

**MINUTES OF THE GATEWAY WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION  
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD  
AT PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2014**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority was held on Thursday, September 11, 2014 at Noon at the Progress Park Plaza, 15500 Downey Avenue, Paramount, CA 90723.

Chair Chris Cash called the meeting to order at 12:15p.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
Bernardo Iniguez (alternate)	Bellflower
Tammy Hierlihy	Central Basin MWD
Gina Nila	Commerce
Aaron Hernandez-Torres	Cudahy
Mohammad Mostahkami	Downey
Desi Alvarez	Huntington Park
Konya Vivanti (alternate)	Lakewood
Anthony Arevalo	Long Beach
Kevin Wattier	Long Beach Water Dept.
Sam Kouri (alternate)	Montebello
Julian Lee (alternate)	Norwalk
Gladis Deras (alternate)	Pico Rivera
Frank Beach	Santa Fe Springs
Charlie Honeycutt	Signal Hill
Scott Rigg (alternate)	Vernon

**STAFF AND GUESTS ON SIGN-IN SHEET:**

Grace Kast	Executive Officer
Toni Penn	Administrative/Accounting Assistant
Mayor Mary Ann Lutz	Monrovia
Virginia Fowler	LACFCD
Ken Farfsing	Signal Hill
Steve Myrter	Signal Hill
Jason Wen	Downey
Ester Rojas	WRD
Bill Minasian	Downey Resident
Al Cablay	Bell
Marybeth Vergara	RMC

**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. Director Wattier seconded the motion which was approved by the following voice votes:

**AYES:**       **Cash, Dor, Vu, Iniguez, Hierlihy, Nila, Hernandez-Torres, Mostahkami, Alvarez, Vivanti, Arevalo, Wattier, Kouri, Lee, Deras, Honeycutt, Rigg**

**NOES:**       **None**

**ABSTAIN:**   **None.**

Director Beach entered at 12:20 p.m.

**ITEM 6 – PRESENTATION – MS4 AFFORDABILITY BY MAYOR MARY ANN LUTZ**

Mayor Lutz made a presentation to the Board regarding the MS4 Affordability. She stated that in 2012, when the Los Angeles Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) stormwater/runoff permit became effective for the 84 cities, there was collective concern regarding the estimated costs (approximately \$120 billion over the next 20 years) to communities.

Mayor Lutz stated that the United States Conference of Mayors Water Council, consisting of Mayors from all over this country, met to discuss all water issues included water quality, wastewater, drinking water, water drought and reliance. She also indicated that the Water Council was especially concerned about the affordability of the upcoming Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) programs in our area, and they have been pursuing discussions/legislation with US EPA and Congress on the affordability issue. She indicated that EPA had guidelines limiting the economic impact to 2% of median household income. So the Water Council wanted to test this rule and develop a baseline of what households were currently paying in water related fees and charges for their discussions.

Mayor Lutz indicated that the Water Council was asking that cities complete a very simple survey regarding each city's annual costs to their residents. She stated that this survey could be completed by cities online at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/watercosts](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/watercosts).

Mr. Farfing stressed the importance of the survey and encouraged all GWMA members to complete this survey.

**ITEM 7 – DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING THE 2014 WATER-ENERGY GRANT PROGRAM – DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES**

Ms. Kast reported that recently, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced a solicitation for the 2014 Water-Energy Grant Program. She stated that several GWMA members requested that the Board consider the eligibility of projects for this program and possibly make an application of one or more projects. She indicated that a maximum \$19 million was available and that the maximum allowable grant award was \$2.5 million per proposal. Lastly, Ms. Kast indicated that projects must be ready to begin construction in order to qualify for this grant.

After detailed discussions, Director Alvarez moved to direct staff to contact members and solicit proposed projects and to bring a list of these projects back to the Board at its next board meeting for consideration. The motion was seconded by Director Nila and was approved by the following voice votes:

**AYES:**       **Cash, Dor, Vu, Iniguez, Hierlihy, Nila, Hernandez-Torres, Mostahkami, Alvarez, Vivanti, Arevalo, Wattier, Kouri, Lee, Deras, Honeycutt, Rigg**

**NOES:**       **None**

**ABSTAIN:**   **Beach**

**ITEM 8 – APPROVE ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF RECLAMATION AND GWMA, AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO EXECUTE THIS AGREEMENT**

Ms. Kast reported that earlier this year, GWMA was awarded a grant under the \$1M dollar category in the WaterSMART Program administered by the US Bureau of Reclamation. She stated that the agreement had already been reviewed by GEI Consultants and by legal counsel. She indicated that GWMA staff and GEI Consultants would be used to assist in the coordination of the project and invoicing. In closing, Ms. Kast recommended that the Board approve the Agreement as presented and authorize the Executive Officer to execute the Agreement.

Director Wattier moved to approve the Agreement as presented and authorize the Executive Officer to execute the Agreement. The motion was seconded by Director Honeycutt and was approved by the following voice votes:

**AYES:**       **Cash, Dor, Vu, Iniguez, Hierlihy, Nila, Hernandez-Torres, Mostahkami, Alvarez, Vivanti, Arevalo, Wattier, Kouri, Lee, Deras, Honeycutt, Rigg, Beach**

**NOES:**       **None**

**ABSTAIN:**   **None**

**ITEM 9 – 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 currently amending the MOU with GWMA so that they could move forward with the implementation phase. She stated that the Watershed Group would be issuing an MOU Amendment for each major task rather than just one Amendment incorporating all tasks. She stated that she would be happy to forward this template if other Watershed Groups wish to issue separate amendments for each task.

Lower Los Angeles River Watershed Group

Director Myrter reported on the current status of the Los Angeles River Watershed Group and indicated that the Watershed Group was currently amending the MOU with GWMA so that they could move forward with the implementation phase. He stated that they Watershed Group would only be issuing one Amendment, which will incorporate all tasks. He stated that they were also preparing for the Water Board Workshop on October 9<sup>th</sup>.

Los Cerritos Channel River Watershed Group

Director Myrter updated the Board on the current status of the Lower Los Angeles River Upper Reach 2 Watershed Group and indicated that the Watershed Group was currently amending the MOU with GWMA so that they could move forward with the implementation phase. He stated that they were also preparing for the Water Board Workshop on October 9<sup>th</sup>.

Lower San Gabriel River Watershed Group

None.

**ITEM 11 – CITY MANAGERS STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Ken Farfsing reported that a meeting of the city managers would be held on September 23<sup>rd</sup> to begin narrowing down funding options for stormwater.

**ITEM 12 - EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**


None.

**ITEM 13 – DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/REPORTS**

Director Arevalo discussed the group that formed to discuss the Strategic Transportation Plan and indicated that since Mr. Jerry Wood's departure, this group had not been active. He stated that they wished to reactive this group and encouraged those that were members of this group to contact him or Ms. Kast as they would like to schedule a meeting of this group as soon as possible.

Director Hierlihy reported that Central Basin MWD would be holding a workshop on September 18<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. at their facility to facilitate discussions on water supply for the Central Groundwater Basin. She stated that representatives from MWD, LACFCD and WRD would be there covering topics that include water demands, infrastructure conveyance and managing water quality.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m. to a Meeting of the Board on October 9, 2014 at the Progress Park Plaza in Paramount.



Charlie Honeycutt, Secretary/Treasurer

10 . 9 . 14

Date