

**MINUTES OF THE LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD
(L.A. GATEWAY AUTHORITY)
AT PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA
THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2010**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Authority was held on Thursday, May 13, 2010 at Noon at the Clearwater Building at 16401 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723.

Vice Chair Adriana Figueroa called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. Roll was called through self-introductions and a quorum was declared present.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Christopher Cash	Paramount
Vice Chair Adriana Figueroa	Norwalk
Secretary-Treasurer Desi Alvarez	Downey
Dave Hill (alt for Art Aguilar)	Central Basin Municipal Water District
Charlie Emig (alt for Vince Brar)	Cerritos
Gina Nila (alt for Jorge Rifa)	Commerce
Mark Christoffels	Long Beach
Eric Leung (alt for Kevin Wattier)	Long Beach Water Department
Don Jensen	Santa Fe Springs
Charlie Honeycutt	Signal Hill
Bill DeWitt	South Gate

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jim Glancy	Lakewood
Al Cablay	Pico Rivera
Joseph Serrano	Southeast Water Coalition
Kevin Wilson	Vernon
David Pelser	Whittier

STAFF AND GUESTS PRESENT:

Annette Hubbell	Executive Officer
Shannon DeLong	Downey
Russ Bryden	Los Angeles County Flood Control / Greater LA IRWM
Alex Kenefick	Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council
Nancy Steele	Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council
Frank Beach	Santa Fe Springs
Mohammad Mostahkami	South Gate
Bill Pagett	Willdan Engineering

PUBLIC PRESENT:

none

ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

There were none.

ITEM 4 – ORAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Mr. Russ Bryden, County Flood Control District, spoke on behalf of the Greater LA County (GLAC) IRWM Leadership group, saying that there would be a GLAC Lower San Gabriel subregion meeting on Tuesday May 18 at 1:30 at Central Basin and a leadership meeting on Wednesday May 26th.

ITEM 5 – CONSENT CALENDAR

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from April 8, and the motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 6 – STATUS ON THE ARRA-FUNDED CATCH BASIN PROJECT

Executive Officer Annette Hubbell informed the Board that the County permit for county-owned catch basins within the City of Long Beach was issued yesterday (May 12). No start date has been decided because there are several conditions of the permit that require additional cost to implement. Staff had reviewed the contractor estimates for this work and felt that the estimates were far too high, and therefore no recommendations were made to the Board with regard to these permit conditions. Discussion ensued regarding the Board's options to wait until the June meeting, call a special board meeting, or authorize the Executive Officer to negotiate to a specified sum or percentage. Secretary-Treasurer Desi Alvarez said a special board meeting could be called but that he would prefer to give direction to Ms. Hubbell to sign a change order based on a certain parameters. The Board discussed the nature of the conditions, which involved location photographs and measurement gauges at each of the county-owned catch basins (approximately 7,000 total). Director Mark Christoffels moved to authorize Ms. Hubbell to spend up to a \$100,000.00 of the contingency fund to implement the permit conditions. The motion was seconded by Director Don Jensen and passed unanimously.

ITEM 7 – LOS CERRITOS CHANNEL METALS TMDL IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING PLAN: MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Executive Officer Hubbell noted that in April 2009, the Board of Directors had voted to act as the fiduciary agent for the monitoring and implementation plan for the Los Cerritos Channel Metals TMDL, and in January 2010, staff had provided a status update on the development of the necessary Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Ms. Hubbell noted that she was now asking the Board to receive the draft MOA. Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez asked whether the Board could vote to approve the draft pending changes required for approval by the participating cities. It was noted that the timely approval of the MOA by all participating parties was of the essence, as the City of Signal Hill had already expended \$126,000 and the City of Long Beach had expended a similar amount in the initial development and scoping of the plan, and additional expenses not yet calculated had also been incurred. It was also noted by Directors that the cities that are party to the MOA could begin scheduling the MOA for their respective City Council's approval as soon as the Gateway Authority Board of Directors had a draft final approved copy for distribution. It was motioned by Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez to approve the MOA for the Los Cerritos Channel Metals TMDL Monitoring and Implementation Plan, Director Bill DeWitt seconded the motion. Discussion ensued regarding the ability of participating cities to have their previously-issued payments credited against any future incurred costs, and it was noted that the General Counsel was preparing language to provide for already-expended funds. The motion was approved unanimously.

ITEM 8 –GATEWAY AUTHORITY FY 2010-11 BUDGET

Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez referred Directors to the Board Letter addressing the Annual Budget Review. He noted that the costs for the general counsel and executive officer had both been higher than originally anticipated because of issues surrounding the Catch Basin Project and the Region Acceptance Process appeals. The budget for Fiscal Year 2010-11 also included additional engineering services funding to provide for the preparation of grant applications. Noting that grant applications under Proposition 84 IRWM funding programs would necessitate matching funds, Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez motioned to approve the proposed budget and keep the annual member assessment at \$15,000. Vice Chair Adriana Figueroa confirmed that a balance of \$510,000 is projected at the end of Fiscal Year 2010-11, and discussion ensued regarding cost projections for the executive officer and general counsel. Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez noted that the surplus would be put toward planning grant matching funds, and Director Eric Leung clarified that the match might not be enough, according to the Department of Water Resources' draft guidelines. The motion was seconded by Director DeWitt. Due to a lack of a super-majority of board members (three-fourths, or 12 Directors), an advisory vote was conducted as follows:

