

**MINUTES OF THE LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD
(L.A. GATEWAY AUTHORITY)
AT PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA
THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2011**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Authority was held on Thursday, April 14, 2011, at Noon at the Clearwater Building at 16401 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723.

Chair Chris Cash called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m. Roll was called through self-introductions and a quorum was declared present.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Chris Cash	Paramount
Secretary-Treasurer Desi Alvarez	Downey
Chau Vu	Bell Gardens
Bernardo Iniguez (alt for Deborah Chankin)	Bellflower
Dave Hill (alt for Art Aguilar)	Central Basin Municipal Water District
Mike O'Grady (alt. for Vince Brar)	Cerritos
Gina Nila	Commerce
Jim Glancy	Lakewood
Mark Christoffels	Long Beach
Eric Leung (alt for Kevin Wattier)	Long Beach Water Department
G. Daniel Ojeda	Lynwood
Al Cablay	Pico Rivera
Frank Beach (alt for Don Jensen)	Santa Fe Springs
Charlie Honeycutt	Signal Hill
Bill DeWitt	South Gate
Mohammad Mostahkami	South Gate
Scott Rigg (alt for Kevin Wilson)	Vernon

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joseph Serrano	Southeast Water Coalition
David Pelser	Whittier
Adriana Figueroa	Norwalk

STAFF AND GUESTS PRESENT:

Grace J. Kast	Incoming Executive Officer
Annette Hubbell	Outgoing Executive Officer
Shannon DeLong	Downey
Steve Myrter	Signal Hill
Abi Aderonmu	California Department of Water Resources
Alex Kenefick	Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council
Russ Bryden	Los Angeles County Department of Public Works/GLAC
Bill Pagett	Willdan Engineering
Bill Bennett	GEI/Bookman Edmonston
Lorena Ospina	GEI/Bookman Edmonston

PUBLIC PRESENT:

None

ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

ITEM 4 – ORAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Russ Bryden, Los Angeles County Flood Control/GLAC, announced that the next GLAC meeting for the Lower LA/SGR sub-region would be on leadership committee meeting would be on April 13th and the next leadership committee meeting would be on April 27th. He reported that they have issued an RFP for the update to their IRWM planning grant.

ITEM 5 – CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Al Cablay moved to approve the minutes and Director Ojeda seconded. Hearing no objections, it was so ordered by the Chair to approve the minutes from March 10, 2011.

ITEM 6 – PRESENTATION OF GATEWAY AUTHORITY AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Secretary-Treasurer Desi Alvarez distributed copies of the 2009-10 audited financial statements performed as required under the terms of the ARRA-funded catch basin grant. The auditors reported no adverse findings. Director Bill Dewitt motioned to receive and file; Director Cablay seconded. Hearing no objections, it was so ordered.

ITEM 7 - STATUS REPORT ON ARRA-FUNDED CATCH BASIN GRANT

Chair Chris cash asked Mr. Bill Pagett (Willdan Engineering) to provide an update. Mr. Pagett reported 6,539 connector pipe screens (CPS) and 2,016 automatic retractable screens (ARS) installed as of the end of March. Work is complete in Long Beach, Vernon, Commerce and Bell Gardens. Six cities are left (roughly 1,100 catch basins) and all permits should be received by the end of next week. It was clarified that about 10,000 units (7,000 of which are County-owned catch basins) would have CPS at the end of the project. Some inventoried catch basins are actually culverts, for which the County will allow only the installation of an ARS unit. ARS units will also be allowed, according to the County on previously denied catch basins as long as they are connected to storm drains with a greater than a 4-year storm rating). Willdan has asked for (and will receive) a written explanation from the County on unpermitted catch basins. It was asked whether the CPS or ARS units have caused unanticipated flooding due to significant rains this year; it was noted that no new CPS or ARS units caused any flooding.

