

**MINUTES OF THE GATEWAY WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY
LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
BOARD
VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING
THURSDAY, MAY 12, 2022**

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

Chair Adriana Figueroa 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:

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|-----------------------------------|--|
| Okina Dor | Artesia |
| Grissel Chavez | Bell Gardens |
| Bernardo Iniguez (alternate) | Bellflower |
| Alex Rojas | Central Basin Municipal Water District |
| Mike O'Grady | Cerritos |
| Aaron Hernandez Torres | Cudahy |
| Cesar Roldan | Huntington Park |
| Mark Stowell | La Mirada |
| Kelli Pickler | Lakewood |
| Melissa You | Long Beach |
| Diana Tang | Long Beach Water |
| Lorry Hempe | Lynwood |
| Adriana Figueroa | Paramount |
| Kenner Guerrero | Pico Rivera |
| Dylan Porter (alternate) | Port of Long Beach |
| Sarina Morales Choate (alternate) | Santa Fe Springs |
| Gladis Deras (alternate) | South Gate |
| 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 |
| Suely Saro | RMC |
| Isabelle Guido | Central Basin Municipal Water District |
| John Robinson | John Robinson Consulting |
| Richard Watson | Richard Watson & Associates |
| Christy Cooper | Harris & Associates |
| Sarah Faraola | Harris & Associates |
| Yoshi Andersen | Geosyntec Consultants |

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

| | |
|---------------|------------------------|
| Oliver Galang | Craftwater Engineering |
| Sinan Habib | Villa Civil |
| Sergio Huizar | (Not identified) |

ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

John Robinson, a project manager for Central Basin Municipal Water District, informed the board that Central Basin was awarded \$1.5M from the IRWM Prop 1 Grant Program for the 100% Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) Recycled Water Customer Conversion Project. There were originally nine sites chosen for the project, but they had to cancel four sites due to pavement moratorium which precluded the project from not reaching the expected 107 AFY goal. Central Basin is looking for potential new customers within their service area and close to their pipelines that would be interested in converting to recycled water. The site needs to be in a DAC area, and it will need to be a publicly owned site.

ITEM 4 - ORAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

None.

ITEM 5 - CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Stowell moved to approve the consent calendar.

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

AYES: Dor, Chavez, A. Rojas, O’Grady, Hernandez-Torres, Roldan, Stowell, Pickler, Hempe, Figueroa, Porter, Morales-Choate, Deras, Smith.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: Iniguez, You, Tang, Guerrero (Minutes only).

ITEM 6 – DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING AUDIT ENGAGEMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022

Executive Officer Grace Kast reported that Fedak & Brown has conducted audits for GWMA for the past four years. Their audit is performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. Fedak & Brown submitted a proposal to GWMA to perform the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 audit.

Director A. Rojas moved to authorize Fedak & Brown LLP to conduct GWMA’s FY 2021-2022 audit in the amount not to exceed \$8,425. The motion was seconded by Director Stowell, and the motion was approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: Dor, Chavez, Iniguez, A. Rojas, O’Grady, Hernandez-Torres, Roldan, Stowell, Pickler, You, Tang, Hempe, Figueroa, Guerrero, Porter, Morales-Choate, Deras, Smith.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ITEM 7 – WORKSHOP – FY 2022-2023 GWMA ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET

Executive Officer Grace Kast provided the Board with a detailed review of the proposed operating budget for Fiscal Year 2022-2023, reviewing the following items: the basis of the budget, the anticipated revenue, operating expenses (including general expenses vs watershed expenses), special project expenses, net income after operating expenses, net income after including special project, and the estimated fund balance at the end of Fiscal Year 2021-2022.

The GWMA administrative budget for FY 2022-23 will be brought to the June board meeting for approval. A super majority of the Board Membership will be needed for the approval of the budget.

ITEM 7a - DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING DIRECT AND INDIRECT ADMINISTRATIVE FEES FOR FY 2022-2023

In May of 2018, the GWMA Board adopted an Administrative Fee Policy to ensure that the GWMA's Administrative Fees are established at a rate that recovers its expenses. The administrative fee rates (direct and indirect) are approved by the Board of Directors annually. GWMA members are not assessed for Indirect Costs, as GWMA members are required to pay annual membership dues and thus are contributing to general costs in support of GWMA.

Staff recommended maintaining the same direct and indirect administrative fees as the current fiscal year: 3% to members for cost share allocation for watershed, grant programs and other activities; 5% to non-members for cost share allocation for watershed, grant programs and other activities. Additionally, staff recommended maintaining the same percentage of 3.76% for indirect costs to non-members.

Director Stowell moved to approve the following recommendations:

- a. Fiscal Year 2022-2023 GWMA Member Direct Cost Administrative Fees at a rate of 3% of the Member's cost share allocation for the particular watershed, grant, program or other activities.
- b. Fiscal Year 2022-2023 GWMA Non-Member Direct Cost Administrative Fees at a rate of 5% of the Non-Member's cost share allocation for the particular watershed, grant, program or other activities.
- c. Fiscal Year 2022-2023 GWMA Non-Member Indirect Cost Administrative Fees at a rate of 3.76% of the Non-member's cost share allocation for the particular watershed, grant, program or other activities.