Central Basin	Yes
Cerritos	Yes
Commerce	Yes
Downey	Yes
Lakewood	Absent
Long Beach	Yes
Long Beach Water Dept.	Yes
Norwalk	Yes
Paramount	Yes
Pico Rivera	Absent
Santa Fe Springs	Yes
Signal Hill	Yes
South Gate	Yes
Southeast Water Coalition	Absent
Vernon	Absent
Whittier	Absent

ITEM 9 – EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

a) Legislative Report

Ms. Hubbell noted that there are six bills currently under watch by the Gateway Authority, and noted that there had been no major actions. She also noted that Director Glancy had requested a review of Senate Bill 2554 (Brownley), which would amend the Flood Control Act and allow the County to assess a parcel tax for stormwater-related services on parcels in unincorporated county areas. Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez noted that the parcel tax assessment would be subject to a Proposition 218 protest vote, and that it would likely move to the Assembly in the coming week. It was noted that the County was instructed not to move forward or formalize the bill until they had reached an agreement with the cities regarding the distribution of funds collected under the parcel tax, and that the Cities are requesting that the parcel fee be returned to the agency of origination. The County is currently proposing a 40%-60% split, but the Cities are advocating for a larger proportion of the fees. Currently, the bill only applies to unincorporated county parcels, but the cities have concerns that the bill may not be legal unless it includes all parcels within the county. It was noted that this bill has been brought forward twice before and failed. Director Christoffels clarified that in

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its current state, SB 2554 only applies to parcels in unincorporated county areas. Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez confirmed, but noted that attorneys have brought forth the concern that it may not be legal to limit the tax only to unincorporated county parcels, and cities are concerned that there is currently no return to the cities on this tax. Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez motioned that the Gateway Authority maintain a “watch” status on SB 2554, and Director Jensen seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

b) Update on Comments in Prop 84 IRWM Funding Guidelines Process

Executive Officer Hubbell distributed copies of the letter sent by the Gateway Authority to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) in response to their draft Funding Guidelines for Planning and Implementation grants under Proposition 84. Of note, the letter suggests eliminating the match requirement for implementation projects benefiting disadvantaged communities (DACs) and reducing the matching fund requirement for planning grants to 25%, with a waiver for planning grants in regions with a large proportion of DACs. The letter also requests that DWR revert to the date of the passage of the bond measure for demonstrating matching funds and requests relief from some of the strenuous economic analysis requirements.

Vice Chair Figueroa asked whether there was a projected timeline for the planning grant process, and Ms. Hubbell replied that currently, the guidelines provide for two-to-four week response to the project solicitation for planning grants, but comments made by many suggest it should be in the range of six-to-eight weeks. It is also unknown when the final project solicitation package would be issued, but likely not to be before July. Discussion ensued regarding comments related to providing funding in planning grant applications to assist members in fulfilling requirements for the 2010 Urban Water Management Plans (UWMPs) California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC) Best Management Practices (BMPs). Director Dave Hill noted that Central Basin, the supplier for many Gateway Authority members, will have its 2010 UWMP for the entire supply area completed by December 2010, and that it is likely that its compliance may suffice for the entire region.

c) Update on Gateway Authority Federal Appropriation Requests

Shannon DeLong reported that the Gateway Authority had submitted four projects to California Senators and to the House members representing the Gateway region as Appropriations Requests and Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) projects. The Gateway Authority’s first-priority project (presented as the Gateway Cities Stormwater Clean-Up Project under Appropriations and as the San Gabriel River Pollution Prevention Project under WRDA) were proposed for funding are as follows:

Appropriations Requests:	WRDA Requests:
Senator Boxer: \$6,702,506	Rep. Napolitano: \$14,812,500
Senator Feinstein: \$1,000,000	Rep. Roybal-Allard: \$14,812,500
Rep. Richardson: \$800,000	
Rep. Roybal-Allard: \$6,702,506	
Rep. Linda Sanchez: \$6,702,506	

ITEM 10 – DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS/REPORTS

Director DeWitt noted that he had met with Supervisor Gloria Molina regarding the bacteria TMDL and the changes that were necessary because of the enormous expense placed upon cities.

Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez asked that member agencies send letters to the Regional Water Quality Control Board asking them to move their meeting from Ventura to Los Angeles. He also noted that recent CREST work essentially guaranteed that in-stream compliance measures will not work.

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Vice Chair Figueroa stated that the small water producers group had attended two workshops with the Water Replenishment District (WRD) regarding its budget proposal and the drought carryover. She noted that the May 18 agenda for WRD will declare an emergency and authorize a 35% carryover. Director Figueroa asked for letters of support, noting that Norwalk will be present at the meeting.

Director DeWitt complimented Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez on his recent comments (on behalf of the City of Downey) at the WRD Board meeting. Mr. Alvarez noted that the assessment had still been raised.

Executive Officer Hubbell informed Directors that Debra Mann of the Metropolitan Water District had rescheduled her presentation to the June board meeting.

ITEM 11 – ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:50 pm to Thursday, June 10, 2010 at 12 Noon in the Clearwater Building at Paramount, CA.

Desi Alvarez, Secretary

Date