

**MINUTES OF THE GATEWAY WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION  
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD  
AT PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA  
THURSDAY, JULY 11, 2013**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority was held on Thursday, July 11, 2013 at Noon at the Progress Park Plaza, 15500 Downey Avenue, Paramount, CA 90723.

Chair Chris Cash called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. Roll was called by the Executive Officer and a quorum of the Board was declared.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chair Christopher Cash	Paramount
Vice Chair Adriana Figueroa	Norwalk
Steve Myrter (alternate)	Signal Hill
Carlos Alba	Artesia
Terry Rodrigue	Bell
Chau Vu (alternate)	Bell Gardens
Deborah Chankin	Bellflower
David Hill	Central Basin MWD
Mike O'Grady (alternate)	Cerritos
Victor Ferrer	Cudahy
Lisa Rapp (alternate)	Lakewood
Derek Wieske (alternate)	Long Beach
Kevin Wattier	Long Beach Water Dept.
Jose Molina (alternate)	Lynwood
Michael Huntley	Montebello
Adriana Figueroa	Norwalk
Gladis Deras (alternate)	Pico Rivera
Frank Beach	Santa Fe Springs
Mohammad Mostahkami (alternate)	South Gate
Scott Rigg (Alternate)	Vernon

**EX-OFFICIO PARTICIPANTS:**

Ismile Noorbaksh	Hawaiian Gardens
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**STAFF AND GUESTS ON SIGN-IN SHEET:**

Grace Kast	Executive Officer
Toni Penn	Administrative/Accounting Assistant
Steve Dorsey	Legal Counsel
Bill Bennett	GEI Consultants
Russ Bryden	LACFCD
Vickie Yoshikawa	City of Norwalk
Charles Darensbourg	LACFCD
Esther Rojas	WRD
Brian Cuaron	Lakewood/Hawaiian Gardens News Reporter

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

None.

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

Mr. Bryden from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District advised that the next meeting of the Greater LA IRWM's Lower Los Angeles/Lower San Gabriel Subregion, will be held on July 16 at 1:30 p.m. at the Water Replenishment District's office. He also indicated that the next meeting of the Greater LA IRWM's Leadership Committee would be held on July 24<sup>th</sup>. Lastly, he stated that the Greater LA's focus over the past several months had been updating their planning document and indicated that they have concluded the public comment period for the Plan and are now putting together the final draft.

Director Chankin, asked Mr. Bryden for clarification of the role of the Greater LA IRWM's Lower Los Angeles/Lower San Gabriel Subregion.

Mr. Bryden provided a brief summary of its role.

### **ITEM 5 - CONSENT CALENDAR**

Director Chankin moved the approval of the consent calendar. Director Alba seconded the motion. The consent calendar was unanimously approved.

### **ITEM 6– STATUS REPORT ON IRWMP ACTIVITIES**

Ms. Kast reported that since GWMA's adoption of the plan, Gateway stakeholders were encouraged to also adopt the Plan. Ms. Kast stated that several stakeholders had already adopted the Plan, which were the cities of San Gabriel, Montebello, Cudahy, Hawaiian Gardens, Norwalk, Commerce, Artesia and the Long Beach Water Dept.

### **ITEM 7 – DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING WATERSHED EWMP/WMP ACTIVITIES**

Ms. Kast updated the Board on developments regarding the MOU for the Lower Los Angeles River Reach 1 Watershed Group. She indicated that the current MOA and funds collected were with the Gateway COG and that the new MOU would replace the existing MOU and remaining funds would be transferred.

Director Mostahkami asked if the MOU was going to come before the Board prior to distribution. Ms. Kast confirmed that the MOU would come before the Board at its August Board meeting.

Ms. Kast updated the Board on the MOUs with the Los Cerritos Channel and Coyote Creek watershed groups and stated that GWMA had collected funds and paid invoices for both watersheds. She indicated that the Los Cerritos Channel watershed had approximately \$200,000 on account and the Lower San Gabriel watershed group had approximately \$100,000 on account to pay for the TMDL work.

Ms. Kast continued by stating that each watershed group had requested to use existing fund balances for WMP development work until such time as the new replacement MOUs were executed.

Director Figueroa moved to approve the use of Los Cerritos Channel MOA funds for WMP development work. The motion was seconded by Director Rapp and unanimously approved.

Director Alba moved to approve the use of Coyote Creek MOA funds for WMP development work. The motion was seconded by Director Rapp and was unanimously approved.

Ms. Kast reported that at the June board meeting, LAR UR2 WG members requested that the Chair be given authorization to sign a Professional Services Agreement with a consultant prior to making the selection. After lengthy discussions, the Chair was given the authority, noting that the Notice to Proceed would not be issued prior to July 15<sup>th</sup> so that initial "deposit" invoices could be sent to the LAR UR2 WG members immediately.

