

**MINUTES OF THE GATEWAY WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
BOARD
VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING
THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority was held on Thursday, January 14, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. via WebEx and Phone Conference.

Chair Lisa Rapp called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. Roll was called by Executive Officer Grace Kast and a quorum of the Board was declared.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

- | | |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Okina Dor | Artesia |
| Chau Vu | Bell Gardens |
| Len Gorecki | Bellflower |
| Dan Mueller (alternate) | Downey |
| Cesar Roldan | Huntington Park |
| Mark Stowell | La Mirada |
| Lisa Rapp | Lakewood |
| Melissa You | Long Beach |
| Jillian Croci (alternate) | Long Beach Water |
| Lorry Hempe (alternate) | Lynwood |
| Adriana Figueroa | Paramount |
| Monica Heredia | Pico Rivera |
| Janna Morimoto (alternate) | Port of Long Beach |
| Jesse Sira (alternate) | Santa Fe Springs |
| Kelli Tunnicliff | Signal Hill |
| Gladis Deras (alternate) | South Gate |
| Jazmine Hook (alternate) | Vernon |
| Esther Rojas | Water Replenishment District |
| Vicki Smith | Whittier |

STAFF AND GUESTS ON SIGN-IN SHEET:

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Grace Kast | Executive Officer |
| Traci Gleason | Program Administrative Manager |
| Candice Lee | Legal Counsel |
| Whitford Marin (alternate) | City of Huntington Park |
| John Hunter | John L. Hunter & Associates |

ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

ITEM 4 - ORAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

None.

ITEM 5 - CONSENT CALENDAR

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

AYES: Dor, Vu, Gorecki, Mueller, Roldan, Stowell, Rapp, Croci, Hempe, Figueroa, Sira, Deras, Hooks, Rojas, Smith.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: You, Morimoto, Heredia, Tunncliff. (Minutes only.)

ITEM 6 – PRESENTATION – UPDATE ON 2020 REGIONAL MS4 PERMIT

Mr. John Hunter of John L. Hunter and Associates provided a presentation regarding the tentative MS4 Permit. The current (2012) expired in December 2017 but continues to remain in effect. The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board “Regional Board” has released the new draft. The tentative permit is relatively similar to the current permit. It is anticipated for the new permit to be adopted in 2021.

Reasonable Assurance Analysis (RAA) is a document detailing the number and size of stormwater treatment projects needed to meet water quality goals. The 2012 permit required the RAA be re-done and submitted on June 30, 2021. Work on the RAA is underway and the first draft is expected to be ready Spring 2021.

Total Daily Maximum Loads (TMDLs) are numeric targets set by the Regional Board. They are not enforceable. The only way to enforce them are to incorporate them into the MS4 Permit. Most of the TMDL deadlines are effectively impossible to meet. The Lower San Gabriel River (LSGR), Lower Los Angeles River (LLAR), and the Los Cerritos Channel (LCC) watershed management groups have submitted comment letters requesting for the Regional Board to extend the final TMDL deadlines.

The State Water Resources Control Board issued a draft order to the Regional Board in 2019 for agencies to demonstrate they are on course to meet the RAA goals. Thus, the RAA would need to be re-done at the same time of doing the new RAA, doubling the work. After comments were provided on the draft order, the State Board issued a final order to the Regional Board that was less arduous. The new MS4 Permit is expected to require permittees to demonstrate compliance with the goals. It is not certain how the Regional Board will release the information in the new permit.

The funding from the Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) is the only way Permittees may be able to build the projects needed for compliance with the MS4 Permit. Mr. Hunter provided an update that as of January 12, 2021, the SCWP staff reported only 1/3 of the local match funds has been

distributed to cities, and that ten cities countywide have not yet submitted their Funding Transfer Agreement. An annual expenditure plan needs to be submitted to the county in order to receive the funds. Mr. Hunter noted a number of expenditure plans have been submitted to the County and have been accepted. None of the Board Members have received feedback or rejections from the County. The next expenditure plan is due in April.

GWMA cities are spending over \$1M annually on monitoring. The number of monitoring stations per watershed has increased from one or two monitoring stations per watershed before 2015 to dozens of monitoring stations per watershed.

ITEM 7 – DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) FOR THE GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY (GLAC) INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT (IRWM) COMMITTEE (ENCLOSURE)

In February of 2015, the GWMA Board voted to join the GLAC IRWM Leadership Committee by approving a MOU with other parties representing all five sub-regions in the GLAC Region. Since becoming a member, GWMA has had an active voice on the committee and has a leadership role participating with Greater LA IRWMP. GWMA has received grant funds since joining.

