and graduated from Ramsay High School. She earned a Bachelor of Arts from The University of Alabama where she studied English Literature and Public Relations. During her career in community organizing, she worked in the office of Atlanta Mayor Kasim Reed, including in human resources and in human services. Before returning to Birmingham in 2019, Tereshia worked for the DeKalb County Government where she managed a water billing and infrastructure project, the public safety comprehensive implementation strategy, and the comprehensive blight strategy; she also advocated for mental health resources, educational resources, medical resources, and safe permanent homes for neglected and abused children in the State's custody.

"As Chairwoman, I want us to improve our image in the public and to strengthen our relationships with our customers and with our communities," Huffman said. "I also want to start looking at new technologies such as automatic meter reading but with a cautious approach, to make sure we don't ever have a repeat of billing issues in the future. I look forward to working closely with my fellow Directors on these issues as well as many others," she said.

BWWB's other Board Officer appointments today included:

- 1st Vice-Chairman William "Butch" Burbage
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairman Ronald A. Mims
- Secretary—Treasurer Raymond "Larry" Ward
- Assistant Secretary—Treasurer Carl Dalton NeSmith, Esq.

**ABOUT BIRMINGHAM WATER WORKS BOARD**: Founded in 1951, the Birmingham Water Works Board serves 770,000 people in Jefferson, Shelby, Blount, St. Clair, and Walker counties. The BWWB operates four filtration plants, a certified testing laboratory, and has more than 4,000 miles of pipe in its distribution network. For more information about the Birmingham Water Works Board, media inquiries, or tours of our museum, please call 205-244-4225 or visit www.bwwb.org.

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