

**MINUTES OF THE LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION  
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD  
(L.A. GATEWAY AUTHORITY)  
AT PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 12, 2010**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Authority was held on Thursday, August 12, 2010 at Noon at the Clearwater Building at 16401 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723.

Vice Chair Adriana Figueroa called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. Roll was called through self-introductions and a quorum was declared present.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Vice Chair Adriana Figueroa	Norwalk
Secretary/Treasurer Desi Alvarez	Downey
Deborah Chankin (awaiting appointment)	Bellflower
Dave Hill (alt for Art Aguilar)	Central Basin Municipal Water District
Vince Brar	Cerritos
Gina Nila (alt for Jorge Rifa)	Commerce
Jim Glancy	Lakewood
Mark Christoffels	Long Beach
Kevin Wattier	Long Beach Water Department
Len Gorecki (alt for Christopher Cash)	Paramount
Al Cablay	Pico Rivera
Frank Beach (alt for Don Jensen)	Santa Fe Springs
Mohammad Mostakami (alt for Bill DeWitt)	South Gate
Barbara Muñoz (alt for Charlie Honeycutt)	Signal Hill
Scott Rigg (alt for Kevin Wilson)	Vernon

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Joseph Serrano	Southeast Water Coalition
David Pelsner	Whittier

**STAFF AND GUESTS PRESENT:**

Annette Hubbell	Executive Officer
Charlie Emig	Cerritos
Shannon DeLong	Downey
Abi Aderonmu	Department of Water Resources
Christina Dixon	Huntington Park
Bill Bennett	GEI/Bookman-Edmonston
Alex Kenefick	Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council
Shirley Birosik (via phone)	Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
Russ Bryden	Los Angeles County Flood Control/GLAC
Rachelle Paras	Los Angeles County Flood Control/GLAC
Salvador Lopez	Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
Jeff Wheeler	Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
Bill Pagett	Willdan Engineering

PUBLIC PRESENT:  
none

### **ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

There were none.

### **ITEM 4 – ORAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD**

Russ Bryden of the County Flood Control District announced that the lower San Gabriel/LA River subregion meeting would be held on August 17, and the leadership committee of the Greater Los Angeles IRWM group would be meeting on August 25 to discuss the Proposition 84 planning grant.

### **ITEM 5 – CONSENT CALENDAR**

Secretary-Treasurer Desi Alvarez motioned to approve the minutes and Director Al Cablay seconded. The July 15, 2010 minutes were unanimously approved.

### **ITEM 6 – PROPOSITION 84 PLANNING GRANT**

#### **6a – RESOLUTION APPROVING GRANT APPLICATION AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO EXECUTE GRANT AGREEMENT**

Executive Officer Annette Hubbell referred Directors to the agenda report and the draft resolution that would authorize the submission of a grant application from the Gateway Authority and authorize the Executive Officer to sign grant documents. Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez motioned to adopt the resolution and Director Kevin Wattier seconded the motion. The Resolution (2010-01) authorizing preparation and submission of an IRWM planning grant was passed unanimously.

#### **6b – DISCUSSION OF GUIDELINES, FUNDING MATCH, AND REQUIREMENTS**

Ms. Hubbell introduced Bill Bennett of GEI/Bookman-Edmonston, and together they presented several slides describing the Proposition 84 Planning Grant guidelines and solicitation recently released by the Department of Water Resources. There was discussion relating to the completion of Urban Water Management Plans (UWMP), and it was noted that the 2010 UWMPs would be due before the Prop 84 funding agreements are signed. Ms. Hubbell also informed the board that because the Gateway Authority is a Joint Powers Authority and not an urban water supplier, the Gateway Authority is not required to submit an UWMP in order to qualify for grant funding. Mr. Bill Bennett stated that the IRWM plan, as will be described in the planning grant application, is designed to be developed and adopted within 18 months, but that the board should be prepared for potential delays associated with reaching consensus in adopting the plan. Ms. Hubbell stressed that it is very important for the Gateway Authority to have a plan in place prior to the next round of IRWM implementation funding. Directors asked about the availability of a draft document for review prior to submission and the date on which match funding would be committed. Ms. Hubbell said the submittal deadline was September 28 – a very tight schedule – and that if feasible, the draft application would be made available prior to the September 9, 2010 meeting, and most certainly there would be information relative to the amount of grant funds being requested. Ms. Hubbell informed the board that approximately \$100,000 of the 25% required match funding would be from in-kind services (contractors and staff time) and the remainder is to come from the Gateway Authority's reserve funds. Regarding the funding match requirement, it is staff understands that the match requirement must be expended before the State begins its reimbursement for funds (to be detailed in a signed financing agreement).

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Director Christoffels asked whether the state was planning to short-fund the planning grants, and Ms. Hubbell replied that the Department of Water Resources had not revealed its intentions, but that the Gateway Authority would be competing against both new IRWM groups and IRWM groups seeking funding to update their existing plans.