The Chair and Vice-Chair for each sub-region Steering Committee hold a voting seat on the GLAC Leadership Committee. GWMA's Chair, Lisa Rapp, has served as the representative on the Leadership Committee representing the Lower San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers Sub-Region and also serves as the Chair of the Lower San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers Sub-Region Steering Committee. GWMA's Executive Officer, Grace Kast has served as her alternate. Water Replenishment District's (WRD) General Manager Robb Whitaker has served as the Vice Chair on the Leadership Committee representing the Lower Los Angeles and Lower San Gabriel Rivers sub-region and also serves as the Vice Chair of the Lower San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers Sub-Region Steering Committee. Esther Rojas from WRD has served as his alternate.

GWMA also has had an active role in the Disadvantaged Community (DAC) Involvement Program, where Ms. Kast has been serving as the Chair of the GLAC IRWM DAC Committee as well as a co-chair of the Ventura/GLAC DAC Involvement Program which includes 3 IRWM regions.

Ms. Kast noted that entering into the MOU for the GLAC Leadership Committee will continue to improve the GWMA standing with DWR by addressing DWR's desire for the two IRWM groups to work together, improve GWMA's chances of obtaining grant funds, and also gives the Gateway region a strong seat at the table as a voting member of the Leadership Committee.

The MOU expired in December 2020. the Leadership Committee is now requesting approval by members for a new MOU set to expire five (5) years from the effective date. The MOU has been reviewed by many, including GWMA's general counsel.

There is no financial obligation at this time. There may be a request to contribute funding in the future to update the GLAC IRWM Plan, but there are no immediate plans to update the GLAC IRWM Plan. In addition to the IRWM Plan update costs, the Leadership Committee will charge a fee to grant project proponents for the preparation of their respective application during each funding round. If GWMA does become a member and projects are submitted to the Leadership

Committee from our sub-region, costs for those applications will need to be paid either from the project proponents or through GWMA. This will be a policy decision by the board when the time comes.

At any time, should GWMA find that being a member is not beneficial, GWMA could withdraw from the MOU with a 60-days' written notice to the remaining Parties.

Director Rojas motioned to: (a) approve the MOU with the GLAC IRWM; (b) appoint the Chair to serve as Chair of the Lower San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers Steering Committee; and (c) appoint the Executive Officer as the alternate to the Chair on the Leadership Committee. The motion was seconded by Director Tunnichliff and approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: Dor, Vu, Gorecki, Mueller, Roldan, Stowell, Rapp, You, Croci, Hempe, Figueroa, Heredia, Morimoto, Sira, Tunnichliff, Deras, Hooks, Rojas, Smith.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ITEM 8 - SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM ORAL REPORTS

Director Nila is the Chair for the LLAR WASC. Director You is the vice chair. Director You reported that at the meeting for the LLAR WASC, interviews were held for the Watershed Coordinator position. There were five candidates. The watershed coordinator will be selected at the upcoming meeting.

Director Rapp is the Chair for the LSGR WASC. She also reported that interviews for the LSGR Watershed Coordinator role have been held. At the previous meeting held on Tuesday, January 12th, the WASC voted to select their LSGR Watershed Coordinator.

ITEM 9 – GATEWAY REGIONAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GROUPS ORAL REPORT

Lower Los Angeles River Upper Reach 2 (LARUR2) Watershed Group

Director Vu noted the watershed group is scheduled to have their meeting at the end of January. The John Anson Ford Park Cistern Project is the regional BMP. A change order has been approved for Phase 2. The transfer agreement for regional funding is pending.

Lower Los Angeles River (LLAR) Watershed Group

Director Deras reported the next LLAR meeting will be held on January 26, 2021.

Lower San Gabriel River (LSGR) Watershed Group

None.

Los Cerritos Channel (LCC) Watershed Group

None.

ITEM 10 – EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S ORAL REPORT

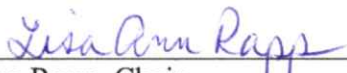
None.

ITEM 11 – DIRECTORS’ ORAL COMMENTS/REPORTS

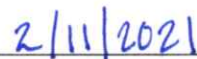
Director Deras reported the Urban Orchard Project for the City of South Gate is out to bid. Bids will close mid-February.

Director Tunncliff motioned to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Director Dor. The meeting adjourned at 12:49 p.m.

The next regular Board Meeting of the Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority will be on Thursday, February 11, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. The meeting will be held via video conference to meet social distancing recommendations or will be held in person at its regular location at Progress Park in Paramount, depending on recommendations from local and State officials. The physical location or video conference information will be posted with each Board Agenda which can be found at www.gatewaywater.org 72 hours in advance of the meeting.



Lisa Rapp, Chair



Date