

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4A

**MINUTES OF THE GATEWAY WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
BOARD
AT PARAMOUNT, CALIFORNIA
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2018**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority was held on Thursday, February 8, 2018 at 12:00 p.m. 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 Ms. Weiss and a quorum of the Board was declared.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Okina Dor	Artesia
Jordan Monroe	Avalon
Chau Vu	Bell Gardens
Sandi Linares-Plimpton (alternate)	Central Basin MWD
Mike O'Grady (alternate)	Cerritos
Gina Nila	Commerce
Mohammad Mostahkami	Downey
Christina Dixon (alternate)	Huntington Park
Mark Stowell	La Mirada
Konya Vivanti (alternate)	Lakewood
B. Anatole Falagan (alternate)	Long Beach Water Dept.
Lorry Hempe (alternate)	Lynwood
Adriana Figueroa	Norwalk
Christopher Cash	Paramount
Robert Delgadillo (alternate)	Pico Rivera
Frank Beach	Santa Fe Springs
Kelli Tunnicliff	Signal Hill
Guillermo Petra (alternate)	South Gate
Claudia Arellano (alternate)	Vernon
Dave Schickling	Whittier
Esther Rojas (alternate)	Water Replenishment District

STAFF AND GUESTS ON SIGN-IN SHEET:

Grace Kast	Executive Officer
Toni Penn	Admin/Accounting Manager
Bibi Weiss	Administrative Asst/Grants Coordinator
Nick Ghirelli	Legal Counsel
Steve Dorsey	Legal Counsel
Bill Minasian	Downey Resident

Jonathan Abadesco
Emilio Murga
Virginia Fowler
Nancy Pfeffer
Desi Alvarez
Phuong Nguyen
John Hunter
Noe Negrete
Cameron McCullough
Greg Jaquez

Fedak & Brown LLP
City of Hawaiian Gardens
LACFCD
Gateway Cities COG
MCM Management Co.
City of Whittier
John Hunter & Associates
City of Santa Fe Springs
John Hunter & Associates
MNS Engineers, Inc.

ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

ITEM 4 – ORAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

None.

Director Hempe entered at 12:05 p.m.

ITEM 5 – REMARKS BY GATEWAY CITIES COG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Ms. Kast introduced Ms. Nancy Pfeffer, who was recently appointed as the new Executive Director for the Gateway Cities Council of Government (COG).

Ms. Pfeffer spoke to the Board and gave them some background on how she had worked with the COG in the past. She also reported that she plans to enhance what was already started with Ms. Kast and the COG to coordinate activities and gave additional insight to the importance of working together.

ITEM 6 – CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Mostahkami motioned to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Figueroa and was approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: DOR, VU, LINARES-PLIMPTON, NILA, MOSTAHKAMI, DIXON, STOWELL, VIVANTI, HEMPE, CASH, DELGADILLO, BEACH, PETRA, ARELLANO, ROJAS

NOES: NONE

**ABSTAIN: MINUTES ONLY: FIGUEROA, O'GRADY, TUNNICLIFF,
MONROE, FALAGAN**

Director Schickling entered at 12:11 p.m.

ITEM 7 – GWMA AUDIT FOR FY 2016/17

Ms. Kast reported that the opinion expressed by the auditors for FY 2016/17 was that the financial statements were presented fairly, in all material respects, as of June 30, 2017. She stated that the respective statement of activities for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted.

Ms. Kast introduced Mr. Jonathan Abadesco, from the auditing firm Fedak & Brown. Mr. Abadesco reported that there were no deficiencies in internal controls that could cause the financial statements to be materially misstated. He indicated that testing did not disclose any instances of non-compliance or other matters that were required to be reported under Government Auditing Standards. He concluded by thanking staff for their cooperation and noted that he was impressed with the internal checks and balances of GWMA and its staff.

Director Mostahkami moved to receive and file the Annual Audited Financial Statements for FY2016/17 as presented. The motion was seconded by Director Figueroa and was approved by the following voice vote:

**AYES: DOR, MONROE, VU, LINARES-PLIMPTON, O'GRADY, NILA,
MOSTAHKAMI, DIXON, STOWELL, VIVANTI, FALAGAN,
HEMPE, FIGUEROA, CASH, DELGADILLO, BEACH,
TUNNICLIFF, PETRA, ARELLANO, SCHICKLING, ROJAS**

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

**ITEM 8 – GATEWAY INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT “IRWM”
PLAN**

Ms. Kast reported that the Board was advised in May 2017 that, with the passage of Proposition 1, new standards were introduced for Integrated Regional Water Management Plans. She reported that since the Gateway IRWM Plan was adopted in 2013, the project list was updated twice, but the Gateway IRWM Plan itself had not been updated.

Ms. Kast reported that recently, many State and Federal agencies had developed a ranking system which included questions about IRWM. She stated that when GWMA applied for Prop 1 Round 1 Stormwater Grants in 2016, GWMA had to certify that the projects were part

of an existing IRWM program or plan. Ms. Kast stated that recently, GWMA staff was directed by the Chair, to bring information to the Board regarding the option of updating the Gateway IRWM Plan to 2016 standards or solely continue seeking IRWM and other grants with projects under the Greater Los Angeles (“GLAC”) IRWM Plan.

