

**MINUTES OF THE GATEWAY WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD
AT PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA
THURSDAY, AUGUST 14, 2014**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority was held on Thursday, July 10, 2014 at Noon at the Progress Park Plaza, 15500 Downey Avenue, Paramount, CA 90723.

Chair Chris Cash called the meeting to order at 12:11 p.m. Roll was called by Ms. Penn and a quorum of the Board was declared.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chris Cash	Paramount
Okina Dor	Artesia
Chau Vu	Bell Gardens
Len Gorecki	Bellflower
Joseph Legaspi (alternate)	Central Basin MWD
Gina Nila	Commerce
Mohammad Mostahkami	Downey
Desi Alvarez	Huntington Park
Mark Stowell	La Mirada
Lisa Rapp	Lakewood
Anthony Arevalo	Long Beach
Adriana Figueroa	Norwalk
Gladis Deras (alternate)	Pico Rivera
Frank Beach	Santa Fe Springs
Charlie Honeycutt	Signal Hill
Art Cervantes (alternate)	South Gate
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
Jim Glancy	Lakewood
Chad Blais	Compton
Alfredo Magallanes	Los Angeles
Genevieve Osmeng	Los Angeles County
John Hunter	John Hunter & Associates
Julian Lee	Norwalk
John Oskoui	Downey
Ken Farfsing	Signal Hill

ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

ITEM 4 – ORAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

Ms. Virginia Fowler from the Los Angeles County Flood Control District advised that the next meeting of the Greater LA IRWM's Leadership Committee would be held on August 27, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

Director Legaspi reported on Central MWD's recent activities and indicated that the County Supervisors and LACFDC had also been apprised.

Ms. Genevieve Osmeng from the County of Los Angeles indicated that she was here to answer any questions pertaining to Item No. 8 on the agenda.

ITEM 5 - CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Mostanhkami moved the approval of the consent calendar. Director Rigg seconded the motion which was approved by the following voice votes:

AYES: **Cash, Dor, Vu, Legaspi, Mostahkami, Stowell, Rapp, Arevalo, Deras, Cervantes, Rigg**

NOES: **None**

ABSTAIN: **Beach, Figueroa, Honeycutt, Nila, Pelser**

Director Alvarez entered at 12:35 p.m.

ITEM 6 – DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING GATEWAY IRWM PROP 84 GRANT FUNDING AND IRWM PLAN UPDATE

Ms. Grace Kast provided an update on the Gateway IRWM Prop 84 grant funding and IRWM Plan. She indicated that DWR had sent out a summary of applications received for the Drought Grant program. She stated that 39 grant applications were received and stated that a maximum of \$96 million was assigned to our funding area. She stated that GWMA's application requested \$6.7 million and \$27 million was requested by the Greater Los Angeles IRWM group. She also stated that this \$96 million included the final round funding which was expected in 2015.

Ms. Kast stated that \$339 million was requested statewide, but only \$200 million would be allocated.

ITEM 7 – PRESENTATION: PROPOSED RULES/CLARIFICATION REGARDING U.S. DEFINITION OF RECEIVING WATERS (JOHN HUNTER)

Mr. John Hunter, John Hunter & Associates, provided a presentation with regard to the proposed rules/clarification regarding the U.S. definition of receiving water. He stated that this had been a very contentious and confusing issue for decades. He proceeded to provide a definition of what is classified as “Waters of the United States” and that there have been back-and-forth rulings and determinations for many years regarding this definition. He stated that the USEPA has now been directed to clarify the issues. He reported that the deadline to submit comments on this issue was October 20, 2014 and stated that the RWQCB was not aware of any eminent plans at the local or state level to clarify the definition for the Los Angeles area.

After general discussions, the Board directed staff to draft a comment letter to be sent as a group and bring it back to the Board at its next meeting for review/approval.

The Board also directed staff to email a copy of Mr. Hunter’s presentation to all Board and Alternate members.

ITEM 8 – DISCUSSION/ACTION TO CONSIDER SERVING AS FIDUCIARY/CONTRACTING AGENCY ON BEHALF OF THE DOMINGUEZ CHANNEL GROUP TO COMPLETE A COORDINATED INTEGRATED MONITORING PROGRAM

Ms. Kast reported that GWMA received a request from the Dominguez Channel Watershed Management Area Group to serve as the fiduciary/contracting agency on their behalf to complete a Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program. She indicated that the only GWMA member that was a member of this Watershed Group was the City of Long Beach.

