# MINUTES OF THE GATEWAY WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION

# INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD AT PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2014

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority was held on Thursday, November 13, 2014 at Noon at the Progress Park Plaza, 15500 Downey Avenue, Paramount, CA 90723.

Chair Chris Cash called the meeting to order at 12:03p.m. Roll was called by Ms. Penn and a quorum of the Board was declared.

#### **BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Chris Cash Okina Dor Dahi Lee (proxy) Chau Vu

Len Gorecki Tammy Hierlihy

Mohammad Mostahkami

Desi Alvarez Mark Stowell Lisa Rapp Anthony Arevelo

Kevin Wattier Sam Kouri (alternate)

Adriana Figueroa
Gladis Deras (alternate)
Frank Beach

Charlie Honeycutt David Pelser Paramount Artesia Bell

Bell Gardens Bellflower

Central Basin MWD

Downey

**Huntington Park** 

La Mirada Lakewood Long Beach

Long Beach Water Dept.

Montebello Norwalk Pico Rivera Santa Fe Springs

Signal Hill Whittier

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

Grace Kast

**Executive Officer** 

Toni Penn

Administrative/Accounting Assistant

Candice Lee

General Counsel LACFCD

Virginia Fowler Ken Farfsing

Signal Hill Paramount

Sarah Ho Jim Glancy

Lakewood

Enrique Huerta

Outreach Consultant

Catherine Jun Ester Rojas Bill Minasian Bellflower WRD Downey

#### ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Director Cash recommended that a new discussion/action item be added as an urgency item. He stated it was regarding the possibility of sending a letter from GWMA to WRD addressing the Central Basin replenishment issue because this came after the posting of the agenda.

Director Figueroa moved to add a discussion/action item to send a letter from GWMA to WRD addressing the Central Basin replenishment issue as Agenda Item No. 6d. The motion was seconded by Director Wattier and was approved by the following voice votes:

AYES:

Dor, Lee, Vu, Gorecki, Hierlihy, Mostahkami, Alvarez, Stowell, Rapp, Arevalo,

Wattier, Kouri, Figueroa, Cash, Deras, Beach, Honeycutt, Pelser

NOES:

None.

ABSTAIN: N

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 December 10, 2014 at 9:30 a.m.

## ITEM 5 - CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Stowell indicated that he did not abstain on Agenda Item No. 6 as reflected in the minutes of October 9, 2014 and requested that the minutes be amended to reflect that he voted in favor for this item.

Director Stowell moved the approval of the consent calendar with an amendment to the minutes. The motion was seconded by Director Gorecki and was approved by the following voice votes:

AYES:

Dor, Lee, Vu, Gorecki, Hierlihy, Mostahkami, Alvarez, Stowell, Rapp, Arevalo,

Wattier, Kouri, Figueroa, Cash, Deras, Beach, Honeycutt, Pelser

NOES:

None.

ABSTAIN:

None.

## ITEM 6 - PRESENTATION - CENTRAL BASIN REPLENISHMENT ISSUES

Mr. Jim Glancy gave a presentation regarding Central Basin's replenishment issues. He outlined what caused droughts, how spreading grounds were an important water source, the benefits of recycled water for recharge, and what could be done in the short term. Mr. Glancy then proceeded to update the Board on the current status of Central Basin MWD's imported water order with WRD. He stated that WRD had continued to

ignore Central Basin MWD's request for delivery of replenishment water. In closing he stated that the Central Basin Water Association had also submitted a letter to WRD in support of Central Basin MWD's water order.

Ms. Kast presented the Board with a draft letter from GWMA to WRD with regards to the Central Basin Replenishment issue for consideration.

After detailed discussions, Director Honeycutt directed staff to submit a letter from GWMA to WRD with some additional language. The motion was seconded by Director Wattier and was approved by the following voice votes:

AYES:

Dor, Lee, Vu, Gorecki, Hierlihy, Mostahkami, Alvarez, Stowell, Rapp, Arevalo,

Wattier, Kouri, Figueroa, Cash, Deras, Beach, Honeycutt, Pelser

NOES:

None.

ABSTAIN:

None.

# ITEM 7 – CLOSED SESSION: PURSUANT TO GOV. CODE SECTION 54954.2 (B)

No reportable action.

# ITEM 8 – GATEWAY REGION WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLANS (WMPS) ACTIVITIES

## Lower Los Angeles River Upper Reach 2 Watershed Group

Director Alvarez updated the Board on the current status of the Lower Los Angeles River Upper Reach 2 Watershed Group. He stated that the watershed group recently requested a meeting with the RWQCB to discuss RWQCB's comments on the WMP.

# Lower Los Angeles River Watershed Group

Director Arevelo updated the Board on the current status of the Lower Los Angeles River Watershed Group. He indicated that the group was currently reviewing comments received from the RWQCB on the WMP.

# Los Cerritos Channel River Watershed Group

None.

## 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 group was also currently review comments received from the RWQCB.

## ITEM 11 - CITY MANAGERS STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Ken Farfsing reported that approximately \$83m would be available to disadvantaged communities from cap and trade funds. He stated that he had recommended that a representative from GWMA be appointed to the Gateway Cities COG's newly created Sustainable Communities committee which will coordinate efforts to apply and receive these important funds.

## ITEM 12 - EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

Ms. Kast reported that there were still two seats available on a first come, first serve basis to attend the CORO Water Conference with Assemblyman Rendon, Mayor Garcetti, and Jeff Kightliner on November 18<sup>th</sup> at the Taglyn Complex from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. She asked that if anyone was interested in attending, to please contact Toni Penn.

## ITEM 13 - DIRECTORS' COMMENTS/REPORTS

Director Cash reported that the Executive Committee had met with legal counsel, Ken Farfsing and a consultant to discuss the possibility of shifting some accounting responsibilities from Signal Hill to in-house. He stated they were currently developing the scope of work necessary to complete this task and will be bringing this before the Board for consideration in the near future.

Director Mostahkami indicated that since the GWMA is continuing to grow, he felt that shifting these responsibilities in-house was a good idea.

Director Arevelo updated the board on a law firm called California River Watch that was targeting the area and threatening lawsuits based on inaccurate or outdated information.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:27 p.m. to a Meeting of the Board on December 11, 2014 at the Progress Park Plaza in Paramount.

Charlie Hone cutt, Secretary/Treasurer

12 . 11 . 14

Date