Ms. Kast stated that in February 2015, the GWMA approved an MOU between GWMA and GLAC to form a partnership between the two groups for the purpose of seeking and attaining funds for this region and establish the GWMA as a member agency representing the Lower LA and Lower San Gabriel River sub-region.

Ms. Kast introduced Ms. Virginia Fowler, from the LA County Flood Control District. Ms. Fowler updated the Board on how she had worked on amending the GLAC IRWM Plan with an ad hoc committee of the Leadership Committee and County Technical staff to comply with new Prop 1 guidelines. Ms. Fowler informed the Board that the GLAC IRWM Plan Amendment took about a year, had gone through a public comment period and now was being reviewed by DWR for possible acceptance.

After detailed discussions, Director Figueroa moved to direct staff to release a Request for Proposal to update the Gateway IRWM Plan to incorporate new IRWM Plan standards introduced in 2016 and authorized staff to evaluate proposals and prepare information with a recommendation for Board consideration. The motion was seconded by Director Nila and was approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: DOR, MONROE, VU, LINARES-PLIMPTON, O’GRADY, NILA, MOSTAHKAMI, DIXON, STOWELL, VIVANTI, FALAGAN, HEMPE, FIGUEROA, CASH, DELGADILLO, BEACH, TUNNICLIFF, PETRA, ARELLANO, SCHICKLING, ROJAS

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ITEM 9 – SHARING MONITORING DATA WITH PRIVATE NPDES PERMIT HOLDERS IN WATERSHED GROUPS OTHER THAN THE LOWER HARBOR TOXICS GROUP

Ms. Kast reported that in January 2018, the GWMA Board provided direction to continue the existing policy of selling monitoring data generated from the Harbor Toxics TMDL to private NPDES permit holders. Ms. Kast stated that the Board’s decision to continue the data sharing process within the Lower Harbor Toxics Group was based on the following three factors: (1) The acceptable risk that GWMA would probably not be held liable for the actions of the private NPDES permit holder, based in part on protections included in GWMA’s template data sharing agreement, (2) Protections included in the data sharing agreement that make clear that

private NPDES permit holders are not members of GWMA or the watershed groups; and (3) The cost savings associated with the program.

Ms. Kast stated that after discussion, the Board directed staff to agendize this item and come back in February to discuss expanding the data sharing program to the other watershed groups.

Ms. Kast introduced Mr. John Hunter, from John Hunter & Associates. Mr. Hunter reported that Regional Board had recently told him that 15 private entities were going to be required to do monitoring. Mr. Hunter explained that GWMA could sell the monitoring data to these private entities as was being done with the Lower Harbor Toxics Group. Mr. Hunter also stated that the expected cost for monitoring would be lower than the Lower Harbor Toxics Group's monitoring program.

Mr. Nick Ghirelli, GWMA's legal counsel, stated that if authorized by the Board, and if the watersheds were interested, GWMA staff and legal counsel would work with each watershed group to develop the parameters on how the monitoring data would be shared with the private NPDES permit holders.

After detailed discussion, Director Beach moved to authorize staff and legal counsel to work with the various watershed groups for which GWMA facilitates the collection of monitoring data to develop a data sharing process for private NPDES permit holders, similar to the current program for the Lower Harbor Toxics Group and for staff to return to the Board at a future meeting once business deal points had been outlined with one or more of the watershed groups. The motion was seconded by Director Stowell and approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: DOR, MONROE, VU, LINARES-PLIMPTON, O'GRADY, NILA, MOSTAHKAMI, DIXON, STOWELL, VIVANTI, FALAGAN, HEMPE, FIGUEROA, CASH, DELGADILLO, BEACH, TUNNICLIFF, PETRA, ARELLANO, SCHICKLING, ROJAS

NOES: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

ITEM 10 – GATEWAY REGION WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GROUPS ORAL REPORT

Lower Los Angeles River Upper Reach 2 Watershed Group

Director Nila reported that the Watershed Group was in the process of executing the Sub-Recipient Agreement for the Prop 1 grant. She stated that the Fully Executed Grant Agreement for the Prop 1 Grant had been received.

She also indicated that the watershed group was currently working on preparing its budget for FY2018/19.

Lower Los Angeles River Watershed Group

None.

Los Cerritos Channel Watershed Group

Director Vivanti reported that the watershed group was currently working on preparing its budget for FY2018/19. She also stated that all the Caltrans projects were moving forward.

Lower San Gabriel River Watershed Group

Director Figueroa reported that the watershed group was currently working on preparing its budget for FY2018/19. She also stated that the watershed group would be meeting in March.

ITEM 11 – EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S ORAL REPORT

Ms. Kast reported that the next GLAC IRWM Leadership Committee Meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, February 28, 2018 at the LA County Flood Control District in Alhambra.

ITEM 12 – DIRECTORS’ ORAL COMMENTS/REPORT

Director Mostahkami requested an item for the Board to clarify how GWMA acts as the fiduciary agent for the Watershed groups.

Director Figueroa updated the board on SB998 and indicated that, if this bill were to pass, it would prevent water companies from shutting off a resident’s water due to non-payment. She stated that ACWA was working on an opposition letter.

**ITEM 13 – CLOSED SESSION – PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE
EVALUATION**

No reportable action.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 PM.



Christopher S. Cash, Chair

3/8/18

Date