

**MINUTES OF THE LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD
(L.A. GATEWAY AUTHORITY)
AT PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA
THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2011**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Authority was held on Thursday, May 12, 2011, at Noon at the Clearwater Building at 16401 Paramount Blvd., Paramount, CA 90723.

Chair Chris Cash called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. Roll was called through self-introductions and a quorum was declared present.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Chris Cash	Paramount
Vice-Chair Adriana Figueroa	Norwalk
John Oropeza	Bell Gardens
Deborah Chankin	Bellflower
Dave Hill (alt for Art Aguilar)	Central Basin Municipal Water District
Charles Emig (alt. for Vince Brar)	Cerritos
Gina Nila	Commerce
Jim Glancy	Lakewood
Mark Christoffels	Long Beach
Kevin Wattier	Long Beach Water Department
G. Daniel Ojeda	Lynwood
Art Cervantes	Pico Rivera
Frank Beach (alt for Don Jensen)	Santa Fe Springs
Charlie Honeycutt	Signal Hill
Mohammad Mostahkami (alt for Bill DeWitt)	South Gate
Scott Rigg (alt for Kevin Wilson)	Vernon

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Joseph Serrano	Southeast Water Coalition
David Pelser	Whittier

STAFF AND GUESTS PRESENT:

Annette Hubbell	Outgoing Executive Officer
Shannon DeLong	Downey
Nancy L. van der Linden	Lynwood, Water Administration Manager
Abi Aderonmu	California Department of Water Resources
Alex Kenefick	Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council
Bill Pagett	Willdan Engineering (by phone)
Bill Bennett	GEI/Bookman Edmonston
Aaron McWilliams	GEI/Bookman Edmonston
Lorena Ospina	GEI/Bookman Edmonston (by phone)

PUBLIC PRESENT:

None

ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

ITEM 4 – ORAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Chair Cash announced that with the departure of Secretary-Treasurer Desi Alvarez from the City of Downey discussions are taking place with other Directors concerning lead agency status. In addition, Executive Officer Grace Kast was called away on a family emergency, and Outgoing Executive Officer Annette Hubbell would be staffing the meeting.

On behalf of Russ Bryden, Los Angeles County Flood Control/GLAC, Alex Kennefleck made announcements about the next GLAC meetings for the Lower LA/SGR sub-region leadership committee and leadership committee meeting.

ITEM 5 – CONSENT CALENDAR

Noting a correction to the April Minutes (Vice-Chair Figueroa was not present) Chair Cash, hearing no other changes, declared the minutes approved by unanimous consensus.

ITEM 6 – PUBLIC HEARING

A Public Hearing to receive comments on the draft 20X2020 Regional Alliance Targets was opened by Chair Chris Cash after ascertaining that the Hearing was publicly noticed as required by law. (Notice published in the LA Times and Long Beach Telegram on May 4 and May 10, 2011). No written comments were received.

Chair Cash asked for a briefing which was provided by Bill Bennett, Aaron McWilliams and Lorena Ospina of GEI Consultants. Mr. Bennett noted that the slides will be posted on Gateway Authority's web site (<http://www.gatewayirwmp.org/>).

Discussion about the different methodologies used to ascertain target GPCD ensued. It was also noted that until the 2015 Interim Date a member of the Regional Alliance can withdraw, a new member can be included, and the target numbers, with an additional five years of history, may change. It was also noted that conservation methods used to reach these targets are not determined by the Alliance, but by the individual entities. Director Wattier asked that one more attempt be made to bring other members into the Alliance before the June meeting. He also asked GEI Consultants to recalculate the targets with the addition of Cerritos for discussion purposes. At the June meeting, the Board will vote on becoming a Regional Alliance and which of the methodologies it will use.

There were no members of the public present at the hearing.

ITEM 7 – CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF 20X2020 REGIONAL ALLIANCE TARGETS/REPORT

Not considered at this time. (Put here as a placeholder.) This item to be considered at the June meeting as indicated above.

ITEM 8 – AUTHORIZATION TO RELEASE REQUEST FOR BIDS – CATCH BASIN MAINTENANCE FOR GATEWAY REGION

Ms. Hubbell reviewed the components of the Request for Bids for the Catch Basin Maintenance Program. The bid documents were written by staff with the assistance of Bill Padgett (Willdan Engineering) and Gerry Green (Downey). It was also reviewed by Steve Dorsey (General Counsel). Components of this request include:

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- Ability of each city to enter into a contract separately with the contractor.
- The total number of catch basins, if all cities contracted, would be somewhere between 14,000 and 18,000.
- The contractor would be required to clean and maintain retrofitted and non-retrofitted CBs, staff gauges, and “No Dumping” signs
- The contractor would be required to inspect, clean and make minor repairs during the months of October, January and April, and one additional time between May 1 and Sept 30.
- The Request will be released through normal public works channels.

A motion was made by Director Mohammad Mostahkami, seconded by Director Ojeda and approved unanimously.

ITEM 9 – CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF FISCAL YEAR 2011.2012 BUDGET

Ms. Hubbell reviewed the budget:

- Expected carryover into from the previous year is \$549,000, and assessments add another \$270,000 for a total of \$819,000. (conservative because of expectation more cities to join) Expenses anticipated to be \$609,000, leaving a net of \$210,000
- Expenses include \$300,000 in matching grant funds, \$100,000 for future grant matching requirements, and various administrative costs.
- Included is a discretionary amount of \$8,190 (1% of revenues) for the Executive Officer to spend at her discretion (with the approval of the Chair).

Chair Cash opened the discussion concerning the need for additional discretionary spending authority by the Executive Officer, and that perhaps it was time to begin developing policies with respect to purchasing, associated spending levels, and other administrative matters (such as warrant list confirmations). Chair Cash offered that this should be an agenda item for further discussion after any decisions about the lead agency and its responsibilities has been made.

