

**MINUTES OF THE GATEWAY WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD
AT PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA
THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 2012**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority was held on Thursday, June 14, 2012 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 of the board was declared present. A Sign-In Sheet was distributed to all attendees for sign-in.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Christopher Cash	Paramount
Vice-Chair Adriana Figueroa	Norwalk
Charlie Honeycutt	Signal Hill
Chau Vu (alternate)	Bell Gardens
Deborah Chankin	Bellflower
Dave Hill (alternate)	Central Basin MWD
Mike O'Grady (proxy)	Cerritos
Gina Nila	Commerce
Dan Mueller (alternate)	Downey
Jim Glancy	Lakewood
Anthony Arevalo (alternate)	Long Beach
Eric Leung (alternate)	Long Beach Water Dept.
G. Daniel Ojeda	Lynwood
Jose Molina (alternate)	Lynwood
Adrian Diaz (alternate)	Pico Rivera
Steve Myrter (alternate)	Signal Hill
Bill De Witt	South Gate
Mohammad Mostahkami (alternate)	South Gate
Scott Rigg (alternate)	Vernon
David Pelser	Whittier

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Art Aguilar	Central Basin MWD
John Oskoui	Downey
John Oropeza	Bell Gardens
Vince Brar	Cerritos
Don Jensen	Santa Fe Springs
Kevin Wilson	Vernon
Thomas Robinson	La Mirada

Gateway Water Management Authority Board Meeting
Minutes May 10, 2012

STAFF AND GUESTS PRESENT:

Grace Kast	Executive Officer
Ken Farfsing	Signal Hill
Bill Bennett	GEI Consultants
Jennifer Lau	GEI Consultants
Diana Leach	Golden State Water Company
Blake Whittington	Council for Watershed Health
James Park	City of Bell

ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

ITEM 4 – ORAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

None.

ITEM 5 – CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Nila moved the approval of the consent calendar. After Director Glancy seconded the motion the consent calendar was unanimously approved.

ITEM 6 – STATUS REPORT ON IRWMP ACTIVITIES

Mr. Bill Bennett provided an update of activities and reminded everyone that an IRWM Plan Stakeholders meeting was being held after the board meeting in the same room at 1:30 p.m. He continued by stating that the group is entering into the project development phase and that a project prioritization framework was their next big task. He concluded his report by indicating that project concepts would be solicited very soon.

ITEM 7 – APPROVAL OF COYOTE CREEK MOA

Ms. Kast reported that GWMA was being requested to act as lead agency for the Coyote Creek Metals TMDL Monitoring and Implementation Plan. She referred to the Memorandum of Agreement enclosed in the agenda packet and added that this was very similar to the Los Cerritos Channel MOA which had been working very well. The interested parties in the Coyote Creek watershed were Diamond Bar, La Habra Heights, Whittier, Santa Fe Springs, La Mirada, Norwalk, Cerritos, Artesia, Lakewood, Hawaiian Gardens and Long Beach. She requested approval of the MOA and authorization for the Chair to sign the MOA with each group member in the Coyote Creek watershed.

ITEM 8 – LEGISLATION – HR 872 (GIBBS) Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act of 2011

Chair Cash requested that the board consider a position of “neutral” because some of the governing bodies of the GWMA members have voted to support the bill while others have either stayed neutral or have opposed it. Mr. Farfsing then described the legislation, HR 872 (Gibbs) which was introduced in March 2011 as an attempt to reduce the regulatory burdens on vector control agencies throughout the nation. In doing so,

this bill would prohibit the U.S. EPA or a state from requiring a pesticide authorized for sale, distribution, or use under Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act or the residue resulting from the application.

He continued by stating that there are three exemptions of which one states “stormwater discharges regulated under a NPDES permit”. Because cities have little to no control over the major sources of pesticide pollutants, cities could be potentially exposed to 3rd party lawsuits under the Clean Water Act. In other words, cities would not have the necessary protection via their MS4 Permits for stormwater discharges that may have pesticides from upstream sources.

The board discussed the good work of the vector control district to protect the health and the environment of the citizens. After lengthy discussion, a motion was made by Director Chankin and seconded by Director Figueroa to take a “Watch” position until further notice. Staff was also directed to set up a meeting with the Greater LA Vector Control District and send out invitations to the GWMA board and alternates. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss their respective positions and concerns in the hopes of working together on the bill. The motion was unanimously approved.

ITEM 9 – DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING EPA STUDY OF MUNICIPALS’ COSTS SURVEY

Director Nila updated the board on a recent communication she had with a consultant retained by the US EPA to conduct a survey of municipal costs for preventing and cleaning up litter that could otherwise reach rivers and the ocean. She continued by stating that the consultant appeared to have randomly selected Commerce as one of the cities to participate in the survey. Director Nila concluded her report by indicating that she had Mr. John Hunter survey the other cities along the LA River watershed to see if they had received the survey. The findings showed that Commerce was the only city contacted.

Mr. Farfsing felt it was important that the information submitted should include all Gateway cities to the extent possible. Several directors concurred. Mr. Farfsing offered to have Mr. John Hunter and Mr. Richard Watson conduct the survey among all the Gateway cities and submit them to the consultant for inclusion in the survey or at a minimum as an appendix to the survey.

ITEM 10 – GWMA MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Ms. Kast reported that she had sent out information and applications for Gateway cities to become ex-officio members or full members with reduced dues. She continued by stating that she has received applications for full membership from Compton, Artesia and City of Bell. The City of Hawaiian Gardens submitted an application for ex-officio membership. In conclusion, she stated that she anticipated bringing those requests to the board in July.

ITEM 11 – CITY MANAGERS STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Farfsing updated the board on the draft water quality fee ordinance being circulated by LA County. He reported that Supervisor Knabe had requested a continuation of the item until June 19th.

Mr. Farfsing also reported that a budget trailer bill now included language to reduce the size of the State’s Regional Board from nine to seven. While a smaller-size board was not concerning, the fact that the language eliminated both local representatives (city elected official and county official) was not good public

Gateway Water Management Authority Board Meeting
Minutes May 10, 2012

policy. He urged cities to submit opposition letters as soon as possible to their respective state representatives. He concluded his report by stating that the legislature could pass the trailer bill within a day or two so time was of the essence. Staff was directed to send out the information to the GWMA board members immediately after the board meeting.

ITEM 11 – EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

None.

ITEM 12 – DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS/REPORTS

Director De Witt reported that a bike/walk event took place along the LA River which was very successful.

Director Mostahkami shared his concerns regarding the County’s agreement for maintenance of the County’s stormwater catch basins. He indicated that the agreement offers two options for cities: 1) retain the County to conduct the maintenance service; or 2) retain other contract services. Both options included language that required that the County be indemnified. He requested input from other board members. Several board members indicated they shared the same concern.

After discussion, staff was requested to agendize this item for the July board meeting.

ITEM 13 - ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm to Thursday, July 12, 2012 in the Clearwater Building at Paramount, CA.



Charlie Honeycutt, Treasurer / *SECRETARY*

7.12.12

Date