

**MINUTES OF THE GATEWAY WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION  
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY  
BOARD  
VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 12, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority was held on Thursday, January 12, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. via WebEx and Phone Conference.

Meeting Administrator Melissa You 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
Mike O’Grady	Cerritos
Gina Nila	Commerce
Victor Meza	Compton
Aaron Hernandez-Torres	Cudahy
Dan Mueller (alternate)	Downey
Cesar Roldan	Huntington Park
Mark Stowell	La Mirada
Melissa You	Long Beach
Diana Tang	Long Beach Water Department
Jerry Gomez	Maywood
Sarah Ho (alternate)	Paramount
Dylan Porter (alternate)	Port of Long Beach
Sarina Morales-Choate (alternate)	Santa Fe Springs
Cecil Looney (alternate)	Signal Hill
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
Kekoa Anderson	Funding/Grants Program
Nicholas Ghirelli	Legal Counsel
Emma Sharif	Compton
Rob Beste	Water Replenishment District
Madeline Anderson	Koa Consulting
Christy Cooper	Harris & Associates
Oliver Galang	Craftwater Engineering
Brad Wardynski	Craftwater Engineering
Yoshi Andersen	Geosyntec Consultants
Martha Camacho Rodriquez	Central Basin Municipal Water District

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**ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None.

**ITEM 4 - ORAL COMMUNICATIONS TO THE BOARD**

None.

**ITEM 5 - CONSENT CALENDAR**

Director Nila moved to approve the consent calendar.

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

**AYES:** Chavez, O’Grady, Nila, Meza, Hernandez-Torres, Mueller, Roldan, Stowell, Porter, Morales-Choate, E. Rojas.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSTAIN:** Dor, Gorecki, You, Tang, Gomez, Ho, Looney, Smith (Minutes only).

**ITEM 6 - SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM TRANSFER AGREEMENTS FOR GATEWAY AREA PATHFINDING PHASE 2 SCIENTIFIC STUDY FOR LOWER LOS ANGELES RIVER AND LOWER SAN GABRIEL RIVER WATERSHED AREA STEERING COMMITTEES, RESOLUTIONS TO AUTHORIZE EXECUTION OF THE TRANSFER AGREEMENTS, AND NOTICE TO PROCEED FOR CRAFTWATER ENGINEERING TO CONDUCT THE SCIENTIFIC STUDY**

In October 2020, GWMA staff submitted a regional program scientific study application to the Safe Clean Water Program (SCWP) Lower Los Angeles River (LLAR) and Lower San Gabriel River (LSGR) Watershed Area Steering Committees (WASCs) for grant funding. The objectives of the study are: Scan the landscape of the Gateway Cities region to identify the suite of known and hidden, potential project opportunities; Analyze the dynamic interactions between those potential projects; Determine the best project-by-project pathway (and timeline) to achieve compliance; and Deliver project recommendations that are ideally suited for consideration by the WASC for Safe Clean Water infrastructure funding. The scientific study, Gateway Area Pathfinding (GAP) Analysis Phase 1, was approved for funding by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors in September 2021. Craftwater Engineering, who was approved by the GWMA Board in November 2021 to conduct the study, will be completing the Phase 1 study in early 2023.

GWMA staff submitted a SCWP Regional Program Scientific Study application in July 2021 for the second phase of the study. scale the approach region-wide and over a longer-term planning horizon (approximately 10-50 years) in collaboration with the Watershed Coordinators and Gateway Groups, including targeted field visits to validate site-specific engineering feasibility assumptions. Outcomes will support the Gateway Groups as they adapt their WMPs over time and will provide the LLAR and LSGR WASCs with supplemental, objective information for consideration when programming future Stormwater Investment Plans. Grant funding in the

amount of \$460,000 (\$230,000 for each watershed area) for the scientific study was approved by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors on October 4, 2022.

GWMA staff previously received written requests from the Lower Los Angeles River (LLAR), Lower San Gabriel River (LSGR) and Los Cerritos Channel (LCC) Watershed Management Groups to retain the services of Craftwater Engineering to conduct the study. According to the request, Craftwater Engineering is “uniquely qualified to conduct this analysis because they have done substantial work in each watershed as a sub-contractor to their respective watershed consultant”. Further, the request from the LCC WMP Group stated that Craftwater Engineering was “involved with the design of a proposed future project to analyze how to use a series of flow and water quality sensors to help optimize the operation of their water capture projects”. This same type of work has been done for the LLAR and LSGR WMP Groups. Craftwater Engineering has conducted the vast majority of Feasibility Studies for the LLAR and LSGR WASC projects giving them in-depth knowledge of the projects in those watershed areas. To comply with policies and legal requirements, staff reviewed its On-Call Consulting Policy and also requested review and guidance from Legal Counsel.

GWMA must enter into a Transfer Agreement with the County for each WASC and also adopt a Resolution to approve and authorize execution of the agreements for each WASC. Additionally, staff requested approval to issue a Notice to Proceed to Craftwater Engineering to conduct the work, utilizing their On-Call Professional Services Agreement, for an amount not-to-exceed \$437,000 (\$218,500 for each WASC). As part of the process, the County has required the entity who will be doing the work to be listed.