Director Chankin also suggested that it is a good time to consider whether or not General Counsel should be present at the meetings; that the Gateway Authority is growing in terms of scope and complexity, and that this should be considered. She asked for it to be brought back as a separate item in the near future. Director Figueroa stated that staff should request a quote from General Counsel.

In a motion by Director Figueroa, second by Director Wattier, the budget as presented was approved on a roll call vote.

ITEM 10 – STATUS REPORT ON ARRA-FUNDED CATCH BASIN PROJECT

Ms. Hubbell reviewed the status of the Catch Basin Project as follows:

- As of April 30 the Contractor installed 7,581 CPS units and 2,742 ARS units.
- Contractor is working in the following (5) cities: Montebello (finish by 5/13/11), South Gate, Lynwood, Huntington Park, Maywood
- 6 cities completed and County Permits closed: Long Beach, Compton, Commerce, Downey, Vernon, Bell Gardens
- 5 remaining county permits for the following cities within the next 3 weeks: Paramount , Bell, Signal Hill, Cudahy, Pico Rivera

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Noting that the original completion date is July, 2011, Ms. Hubbell sought direction from the Board with regard to finishing the project. Summarizing the pertinent facts noted in the Board letter:

- The Finance Agreement with the State Water Board requires a completion date of July 2011 and Final Project Certification of December 30, 2011.
- The original project authorized the installation of 10,586 CPS units (Connector Pipe Screens) and 1,822 ARS units (Automatic Retractable Screens). Later 450 CPS units and 2,932 ARS units were added to the project. (ARS units are installed in catch basins along with CPS units). The new total for the July 30 completion date became 11,036 catch basins retrofitted with CPS retrofits; 4,754 of those would have ARS screens.
- Unexpected conditions (county permitting issues, inclement weather) caused a six-month delay to the project construction start. This, coupled with matters concerning inventories (non-existent, double-counted, or non-standard basins), created new CPS and ARS total retrofit installations. Even though there is a net decrease in total catch basins to be retrofitted, the delay in construction has created a situation where not all catch basins will be retrofitted by July, 2011.
- It is anticipated that 8,865 catch basins will be retrofitted by the July date (7,581 installed as of 4/2011). Of these 8,865 catch basins, 4,550 will also have ARS screens installed. Correspondingly, remaining funds of the \$10M grant are expected to be approximately \$1,000,000. (Of the \$9M spent, \$7.7M was for construction and \$1.3M was for design and construction management services.)
- The State Water Board has indicated that an amendment to the Finance Agreement can be executed to provide more time, as long as final project certification is completed by December 30, 2011.

The question before the board is whether or not to ask for an amendment to the State Finance Agreement to extend the timeline and how to proceed with the additional installations.

- Willdan discussions with the County indicate that many catch basins previously denied CPS unit retrofits would be allowed to have ARS units installed. (A majority of the remaining catch basins, 1,350, are county-owned.) These would be retrofitted first; any time remaining would then allow ARS units to be added to the CPS units in the cities. Which retrofits would have the ARS units installed would be determined by location (high-density traffic), ease of access, capacity greater than a 4-year storm, etc.
- The average cost of an ARS retrofit is \$950. (CPS Unit is \$309.) Inspection and management costs have averaged \$50,000 per month, for a total of \$150,000 for the three months. The remaining \$750,000 would allow for between 700 and 1,000 ARS retrofits (depending on size.)
- Bill Padgett confirmed that Willdan Engineering and Bubalo, the construction contractor, understand that under no circumstances can the project exceed the original \$10,000,000.

Director Figueroa stated that before approving an extension to the contract, she would like to see more detail regarding the proposed costs, and asked Mr. Padgett to bring that information back to the next meeting.

In a motion by Director Mostahkami and seconded by Director Wattier, the Board unanimously approved: 1) requesting an amendment to the Finance Agreement to extend the Completion of the Construction Date and the Draft Project Certification Date to October, 2011, and 2) to have Willdan Engineering return in June with a detail proposal for the remaining \$1 million.

ITEM 11 – STATUS REPORT ON PROPOSITION 84 IRWM PLANNING GRANT

Ms. Hubbell and Mr. Aderonmu (DWR) discussed the status of the grant. Preliminary to a contract is a commitment letter documenting available funds, changes (if any) to the scope of work, a budget detailing

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designated DAC involvement, along with environmental information forms, and other administrative forms. This information was submitted April 26.

DWR has agreed to a concurrent drawdown of funds. There are some issues under discussion regarding how to best qualify the 20X2020 and RAP expenditures to properly qualify for the in-kind matching requirement.

DWR is now in the next phase, which is the development of the agreement. Gateway Authority staff is writing the RFP for the Plan Implementation and expects to bring it before the Board in June.

ITEM 12 – EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

Executive Officer Hubbell reported briefly on legislative bills AB 275, AB 1048 and SB 34. As directed, letters to the appropriate elected officials of the Board’s positions (AB 271 and AB 1048, Support; SB 34 Oppose) were sent.

Director Wattier confirmed that SB 34 (California Water Resources Investment Act of 2011) is now a two-year bill. Director Mostahkami said that Southgate was writing its own letter of opposition.

Director Glancy and Director Wattier lead a discussion on SB 263 (Pavley) regarding “Wells: reports: public availability” and asked that it be brought before the board for a position at the June meeting.

ITEM 13 – DIRECTORS COMMENTS/REPORTS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm to Thursday June 9, 2011 in the Clearwater Building at Paramount, CA.



Grace J. Kast, Acting Secretary

June 9, 2011

Date