

**MINUTES OF THE GATEWAY WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
BOARD
VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING
THURSDAY, APRIL 14, 2022**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority was held on Thursday, April 14, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. via WebEx and Phone Conference.

Chair Lisa Rapp called the meeting to order at 12:03 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
Alex Rojas	Central Basin Municipal Water District
Mike O’Grady	Cerritos
Gina Nila	Commerce
Emma Sharif (alternate)	Compton
Aaron Hernandez Torres	Cudahy
Cesar Roldan	Huntington Park
Mark Stowell	La Mirada
Lisa Rapp	Lakewood
Colin Averill (alternate)	Long Beach
Jillian Croci	Long Beach Water
Adriana Figueroa	Paramount
Dylan Porter (alternate)	Port of Long Beach
Jesse Sira (alternate)	Santa Fe Springs
Thomas Bekele	Signal Hill
Gladis Deras (alternate)	South Gate
Margarita Beltran	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
Kelli Pickler	City of Lakewood
Aimee Zhao	Water Replenishment District
Chris Brown	Fedak & Brown
Suely Saro	RMC

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

Tom West	Harris & Associates
Yoshi Andersen	Geosyntec Consultants
Oliver Galang	Craftwater Engineering
Nate Schreiner	Tetra Tech

ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

ITEM 4 - ORAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

None.

ITEM 5 - CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Figueroa moved to approve the consent calendar.

The motion was seconded by Director Nila and was approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: Gorecki, A. Rojas, O’Grady, Nila, Hernandez-Torres, Roldan, Stowell, Rapp, Averill, Croci, Figueroa, Porter, Sira, Bekele, Beltran, E. Rojas, Smith.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: Dor, Chavez, Sharif, Deras (Minutes only).

ITEM 6 – GWMA AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021

Chris Brown, from Fedak & Brown, LLP, presented the 2020-2021 GWMA Audit results to the Board. Mr. Brown noted that in their opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the respective financial position of the Authority, as of June 30, 2021 as well as the respective changes in financial position thereof for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. They did not identify material weakness within GWMA’s internal control structure. Mr. Brown reviewed the financial highlights.

Director A. Rojas motioned to receive and file the annual audited financial statement for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. The motion was seconded by Director Figueroa, and the motion was approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: Dor, Chavez, Gorecki, A. Rojas, O’Grady, Nila, Sharif, Hernandez-Torres, Roldan, Stowell, Rapp, Averill, Croci, Figueroa, Porter, Sira, Bekele, Deras, Beltran, E. Rojas, Smith.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ITEM 7 – GWMA REGIONAL GRANT WRITING UPDATE ORAL REPORT

Yoshi Andersen with Geosyntec Consulting provided the progress update for grant services for recycled water. Geosyntec has been continuing to identify member interest and tracking funding opportunities. Geosyntec provided a summary of responses that have been obtained to date. Interest include main extension, retrofit of irrigation lines and drought resiliency planting. The next steps for the team are to continue to schedule meetings with interested parties, gather project information, and identify grants that would optimize funding for projects that coincide with the GWMA member projects.

Oliver Galang with Craftwater Engineering provided the progress update for grant services for development of a stormwater capture and reuse systems regional project. Mr. Galang reviewed the tasks involved. A survey was released in February to obtain member interest, project types, project needs and funding needs. Based on the survey, the top project types that members are interested in seeking grant funding for are: Stormwater Capture, Green Street Implementation, and LID Program Implementation. Next steps include identifying the grant programs that are available and what potential projects can be implemented through those programs.

Tom West of Harris & Associates provided a status update for grant services for PFOS/PFOA and for new wells regional projects. A summary of responses for PFOS/PFOA and for new wells were provided. Grant funding for PFOA/PFOS will be going through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) Program. Approximately \$100M/year for the next three years will be set aside for PFOA/PFOS in California. Disadvantaged Communities with population under 100,000 will not be required to have matching funds. State Water Resource Control Board is approving the guidelines in June 2022. Awards will be rolled out after July 1, 2022. Regarding PFOA/PFOS, the next steps for the team will be a follow up to obtain more project information; contact DWSRF Program, draft a program narrative, determine how GWMA should apply to DWSRF and make a recommendation at the next board meeting. Urban and Multi-Benefit Drought Relief Program provides funding opportunities for new wells The 2022-2023 State budget is \$145M in addition to remaining funds from the 2021-2022 budget. The next round may be opening in May 2022. The next steps with regards to well rehabilitation funding are to discuss the project with Department Water Resources to confirm eligibility; produce a program narrative; confirm application timeline, maximum award and match requirement; and make recommendation at the next board meeting.