Ms. Kast stated that the LAR UR2 WG met on June 24<sup>th</sup> and discussed each of the proposals and voted to accept CWE's proposal. She reported that the group chose CWE's proposal because they felt it best reflected the specific needs of their watershed.

Ms. Kast requested that the Board ratify the selection made by the LAR UR2 WG for the development of a WMP and CIMP by CWE.

After discussion, Director Figueroa moved to ratify CWE as the selected consultant for the LAR UR2 WG WMP and CIMP development. . The motion was seconded by Director Ferrer and unanimously approved.

#### **ITEM 8 – DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING GWMA INSURANCE OPTIONS**

Ms. Kast indicated that at the June 2013 board meeting, staff was directed to investigate options for retaining insurance to protect the GMWA. Staff contacted the Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority (ACWA/JPIA) and the California JPIA. Ms. Kast stated that the ACWA/JPIA sent a written response indicating that the GWMA did not qualify for their program because the GWMA board was not made up of elected officials. The GMWA did, however, meet the minimum criteria necessary to start the process of program eligibility with the California JPIA. In order to begin the application process with the California JPIA, GWMA must submit a completed application along with a \$1000 application fee. Ms. Kast indicated that if GWMA is not accepted for membership, the application fee would be refunded.

Ms. Kast indicated that the application process was quite extensive and that Director Figueroa had suggested to her that she check with the California JPIA to see if there were any obvious clauses that would exclude GWMA from membership.

Director Wieske suggested contacting Mr. Mark Christoffels with the ACE project on their insurance program. Ms. Kast confirmed she would investigate additional options and make additional inquiries with the State JPIA before paying the deposit to start the process.

Director Mostahkami moved to authorize staff to pay the required \$1000 fee to initiate the process for entering into this insurance program if it was the best, viable option for GWMA. The motion was seconded by Director Rapp and was unanimously approved.

#### **ITEM 9 – GWMA MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Ms. Kast reported that an application to become a GWMA JPA member with a reduced dues request from the City of Hawaiian Gardens. She indicated that the City of Hawaiian Gardens had met three criteria required to be eligible for a reduction. She stated that they were requesting their annual membership dues for FY2013/2014 be \$5,000.

Ms. Kast requested that the Board approve the membership application and reduced dues for the City of Hawaiian Gardens.

Director Figueroa moved to approve Ms. Kast's request. The motion was seconded by Director Alba and unanimously approved.

Ms. Kast concluded her report by stating that she had just received a membership application from the City of Maywood completing the membership outreach for the GWMA region.

#### **ITEM 10 – CITY MANAGERS STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Ken Farfsing reported that significant progress had been made on a negotiated Water Storage Plan Amendment. He stated that several meetings soliciting comments from parties to the Central Basin Judgment had been held and that a status would be provided to the Case judge later in July. He summarized key components of the 2013 Compromise including the the general framework, allocations, governance and the newest concept of a Community Storage Account.

Mr. Farfsing also updated the GWMA Board Members on the status of the Water Quality Funding Initiative. He stated that the League of Cities and Contract Cities have now taken steps to address and facilitate solutions to the high cost of dealing with stormwater runoff and quality that cities are facing.

Mr. Farfsing concluded his report by stating that the Lead Study was complete and that the Copper Study was almost complete for the LA River Metals TMDL Special Studies. In conclusion, he updated the Board on the coordinated LA River Monitoring Plan.

#### **ITEM 11 - EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

Ms. Kast introduced the latest addition to GWMA's staffing support, Ms. Toni Penn. She indicated that Ms. Penn had a lot of experience having worked for a JPA and public water agencies beginning 25 years ago.

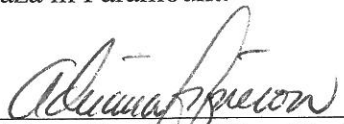
Ms. Kast stated that Ms. Penn would be handling the day-to-day administrative and accounting duties on a part-time basis. She also stated that, as of July 1<sup>st</sup>, all day-to-day accounting functions would be completed in-house.

Ms. Kast welcomed GWMA's newest JPA members, the City of Montebello and the City of Cudahy.

**ITEM 12 – DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS/REPORTS**

Director Figueroa stated that Mr. Sam Unger, Executive Officer of the Regional Board, had sent out letters to cities offering to come to their council meetings and give a presentation on the MS4 Permit. She indicated that Mr. Unger is scheduled to attend the City of Norwalk’s council meeting on August 6<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:20 p.m. to a Meeting of the Board on August 8, 2013 at Progress Park Plaza in Paramount.

  
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Adriana Figueroa, Vice-Chair

10/10/13  
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Date