The motion was seconded by Director Smith, and the items were approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: Dor, Chavez, Iniguez, A. Rojas, O'Grady, Roldan, Stowell, Pickler, You, Tang, Hempe, Figueroa, Guerrero, Porter, Morales-Choate, Deras, Smith.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ITEM 8 – DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING LOS CERRITOS CHANNEL AND DOMINGUEZ CHANNEL WATERSHEDS UPCOMING REGIONAL PERMIT FOR COMMERCIAL, INSTITUTIONAL AND INDUSTRIAL FACILITIES

Richard Watson provided an overview presentation on proposed residual designation and commercial, institutional and industrial regional permit. The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board representatives recently shared at the Los Cerritos Channel (LCC) Watershed Management Group (WMG) meeting that indicated a new permit will be required for privately owned companies in the LCC Watershed. There are 3 options for compliance. Option 1 is onsite compliance with numeric limit. Option 2 is onsite capture and use, infiltration, or evapotranspiration of runoff produced by the 85th percentile 24-hour storm. Option 3 is an agreement with the local WMG to help fund watershed management program. Since GWMA serves as the fiduciary agent for the LCC WMG, GWMA may need to consider administering and managing the agreements with the permittees. No action was taken.

ITEM 9- CLOSED SESSION – PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION: GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957, TITLE: EXECUTIVE OFFICER; AND PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT /EMPLOYMENT: GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54957, TITLE: EXECUTIVE OFFICER

There were no actions taken during closed session.

ITEM 10 - DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING ONE-YEAR EXTENSION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH KOA CONSULTING FOR GWMA PROGRAM MANAGEMENT, GRANT ADMINISTRATION, AND DAC COMMITTEE SERVICES

Chair Figueroa reported that the GWMA Board of Directors approved a professional services agreement with Koa Consulting for program management, grant administration, and disadvantaged communities (DAC) services (the “Agreement”) on March 14, 2019. The Agreement’s term began on March 1, 2019 and expired on June 30, 2020. Pursuant to Section 2 of the Agreement, GWMA may, at its option, extend the Agreement’s term for up to three additional terms of one year each upon providing written notice to Koa Consulting 30 days prior to the Agreement’s scheduled expiration. On May 14, 2020, the GWMA Board approved the first one-year extension of the Agreement and on May 13, 2021, the GWMA Board approved the second one-year extension, with an expiration date of June 30, 2022. This would be the third one-year extension. It should be noted that Koa Consulting has not requested an increase in fees since its original agreement with GWMA in 2019.

She reported Koa Consulting has expressed its willingness to continue providing the Agreement’s scope of services for an additional year with an amended fee. The amended fee is based on two factors: increased labor costs and increased scope.

Director Dor motioned to approve the following recommendations:

- a. Approve a one-year extension of the Professional Services Agreement with the amended fee for Koa Consulting, attached as Attachment A. The new expiration date is June 30, 2023; and

- b. Direct the Chair to provide written notification to Koa Consulting of the Board's approval of the one-year contract extension with amended fee.

The motion was seconded by Director Chavez, and the items were approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: Dor, Chavez, Iniguez, O'Grady, Roldan, Stowell, Pickler, You, Tang, Hempe, Figueroa, Guerrero, Porter, Morales-Choate, Deras, Smith.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

GWMA REGIONAL GRANT WRITING UPDATE ORAL REPORT

Oliver Galang with Craftwater Engineering with the support of Sinan Habib of Villa Civil 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. Grant programs that are available were identified. A summary table of potential projects that can be implemented through those programs was also presented. The next steps will be prioritization of opportunities and develop project ranking.

Yoshi Andersen with Geosyntec Consulting provided the progress update for grant services for recycled water. Geosyntec provided an updated summary of responses that have been obtained to date. Eleven member agencies have expressed interest. Interest includes main extension, retrofit of irrigation lines and drought resiliency planting. The next steps for the team are to finish meeting with interested parties, gather project information, and identify grants that would optimize funding for projects that coincide with the GWMA member projects.

Christy Cooper of Harris & Associates (Harris) provided a status update for grant services for PFAS and for new wells regional projects. Harris met with the State Water Resource Control Board to understand emerging PFAS Funding. Harris will work with member agencies in June to structure projects for funding and provide recommendations for the grant approach and project submissions. It is anticipated in July/August 2022, applications for PFAS and Emerging Contaminants will be submitted. For New Wells, funding is available through the Department of Water Resources Urban and Multi-benefit Drought Relief Grant Program. The next round of funding will be released at the start of the new fiscal year (July 2022). There is 100M for Urban Communities; \$200M for Multi-benefit Projects; \$200M for Small Community Drought Relief Program. .

ITEM 12 – SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM ORAL REPORT

Director You, chair for the LSGR WASC and vice chair for the LLAR WASC, noted that the Watershed Coordinator's Strategic Outreach and Education Plan for the LSGR was approved at the May meeting. The LSGR Committee also discussed criteria for leveraging funding.

Director You noted that the previous LLAR WASC meeting was cancelled.

ITEM 13 – EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S ORAL REPORT

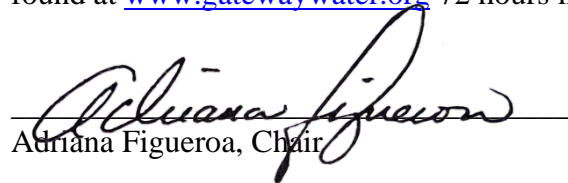
None.

ITEM 14 – DIRECTORS’ ORAL COMMENTS/REPORTS

None.

The meeting adjourned at 2:09 p.m.

The next regular Board Meeting of the Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority will be on Thursday, June 9, 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

June 9, 2022
Date