Director Meza motioned to: (a) Adopt Resolution No. 23-01, approving the SCWP Transfer Agreement for the LLAR GAP Phase 1 Analysis, authorizing the Chair to execute the agreement, and authorizing the Executive Officer to take all necessary actions to implement the agreement; (b) Adopt Resolution No. 23-02, approving the SCWP Transfer Agreement for the LSGR GAP Phase 1 Analysis, authorizing the Chair to execute the agreement, and authorizing the Executive Officer to take all necessary actions to implement the agreement; and (c) Authorize the Executive Officer to issue a Notice to Proceed to Craftwater Engineering to conduct the Scope of Work as presented for both Transfer Agreements, using the On-Call Consultant Professional Services Agreement on file. The Notice-To-Proceed issued to Craftwater Engineering would require an acceptance in writing to all terms and conditions specific to the Transfer Agreement requirements.

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

**AYES:** Dor, Chavez, Gorecki, O’Grady, Nila, Meza, Hernandez-Torres, Mueller, Roldan, Stowell, You, Tang, Gomez, Ho, Porter, Morales-Choate, Looney, E. Rojas, Smith.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSTAIN:** None.

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**ITEM 7 – GWMA REGIONAL PROJECT DEVELOPMENT/GRANT WRITING UPDATES**

Oliver Galang of Craftwater Engineering provided an update for Stormwater Capture and Reuse Systems. 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. Craftwater Engineering and GWMA staff met in December 2022 to discuss potentially doing a smaller scale green street demonstration program to implement green street elements (bioswales, treewells, and permeable pavement) and apply for the Clean California Local Grant Program, Round 2. The initial program budget including design would be \$4.5M. The project concept includes using standard templates for installation for various cities. Applications for the Clean California Local Grant Program is due April 23, 2023. Eligible projects must be partially or fully located in an underserved community. The next steps are to identify potential locations and develop preliminary budget and follow up with cities who have previously expressed interest in green street implementation for priority locations.

Yoshi Andersen of Geosyntec Consultants provided an update for the regional recycled water grant. Ten member agencies had expressed interest in the grant pursuit. However, Downey and Bell Gardens had developed their plans and feasibility studies enough to pursue the upcoming IRWMP Proposition 1 Round 2 Implementation Grant Program. 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. Geosyntec has been working with the Los Angeles County Team to finalize the application, which will be submitted to Department of Water Resources at the end of January. The project total cost is estimated to be \$4M. The grant amount requested is \$3.37M.

Christy Cooper of Harris & Associates provided updates for the PFAS and New Wells. As a result of research and coordination with GWMA members, two member projects were recommended to be combined as one GWMA Regional PFAS Groundwater Treatment Project for funding through the California's State Water Resources Control Board's Emerging Contaminants Program because they are each developing similarly scoped projects to treat groundwater for PFAS and are both expected to be construction ready in early 2024. The application was submitted on November 18, 2022 for funding of \$9M. For New Wells, Harris is submitting an application to California Department of Water Resources (DWR) 2022 Urban Community Drought Relief Grant Program (UCDRG). The application is due January 31, 2023. The grant program is for drought relief, but can include treatment plants. Six member cities are participating for the grant program. The grant amount request is about \$14M. The grant will provide up to 100% funding for underrepresented communities. It is anticipated the grant package will qualify under environmental disadvantaged communities for 100% funding.

**ITEM 9– SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM – ORAL REPORT**

Director You reported that at the last LSGR WASC Meeting met earlier in the week. Infrastructure presentations were completed at the meeting. The WASC will be deliberating the projects at the

next WASC meeting in February. The LSGR Watershed Coordinator was re-selected. The WASC also had discussed the LSGR Watershed Area Priorities which is a non-binding guidance document for selection of projects.

Director Nila reported the LLAR WASC did not meet prior to the holidays. The next WASC meeting will be held on January 24, 2023.

**ITEM 9 – EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S ORAL REPORT**

The Executive Officer reported that a couple of months ago, staff had requested the Board’s authorization to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Clifton Larson Allen, who was re-selected to provide accounting support services. Unfortunately, an agreement could not be reached on PSA language. After consultation with the GWMA Chair, a second Request for Proposal process will be done. GWMA will obtain its own subscription for Quickbooks Online in lieu of relying on any accounting firms.

In 2021, the Governor of California signed Assembly Bill 361 into law that allows legislative bodies governed by the Brown Act to meet virtually without complying with some provisions of the Brown Act as long as there is a declared State of Emergency. It is anticipated that the Governor will declare an end to the State of Emergency at the end of February, which would result in returning to in-person meetings. Options for scheduling in-person board meetings are being considered and will be further discussed in February.

**ITEM 10 – DIRECTORS’ ORAL COMMENTS/REPORTS**

None.

The meeting adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

The next regular Board Meeting of the Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority will be on Thursday, February 9, 2023 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](http://www.gatewaywater.org) 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

Melissa P You  
Melissa You, Meeting Administrator

2/9/2023  
Date