After detailed discussions, Director Pelser moved to direct staff to contact the Dominguez Channel Watershed Management Area Group to notify them that GWMA would consider acting as its fiduciary/contracting agency pending final approval by the GWMA Board of an MOU. The motion was seconded by Director Rapp and was approved by the following voice votes:

AYES: Cash, Dor, Vu, Legaspi, Mostahkami, Alvarez, Rapp, Arevalo, Deras, Cervantes, Rigg, Beach, Figueroa, Honeycutt, Nila, Pelser

NOES: Stowell

ABSTAIN: None

ITEM 9 – APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT TEMPLATE BETWEEN GWMA AND AN INDIVIDUAL, PRIVATE NPDES PERMIT HOLDER FOR COST SHARING FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A COORDINATED COMPLIANCE MONITORING AND REPORTING PLAN FOR THE DOMINGUEZ CHANNEL AND GREATER LOS ANGELES AND LONG BEACH HARBORS WATER TOXIC POLLUTANTS TMDL

Ms. Kast reported that the Harbor Toxic Pollutants TMDL Group was requesting administrative assistance from GWMA in the form of an agreement between GWMA and individual, private sector NPDES Permit Holders for cost-sharing purposes. She stated that the Harbor Toxic Pollutants TMDL Group consisted of the cities of Bellflower, Lakewood, Long Beach, Paramount, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Signal Hill, County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Flood Control District, Port of Los Angeles, and the Port of Long Beach. She stated that the fiscal impact was anticipated to be zero dollars to GWMA and indicated that the Harbor Group and individual Permit Holders would pay for GWMA's staff time for hiring consultants. She indicated that legal fees would be billed directly to the Harbor Group and individual Permit Holders.

Ms. Kast stated that the Agreement template, which was similar to the MOU between GWMA and the Harbor Group and other WMP related MOUs, reflected the input of the Harbor Group, GWMA's Legal Counsel, and staff review.

Director Alvarez moved to approve the Agreement Template and authorize the GWMA Chair to approve and execute individual agreements between GWMA and each individual NPDES Permit Holder, to the extent that individual NPDES Permit Holders do not request revisions to the Agreement Template and that any requests for revisions be brought before the Board for consideration. The motion was seconded by Director Nila and approved by the following voice votes:

AYES: **Cash, Dor, Vu, Legaspi, Mostahkami, Alvarez, Rapp, Arevalo, Deras, Cervantes, Rigg, Beach, Figueroa, Honeycutt, Nila, Pelser, Stowell**

NOES: **None**

ABSTAIN: **None**

ITEM 10 – GATEWAY REGION WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLANS (WMPS) ACTIVITIES

Lower Los Angeles River Upper Reach 2 Watershed Group

Director Nila updated the Board on the current status of the Lower Los Angeles River Upper Reach 2 Watershed Group and indicated that the group was meeting every two weeks and that the Watershed Group was currently amending the MOU with GWMA so that they could move forward with the implementation phase.

Lower Los Angeles River Watershed Group

Director Myrter reported on the current status of the Los Angeles River Watershed Group and indicated that they would be meeting next week to establish its budget and to discuss the implementation phase.

Los Cerritos Channel River Watershed Group

Director Arevelo updated the Board on the current status of the Lower Los Angeles River Upper Reach 2 Watershed Group and indicated the Watershed Group was currently amending the MOU with GWMA so that they could move forward with the implementation phase.

Lower San Gabriel River Watershed Group

Director Figueroa updated the Board on the current status of the Lower San Gabriel River Watershed Group and indicated that the Watershed Group was currently developing its budget and working on amending the MOU with GWMA so that they could move forward with the implementation phase.

ITEM 11 – CITY MANAGERS STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Ken Farfsing updated the Board on the Affordability Survey. He stated that affordability problems were now popping up in the middle class regions. He thanked those that participated by submitting their Affordability Survey. In closing, Mr. Farfsing updated the Board on the Strategic Transportation Plan.

Director Cash left at 1:28 and Director Figueroa took over the meeting in his absence.

ITEM 12 - EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

None.

ITEM 13 – DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/REPORTS

None.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m. to a Meeting of the Board on September 11, 2014 at the Progress Park Plaza in Paramount.



Charlie Honeycutt, Secretary/Treasurer

9-11-14

Date