### **ITEM 7 – UPDATED ON THE ACTIVITIES OF AMIGOS DE LOS RIOS – CLAIRE ROBINSON**

Vice Chair Figueroa introduced Claire Robinson of Amigos de los Rios, who gave a report on the recent activities of Amigos de los Rios, including the adoption and publication of the Emerald Necklace Plan. Ms. Robinson informed the board of a unique federal grant opportunity stemming from a partnership between the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and the Department of Transportation (HUD). This grant, for the development of a Sustainable Communities Plan, focuses on many of the same goals as the Gateway Authority – water quality, water supply, stormwater, and open space. It also involves addressing economic and infrastructure disparities in disadvantaged communities (DACs), the “walkability” of urban areas, and sustainable transportation. She suggested that the Gateway Authority and Amigos de los Rios might continue the alliance, which began when the Gateway Authority signed the Emerald Necklace accords last year, by submitting a letter of cooperation for the grant application. Discussion ensued regarding the flexibility of the grant and the strict purposes for which the Gateway Authority was formed. Secretary/Treasurer Alvarez motioned to direct the Executive Officer to send a letter as a partnership agency in support of the grant application, focusing on the goal to develop green spaces that address stormwater, water resources, and watershed protection. Director Brar seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

### **ITEM 8 – EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT**

#### **ITEM 8a – ARRA-FUNDED CATCH BASIN PROJECT – PRESS EVENT AND PROJECT UPDATE**

Ms. Hubbell reminded Directors that a press event had been held, in cooperation with the City of Long Beach, on August 2, 2010. There were 11 elected officials or their representatives present, along with press from the local affiliate stations, radio, and newspapers. Jule Rizzardo, Senior Water Resource Engineer at the State Water Board, and Project Manager Mark Magtoto were in attendance and were later taken on an inspection tour of various project sites. Ms. Mary Ann Lutz of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (and Mayor of Monrovia) was also on hand and expressed her support of regional projects such as the Gateway Authority’s, which address water quality issues and provide local jobs. Ms. Hubbell also noted that a dialogue with the elected officials had been established, sending them the Gateway Authority Fact Sheet and including them on the Board agenda distribution list.

Mr. Bill Pagett of Willdan Engineering noted that to date there had been 480 connector pipe screens and 135 automatic retractable screens installed. As of the August Board meeting, there were 8 crews working in the City of Long Beach, and they would probably be in Long Beach for another three months. The County of Los Angeles has been out inspecting county catch basins on a full time basis and there are more recommendations coming. Director Gina Nila requested a revised project timeline and a list of catch basins that cannot be retrofitted due to sizing constraints.

#### **ITEM 8b – LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

Ms. Hubbell reported on the following items of interest:

AB 2554 – the amendment of the Flood Control Act allowing the County Flood Control District, pursuant to a Proposition 218 protest vote, to assess a parcel tax for stormwater purposes. Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez clarified that the amended bill had been introduced. Director Christoffels informed the board that the City of Long Beach sent a letter of support if amended. It was noted that the Executive Officer had been directed to

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send a letter (and will now do so) based upon the outcome of the Gateway Cities COG City Managers' meeting with the County the previous month, and that apparently the managers had agreed to send a letter of support but that none had been circulated yet.

SB 346 – Source Control of Copper Water Pollution – Ms. Hubbell explained that this bill had been extended to next year, but it was intended to reduce the amount of copper in brake pads to less than 0.05% by the year 2025. Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez motioned to direct the Executive Officer to send a letter in support of the bill, due to the Copper TMDL. Director Deborah Chankin seconded, and the motioned passed unanimously.

### **ITEM 8c – UPDATED ON MUNICIPAL OUTREACH**

Ms. Hubbell informed the board that a packet of information containing an invitation letter, sample agenda memo, the Joint Powers Authority agreement, a fact sheet, a “values and benefits” sheet, and a “frequently asked questions” sheet, had been sent to the City Councils and City Managers of the Gateway Cities not currently members of the Gateway Authority. Vice Chair Figueroa asked for Board member volunteers to approach colleagues in these cities with a folder of information and provide them with any additional information they may require. Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez noted that the City of Lynwood is committed and that the City of Bell Gardens is interested in joining. The following Directors volunteered to perform outreach:

Artesia – Director Brar

La Habra Heights – Director Glancy

Compton – Director Nila

La Mirada – Vice Chair Figueroa

Hawaiian Gardens – Director Glancy

Montebello – Director Cablay

Huntington Park – Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez

### **ITEM 8d – REPORT ON THE 20X2020 PROCESS**

Director Wattier distributed copies of a PowerPoint presentation from the Department of Water Resources Water Use Efficiency division. He noted that SB x7-7 requires water agencies to adopt compliance measures in order to demonstrate a 20% reduction in per capita water use by the year 2020. Compliance can be achieved on an individual basis or through a regional alliance such as the Gateway Authority. Currently, proposed methodologies from DWR allow entities to be members of only one regional alliance, but some members of the Urban Water Stakeholders Committee were urging DWR to change the methodologies and allow participation in up to six regional alliances. Director Cablay motioned, and Director Glancy seconded, to direct the Executive Officer to send a letter to DWR supporting the methodologies as currently proposed. The motion was passed unanimously.

### **ITEM 9 – DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/REPORTS**

Secretary-Treasurer informed the board that annual invoices had been sent out in October-November of each year because the Gateway Authority had first set its assessment in that time frame back in 2007. However, to coincide with the fiscal years of most members, invoices would now be sent out in July, following adoption of a budget by the board each June. It was noted that this would provide some difficulty for the City of Long Beach, because its fiscal year begins in September, and the Secretary-Treasurer said that a compromise would be reached to accommodate such difficulties.

### **ITEM 10 – ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 1:33 pm to Thursday, September 9, 2010 at 12 Noon in the Clearwater Building at Paramount, CA.

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Desi Alvarez, Secretary-Treasurer

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Date