ITEM 8 – SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM ORAL REPORT

Kekoa Anderson, the watershed coordinator for the LSGR Watershed Area Steering Committee, provided an update on what projects are currently under review under the LSGR Watershed Area Steering Committee, and the activities that he has done as the LSGR Watershed Coordinator.

ITEM 9 - GATEWAY REGIONAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GROUPS ORAL REPORT

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

Director Nila reported the Watershed Group will have their next meeting on April 18, 2022.

LLAR Watershed Group

Director Deras reported the Watershed Group will have their next meeting on April 25, 2022.

LSGR Watershed Group

Director O’Grady reported that the revised WMP and RAA were submitted to the regional board for review. The group is in the process of responding to some preliminary questions from the regional board.

LCC Watershed Group

Director O’Grady reported that the group also submitted the revised WMP and RAA to the regional board for review. The group is also in the process of responding to questions to some preliminary questions from the regional board.

ITEM 10 – APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 2022-01, A RESOLUTION OF THE GWMA RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING LISA ANN RAPP

Director Figueroa moved to approve Resolution No. 2022-01, A Resolution of the Gateway Water Management Authority “GWMA” Recognizing and Commending Lisa Ann Rapp. The motion was seconded by Director Chavez and was approved by the following voice vote:

- AYES:** Dor, Chavez, Gorecki, A. Rojas, O’Grady, Nila, Sharif, Hernandez-Torres, Stowell, Figueroa, Porter, Sira, Bekele, Deras, Beltran, E. Rojas, Smith.
- NOES:** None.
- ABSTAIN:** None.

ITEM 11 – ELECTIONS/APPOINTMENTS

Executive Officer Kast reported that with the retirement of Director Rapp, effective April 14, 2022 from the City of Lakewood, the position of Chair of the GWMA would be vacant as of April 15, 2022. She stated that staff was requesting that the Chair also be appointed to serve as the Chair of the Lower San Gabriel/Lower Los Angeles IRWM Sub-region Steering Committee which also votes on the Greater LA IRWM Leadership Committee. Executive Officer Kast will continue to serve as the alternate for the Chair.

Director Rapp nominated Adriana Figueroa as Chair of the GWMA, effective as of April 15, 2022. The motion was seconded by Director Sharif and was approved by the following voice vote:

- AYES:** Dor, Chavez, Gorecki, A. Rojas, O’Grady, Nila, Sharif, Hernandez-Torres, Stowell, Figueroa, Porter, Sira, Bekele, Deras, Beltran, E. Rojas, Smith.
- NOES:** None.
- ABSTAIN:** None.

Director Figueroa nominated Kelli Pickler as Vice-Chair of the GWMA, effective as of April 15, 2022. The motion was seconded by Director E. Rojas and was approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: Dor, Chavez, Gorecki, A. Rojas, O’Grady, Nila, Sharif, Hernandez-Torres, Stowell, Figueroa, Porter, Sira, Bekele, Deras, Beltran, E. Rojas, Smith.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

Director Rapp nominated Thomas Bekele as Secretary/Treasurer of the GWMA, effective as of April 15, 2022. The motion was seconded by Director Figueroa and was approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: Dor, Chavez, Gorecki, A. Rojas, O’Grady, Nila, Sharif, Hernandez-Torres, Stowell, Figueroa, Porter, Sira, Bekele, Deras, Beltran, E. Rojas, Smith.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

Director Deras motioned the appointment of the Chair to Serve as Chair of the Lower San Gabriel/Lower Los Angeles Sub-Region Steering Committee and Voting Member of the Greater LA IRWM Leadership Committee, effective as of April 15, 2022. The motion was seconded by Director Dor and was approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: Dor, Chavez, Gorecki, A. Rojas, O’Grady, Nila, Hernandez-Torres, Stowell, Figueroa, Porter, Sira, Bekele, Deras, Beltran, E. Rojas, Smith.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ITEM 12 – EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S ORAL REPORT

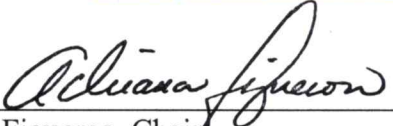
None.

ITEM 13 – DIRECTORS’ ORAL COMMENTS/REPORTS

None.

The meeting adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

The next regular Board Meeting of the Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority will be on Thursday, May 12, 2022 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.



Adriana Figueroa, Chair

5-12-22

Date