ITEM 8 – STATUS REPORT ON 20X2020 REGIONAL ALLIANCE

Bill Bennett and Lorena Ospina from GEI/Bookman Edmonston delivered a brief presentation on the data analysis. A few minor data gaps still exist, but agencies are being responsive. The baseline per capita daily use and the 2015 and 2020 targets for individual cities and for the group have been calculated. Outreach has been underway to private water retailers in the region. Following closely the guidelines developed by DWR, data has been analyzed to determine the best regional compliance method. Some cities have decided to use only an individual compliance method and not a regional method. In the next few weeks, individual targets will be released to the cities to allow cities to vet the data and suggested compliance method. The regional compliance method will be finalized for public hearing at the June 2011 Board meeting. DWR requires a signed agreement; however, the details of who the signatories should be have not been decided. Because time is of the essence, staff will forward that information to the board members as soon as it is known.

ITEM 9 – STATUS REPORT ON PROPOSITION 84 IRWM PLANNING GRANT

Incoming Executive Officer Grace Kast invited Mr. Abi Aderonmu to provide an update. Mr. Aderonmu indicated that the grant agreement has been mailed to the Gateway Authority.

Ms. Kast informed the Board that an item would be coming before the Board next month to allow staff to develop an RFP with regard to work on the IRWM Plan.

The Roundtable of Regions conference call came with a question for DWR regarding the funding availability for Prop 84 Planning grants. The recent bond sales have not covered all funding that will be awarded for the grants, as bonds are sold based upon forecasted needs, but that the funding will be made available as needed. Outgoing Executive Officer Annette Hubbell added that DWR has indicated that the Gateway Agency's match must be expended prior to reimbursement from DWR.

ITEM 10 – ADOPT POSITIONS OF SUPPORT ON VARIOUS BILLS

Ms. Hubbell and Ms. Kast directed the attention of Board members to the board letter in the agenda packet. A written and oral overview of AB 275, AB 1048 and SB 34 was provided.

AB 275 (Solario) – allows landowners to install and operate rain barrel systems for landscape irrigation and limited indoor uses.

AB 1048 (Harkey) – requires consistency in fluoride levels in recycled water and wastewater

SB 34 (Simitian) – imposes annual charge on retail water suppliers based on volume to be used by the newly-created California Water Resources Investment Fund and DWR. Fifty percent would be used by DWR for statewide projects. The other fifty percent would be divided amongst regional funding areas and would be available to applicants for water storage, conservation, conveyance, desalination, recycling, levee improvements, safe drinking water, flood plain management and restoration of fish and wildlife. A change to the bill this morning has generated many questions (passed out of Natural Resources and Water Committee and is now in Committee on Local Governance).

Secretary-Treasurer Alvarez moved to oppose SB 34 and Director Jim Glancy seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Director Cablay moved to support AB 275 and AB 1048 and Director Christoffels seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Position letters will be sent to legislator's representing the Gateway Region.

ITEM 11 – EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Ms. Kast informed directors that the same WRDA projects submitted last year were re-submitted through Sen. Boxer's office this year as well. As earmarks are currently not being accepted it is unlikely that the projects will be approved, but the board feels it important to maintain dialogue with elected representatives.

It was noted that the budget will be on the May agenda and a supermajority is required.

ITEM 12 – DIRECTORS COMMENTS/REPORTS

Director Cablay announced his retirement from the City of Pico Rivera and the Board of Directors at the end of April. He expressed his pleasure at serving with the Board Members and at the growth of the Gateway Authority.

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Director Nila reminded Directors that a resolution or minute action of re-appointment of Board Members is required from member agencies on a two-year basis.

It was noted that Director Ojeda, Chair Cash, and Executive Officer Kast would be in attendance at the IRWM conference in May in Sacramento.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:08 pm to Thursday May 12, 2011 in the Clearwater Building at Paramount, CA.



Annette Hubbell, Interim Secretary

May 12, 2011

Date