

**MINUTES OF THE GATEWAY WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD
AT PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2013**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority was held on Thursday, October 10., 2013 at Noon at the Progress Park Plaza, 15500 Downey Avenue, Paramount, CA 90723.

Chair Chris Cash called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m. Roll was called by the Executive Officer and a quorum of the Board was declared.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Christopher Cash	Paramount
Carlos Alba	Artesia
Young Park (alternate)	Bell
Chau Vu (alternate)	Bell Gardens
Bernardo Iniguez (alternate)	Bellflower
Tammy Hierling (proxy)	Central Basin MWD
Mike O'Grady (alternate)	Cerritos
Gina Nila	Commerce
Victor Ferrer (alternate)	Cudahy
John Oskoui	Downey
Desi Alvarez (proxy)	Huntington Park
Mark Stowell	La Mirada
Lisa Rapp	Lakewood
Anthony Arevalo	Long Beach
Kevin Wattier	Long Beach Water Dept.
Adriana Figueroa	Norwalk
Art Cervantes	Pico Rivera
Frank Beach	Santa Fe Springs
Steve Myrter (alternate)	Signal Hill
Scott Rigg (alternate)	Vernon
David Pelser	Whittier

STAFF AND GUESTS ON SIGN-IN SHEET:

Grace Kast	Executive Officer
Toni Penn	Administrative/Accounting Assistant
Virginia Fowler	LACFCD
Ana De Anda	City of Long Beach
Blake Whittington	Council for Watershed Health
Bill Minasian	Downey Citizen
Mark Stowell	City of La Mirada
Mohammad Mostahkami	City of South Gate

ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Chair Cash reported that due to the recent activities arising after the posting of GWMA's Board Meeting Agenda for its meeting on October 10, 2013, he requested an agenda item be added as an urgency item. He reported that after the agenda posting, it had become necessary for GWMA to consider immediate action to retain a lobbyist to address grant funding issues and also to secure its name and position in Sacramento longer-term. He recommended that the retention of a political advocate in Sacramento be added to the agenda for Board consideration.

Director Mostahkami moved to add the urgency item to the agenda. Director Figueroa seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Chair Cash added the item to the agenda as item 9.

ITEM 4 – ORAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Ms. Fowler 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 would be held on October 15th at 1:00 p.m. and would be held at the offices of the Water Replenishment District. She also indicated that the next meeting of the Greater LA IRWM's Leadership Committee would be held on October 23rd. Lastly, she stated that the Greater LA's focus over the past several months has been updating their planning document into final form and a final draft is expected in December.

ITEM 5 – CLOSED SESSION: PURSUANT TO GOV. CODE SECTION 54956.9 (C)

No reportable action was taken.

ITEM 6 - CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Nila moved the approval of the consent calendar. Director Rigg seconded the motion. The consent calendar was unanimously approved.

ITEM 7 – STATUS REPORT ON IRWMP ACTIVITIES

Ms. Kast thanked Council Member Larry Forester from Signal Hill and Director/Council Member Bill De Witt from South Gate for accompanying her and Director Figueroa to Sacramento. She stated that the purpose of the trip was to attend and provide comment at DWR's public forum on Prop 84 Round 2 Implementation Grant Draft Recommendations.

ITEM 8 – DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENTS

Ms. Kast reported that the Gateway Region Watershed Groups were required to develop a Watershed Management Program (WMP) and Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program (CIMP) as set for by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. She stated that the GWMA had entered into MOUs with each of the Watershed Groups which outlined the role of the GWMA as a fiduciary agent to facilitate the development of

the WMP and CIMP for these Watershed Groups. Ms. Kast requested that the board approve contracts with the selected consulting firms. Ms. Kast recommended that the Board approve the following actions:

- a. Approval of Professional Services Agreement between the GWMA and John L. Hunter & Associates in the amount not to exceed \$657,400 for the development of a WMP and CIMP for the Lower Los Angeles River Watershed Group.
- b. Approval of Professional Services Agreement between the GWMA and Richard Watson & Associates, Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$650,000 for the development of a WMP and CIMP for the los Cerritos Channel Watershed Group.
- c. Approval of Professional Services Agreement between the GWMA and John L. Hunter & Associates in the amount not to exceed \$685,000 for the development of a WMP and CIMP for the Lower San Gabriel River Watershed Group.

Director Alvarez moved to approve staff's recommendation. The motion was seconded by Director Rapp and was unanimously approved.

Chair Cash also requested that a status report for each watershed group be added to all future agendas.

ITEM 9 – DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING RETENTION OF POLITICAL ADVOCATE IN SACRAMENTO

Ms. Kast reported that hiring a lobbyist was one of the most important and effective steps GWMA could take to advocate and inform on its behalf. She stated that more pressing was the recent release of DWR's draft funding recommendations which excluded the Gateway Region while the other 3 regions in the funding area received significant funding. She stated that Joe A. Gonsalves & Son had been helpful in the past based on relationships with several of GWMA's members. However, it has become more necessary to call upon their services to fully educate legislators and agencies in Sacramento. She recommended that the Board retain the services of Gonsalves & Son on a month-to-month basis at a rate of \$4,000 per month.

Director Oskoui moved to enter into a contract with Joe A. Gonsalves & Son on a month-to-month basis at a rate of \$4,000 per month subject to review by general counsel. The motion was seconded by Director Alba and was unanimously approved.

ITEM 10 – CITY MANAGERS STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

None.

ITEM 11 - EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Ms. Kast updated the Board on AB240 and indicated that this bill had been signed into law. Ms. Kast also reported that GWMA, in conjunction with the Council of Watershed Health, would be hosting a tour of the Elmer Avenue neighborhood Retrofit and Elmer Paseo Project on November 7th. She indicated that invitations would be sent out via email and that there were only a limited amount of seats available. She indicated that if

anyone was interested in attending this tour, to please contact Ms. Penn. Lastly, Ms. Kast reported that she would be out on vacation the following week and would not have access to her cell phone or email. She indicated that if anyone needed assistance to please contact Ms. Penn.

ITEM 12 – DIRECTORS’ COMMENTS/REPORTS

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 p.m. to a Meeting of the Board on November 12, 2013 at Progress Park Plaza in Paramount.


Chris Cash, Chair

11/14/13
Date