

**MINUTES OF THE GATEWAY WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
BOARD
VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority was held on Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. via WebEx and Phone Conference.

Chair Lisa Rapp called the meeting to order at 12:02 p.m. Roll was called by Executive Officer Grace Kast and a quorum of the Board was declared.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Okina Dor	Artesia
Grissel Chavez	Bell Gardens
Len Gorecki	Bellflower
Jeremy Melendez (alternate)	Central Basin Municipal Water District
Mike O'Grady	Cerritos
Gina Nila	Commerce
Dan Mueller	Downey
Whitford Marin (alternate)	Huntington Park
Mark Stowell	La Mirada
Lisa Rapp	Lakewood
Melissa You	Long Beach
Jillian Croci	Long Beach Water
Lorry Hempe (alternate)	Lynwood
Adriana Figueroa	Paramount
Kenner Guerrero	Pico Rivera
Dylan Porter (alternate)	Port of Long Beach
Hannah Shin-Heydorn (alternate)	Signal Hill
Gladis Deras	South Gate
Jasmine Hooks	Vernon
Esther Rojas (alternate)	Water Replenishment District
Vicki Smith	Whittier

STAFF AND GUESTS ON SIGN-IN SHEET:

Grace Kast	Executive Officer
Traci Gleason	Program Administrative Manager
Nicholas Ghirelli	Legal Counsel
Kekoa Anderson	Funding/Grants Program
Daniel Hernandez	City of Commerce
Jesse Sira	City of Santa Fe Springs
Margarita Beltran	City of Vernon
Leticia Vasquez	Central Basin Municipal Water District
Suely Saro	RMC
Nina Turner	POLB

STAFF AND GUESTS ON SIGN-IN SHEET (continued):

Nate Schreiner	Tetra Tech
Tom West	Harris & Associates
Yoshi Andersen	Geosyntec Consultants
Julia Guy	unknown

ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

ITEM 4 - ORAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

None.

ITEM 5 - CONSENT CALENDAR

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

AYES: Dor, Chavez, Gorecki, Melendez, O’Grady, Nila, Marin, Stowell, Rapp, You, Croci, Hempe, Figueroa, Porter, Hooks, E. Rojas, Smith

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: Mueller, Guerrero, Shin-Heydorn, Deras (Minutes only).

ITEM 6 - DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING 2021 GWMA REGIONAL GRANT/PROJECT SURVEY (ENCLOSURE)

Executive Officer Kast reported that GWMA staff had sent out a survey to GWMA Board Members and Alternates. The purpose of the survey was to identify potential interest in GWMA pursuing regional grants. The survey did not obligate any member in any way to being a part of a project. Rather it was simply a tool to help focus future activities in relation to funding opportunities.

Ms. Kast discussed the results of the survey. With the information provided, staff requested Board guidance regarding the prioritization of the regional project types for further development. She further reported that GWMA may fund grant application costs following GWMA’s approved grant policy. Additionally, she noted that the On-Call Consulting list was updated earlier this year and then referred the Board to the enclosed list for Grant Writing Services. The GWMA Board recommended that the Executive Officer solicit proposals for the selected project types, in accordance with the On-Call Consultant Policy. The scope of services for each Request for Proposals would consist of: soliciting interest and gathering data for specific project types selected by the Board; reviewing and recommending different grant programs that would meet the criteria; preparing and submitting a regional application based on the information gathered; conducting follow up with any granting agency once application is submitted. The Board further directed staff to follow the approved On-Call Consulting Policy to make recommendations for Board consideration and approval using the existing On-Call Professional Services Agreements.

After discussions, the Board identified four project categories to be prioritized for pursuing regional grants:

- Perfluorooctane Sulfonate (PFOS) and Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) treatment
- Construction of new wells

- Construction of stormwater capture and reuse systems such as rain gardens, cisterns and bioswales, nature-based solutions in public-owned properties
- Recycled Water

Director Figueroa moved to approve the selection of PFOS and PFOA treatment, construction of new wells, stormwater/nature-based solutions, and recycled water projects to be prioritized for FY 2021-2022, and for GWMA staff to request proposals from the pre-approved On-Call Consultants for grant writing services following the guidance set forth in the On-Call Consultant Policy and the Grant Policy Procedures. The motion was seconded by Director Chavez and was approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: Dor, Chavez, Gorecki, Melendez, O’Grady, Nila, Mueller, Marin, Stowell, Rapp, You, Croci, Hempe, Figueroa, Guerrero, Porter, Shin-Heydorn, Deras, Hooks, E. Rojas, Smith

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ITEM 8 – SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM ORAL REPORT

Director Nila reported for the LLAR WASC that the Stormwater Investment Plans (SIPs) are pending approval from the County Board of Supervisors. It is anticipated for it to be on the schedule this month. The watershed coordinator presented their outreach plan to the WASC, which was approved by the WASC. The next call for projects has closed and the WASC approved sending the projects to the scoring committee.

Director You reported that at the last LSGR WASC Meeting they reviewed the WASC roles and responsibilities. The committee voted on a new Chair (Melissa You) and Vice Chair (Lisa Rapp). The committee voted yes on sending completed feasibility studies for the next round to be sent to the scoring committee for consideration. And like the LLAR WASC, the SIPs are pending approval from the County Board of Supervisors.

ITEM 9 - GATEWAY REGIONAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GROUPS ORAL REPORT

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

None.

LLAR Watershed Group

Director Deras reported that the group will be meeting monthly, and that the watershed groups consultant, John Hunter & Associates has start preparation work for the annual report that will be due in a couple of months.

LSGR Watershed Group

Director O’ Grady reported that the group will meet the week of September 13th.

LCC Watershed Group

None.

ITEM 11 – EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S ORAL REPORT

The Executive Officer referred to Legal Counsel Nick Ghirelli to provide an update on Executive Order regarding public meetings. Legal Counsel Ghirelli noted that AB361 is moving through the legislature which provides expanded authority to continue to conduct virtual meetings through the end of 2022. It is in the senate at this point. There are several lobbying efforts by the League of Cities and the Special Districts Association to have the Governor exercise his executive authority to extend the existing authority to conduct fully virtual meetings that is set to expire on September 30, 2021. All indications are that the governor will not make a decision until after the elections on September 14th.

ITEM 12 – DIRECTORS’ ORAL COMMENTS/REPORTS

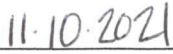
None.

The meeting adjourned at 12:51 p.m.

The next regular Board Meeting of the Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority will be on Thursday, October 14, 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 Ann Rapp, Chair



Date