

**MINUTES OF THE GATEWAY WATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY  
LOS ANGELES GATEWAY REGION  
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY  
BOARD  
VIA VIDEO CONFERENCING  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2023**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority was held on Thursday, February 9, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. via WebEx and Phone Conference.

Chair Adriana Figueroa 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
Bernardo Iniguez (alternate)	Bellflower
Mike O'Grady	Cerritos
Victor Meza	Compton
Aaron Hernandez-Torres	Cudahy
Dan Mueller (alternate)	Downey
Whitford Marin (alternate)	Huntington Park
Mark Stowell	La Mirada
Kelli Pickler	Lakewood
Colin Averill (alternate)	Long Beach
Diana Tang	Long Beach Water Department
Julian Lee	Lynwood
Jerry Gomez	Maywood
Rita Montalvo (alternate)	Montebello
Adriana Figueroa	Paramount
Kenner Guerrero (alternate)	Pico Rivera
Janna Morimoto (alternate)	Port of Long Beach
Sarina Morales-Choate (alternate)	Santa Fe Springs
Thomas Bekele	Signal Hill
Daniel Wall	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
Rob Beste	Water Replenishment District
Madeline Anderson	Koa Consulting
Oliver Galang	Craftwater Engineering
Jonathan Abadesco	C.J. Brown & Companies, CPA

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**ITEM 3 - ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None.

**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 E. Rojas and was approved by the following voice vote:

**AYES:** Dor, Chavez, O’Grady, Meza, Hernandez-Torres, Mueller, Marin, Stowell, Tang, Gomez, Morales-Choate, E. Rojas, Smith.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSTAIN:** Iniguez, Pickler, Averill, Lee, Montalvo, Figueroa, Guerrero, Morimoto, Bekele, Wall.

**ITEM 6 - GWMA AUDIT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2021-2022**

Jonathan Abadesco, from C.J. Brown & Companies, CPA, (formerly Fedak & Brown, LLP) presented the 2021-2022 GWMA Audit results to the Board. Mr. Abadesco 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, 2022 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 Tang motioned to receive and file the annual audited financial statement for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. The motion was seconded by Director Meza, and the motion was approved by the following voice vote:

**AYES:** Dor, Chavez, Iniguez, O’Grady, Meza, Hernandez-Torres, Mueller, Marin, Stowell, Pickler, Averill, Tang, Lee, Gomez, Montalvo, Figueroa, Guerrero, Morimoto, Morales-Choate, Bekele, Wall, E. Rojas, Smith.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSTAIN:** None.

**ITEM 7 – AUDIT ENGAGEMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-2023**

Executive Officer Grace Kast reported that C.J. Brown & Companies, CPA has conducted audits for GWMA for the past five years. Their audit is performed in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States. C.J. Brown & Companies, CPA submitted a proposal to GWMA to perform the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 audit.

Director Dor moved to authorize Fed C.J. Brown & Companies, to conduct GWMA’s FY 2022-2023 audit in the amount not to exceed \$8,800. The motion was seconded by Director Chavez, and the motion was approved by the following voice vote:

**AYES:** Dor, Chavez, Iniguez, O’Grady, Meza, Hernandez-Torres, Mueller, Marin, Stowell, Pickler, Averill, Tang, Lee, Gomez, Montalvo, Figueroa, Guerrero, Morimoto, Morales-Choate, Bekele, