MINUTES OF THE GATEWAY WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY BOARD VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING THURSDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2022

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority was held on Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. via WebEx and Phone Conference.

Chair Adriana Figueroa called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. Roll was called by Executive Officer Grace Kast and a quorum of the Board was declared.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Grissel Chavez Madeline Chen (alternate) Mike O'Grady Aaron Hernandez-Torres Dan Mueller Whitford Marin (alternate) Mark Stowell Kelli Pickler Melissa You Diana Tang Adriana Figueroa Kenner Guerrero (alternate) Sarina Morales-Choate (alternate) Gladis Deras (alternate) Esther Rojas (alternate) Vicki Smith

Bell Gardens Central Basin Municipal Water District Cerritos Cudahy Downey Huntington Park La Mirada Lakewood Long Beach Long Beach Water Dept. Paramount Pico Rivera Santa Fe Springs South Gate Water Replenishment District Whittier

STAFF AND GUESTS ON SIGN-IN SHEET:

Grace Kast	Executive Officer
Traci Gleason	Program Administrative Manager
Kekoa Anderson	Funding/Grants Program
Nicholas Ghirelli	Legal Counsel
Nina Turner	Port of Long Beach
TJ Moon	Los Angeles County
John Hunter	John Hunter & Associates
Aric Martinez	John Hunter & Associates
Christy Cooper	Harris & Associates
Gabriel Gutierrez	Harris & Associates
Aparna Chatterjee	Harris & Associates
Oliver Galang	Craftwater Engineering
Yoshi Andersen	Geosyntec Consultants
Joseph Velasco	unknown

ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

ITEM 4 - ORAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD

None.

ITEM 5 - INFRASTRUCTURE LA INITIATIVE PRESENTATION

TJ Moon of Los Angeles County Public Works provided a funding opportunity presentation of Infrastructure LA. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law passed last year. There is approximately \$1 trillion available for various types of infrastructure projects over the next five years (through FY 2026). There are two different types of funding: formula funding and competitive grants. Within California, there is \$48 billion available for formula funding. There is \$195 billion for competitive grants. Having a regional approach increases the opportunity to receive grant funding. The state revolving funds are loans. If the project is within the disadvantaged communities, the loan would be forgiven. The goal is 40% of all benefits to be invested in disadvantaged communities (Justice40). With an agreement, the County can assist cities with preparing grant applications to make it more competitive. If GWMA takes the lead, the County can be a named partner. The notice of intent for the state revolving fund is due at the beginning of November. Safe Clean Water Projects would be competitive for the state revolving funds.

ITEM 6 - CONSENT CALENDAR

Director Tang moved to approve the consent calendar.

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

- AYES: Sanchez, Chen, O'Grady, Hernandez-Torres, Mueller, Marin, Stowell, Pickler, Tang, Guerrero, Morales-Choate, Deras, Rojas, Smith
- NOES: None.
- ABSTAIN: You, Figueroa (Minutes only).

ITEM 7 - DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATERMANAGEMENTPROPOSITION1-ROUND2GRANTPROJECT:GATEWAYWATERMANAGEMENTAUTHORITYREGIONALRECYCLED WATER PROJECT

Earlier this year, Geosyntec had conducted research and discussions with member agencies to identify a regional recycled water project to apply for a grant funding. As a result, two member projects were recommended to be combined as one regional project for the IRWM Proposition 1 Round 2 Implementation Grant Program. Executive Officer Kast noted the IRWM Proposition 1 Round 2 Grant Program is administered by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). The Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District) intends to submit a region-wide application for Proposition 1 Round 2 Implementation Program Grant funds on behalf the Greater Los Angeles County (GLAC) IRWM Group, in which GWMA is a member. The GLAC IRWM Region is part of the larger funding area which includes Ventura and Santa Clara IRWM Regions. Earlier this year, the three regions agreed to work together and proportionally split the available

funds to simplify the process and to reduce friction and competition amongst the regions. As a requirement of the IRWM Grant Program, GWMA must provide an authorizing resolution in support of the application, which may include the GWMA Regional Recycled Water Project.

Director Pickler moved to adopt Resolution 22-02 to approve the filing of an application and acceptance of a grant award by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District for the IRWM Proposition 1 Round 2 Implementation Grant Program. The motion was seconded by Director Chen and was approved by the following voice vote:

- AYES: Sanchez, Chen, O'Grady, Hernandez-Torres, Mueller, Marin, Stowell, Pickler, You, Tang, Figueroa, Guerrero, Morales-Choate, Deras, Rojas, Smith
- NOES: None.
- ABSTAIN: None.

<u>ITEM 8 – GWMA REGIONAL PROJECT DEVELOPMENT/GRANT WRITING</u> <u>UPDATES</u>

Oliver Galang with Craftwater Engineering provided the progress update for grant services for development of a stormwater capture and reuse systems regional project. As a recap, from a survey that was conducted earlier this year, top priority projects for member agencies were: stormwater capture, green streets, and LID implementation. Programmatic projects may include biofiltration/landscape medians, parking lot, stormwater dry-well implementation, permeable concrete/sidewalk programs. The next step is for Craftwater to coordinate with GWMA member agencies to determine which stormwater program to pursue.

Gabriel Gutierrez and Aparna Chatterjee with Harris & Associates provided the progress update for grant services for PFAS and New Wells. Funding options are limited for PFAS. The Bureau of Reclamation funding cycle is currently closed. However, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has funds available for Emerging Contaminants such as PFAS. Higher priority is given to disadvantaged communities and severely disadvantaged communities. Projects will be prioritized in three categories: (A) immediate health risk; (B) untreated or at-risk sources; and (C) compliance or shortage problems. One hundred percent of the available funding for grants or loans, net of setasides taken, will be committed as principal forgiveness. DAC Systems that serve less than 25k people is eligible to have 100% of project funding, with 100% loan forgiveness. For non-DAC systems that serves greater than 25k people can be eligible to have 50% project funding, with 100% loan forgiveness. The maximum grant amount for DAC systems and non-DAC systems is \$5M. Wells and Well Treatment grants and principal forgiveness for planning projects are only available to small communities. The submittal date for PFAS and New Well pre-application is November 18, 2022. DWR will review the applications and eligible projects will be included in a fundable list which is updated periodically. Financing agreements for all projects on the fundable list are expected to be in place by June 30, 2023. DWR recently released the guidelines for the 2022 Urban Community Drought Relief Grant Program, that may be better aligned with the current project status of cities who have expressed interest.

ITEM 9 – SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM – ORAL REPORT

Director You reported that at the last LSGR WASC Meeting met earlier in the week. The regional program quarterly report summary for fiscal year 21-22 was reviewed. Additionally, the LSGR Watershed priorities for how funding would be distributed was discussed. The discussion topic is to be continued at the next meeting, on November 8, 2022.

The next LLAR WASC meeting is scheduled for November 1, 2022.

ITEM 10 – EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S ORAL REPORT

The Executive Officer reported that it is becoming more difficult to achieve a quorum at Board Meetings because board members and alternates have been leaving their agencies and are not being replaced. The Executive Officer sent notifications to member agencies requesting appointments of a board member and at least one alternate to ensure the agency can continue to take actions at Board Meetings.

ITEM 11 – DIRECTORS' ORAL COMMENTS/REPORTS

None.

The meeting adjourned at 1:07 p.m.

The next regular Board Meeting of the Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority will be on Thursday, November 10, 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 <u>www.gatewaywater.org</u> 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

<u>Adriana Figueroa</u>, Chair