

A watershed moment



Kenny Yoo/Special to The Freeman

Waukesha Mayor Shawn Reilly, left, and Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett make it official and sign the contracts for a water supply agreement at the Waukesha County Business Alliance office on Wednesday.

Reilly, Barrett sign water agreement

WAUKESHA — Waukesha Mayor Shawn Reilly and Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett signed what they call a historic agreement for the sale of Lake Michigan water at the Waukesha County Business Alliance headquarters Wednesday.

The cities have been in negotiations since May to produce a water sale contract and intergovernmental agreement that will ensure Waukesha has clean and safe drinking water for at least 40 years.

"It's a historic day and another milestone in obtaining Lake Michigan water for the city of Waukesha," Reilly

said Wednesday afternoon.

Several aldermen and regional officials attended the signing Wednesday and spoke about the significance of the contract for both cities.

District 4 Alderman Joe Pieper tweeted after the signing, "A great day for @CityofWaukesha ensuring a safe and long-term water supply. Plus regional cooperation and putting politics aside. Proud to play a part over 11 years on the Common Council."

The Waukesha Water Utility is now working on obtaining necessary per-



Waukesha County Business Alliance President and CEO Suzanne Kelley talks to the guests during the event at the Waukesha County Business Alliance office on Wednesday.

mits and lines of funding \$286 million. for the project, which will eventually cost an estimated

— Freeman Staff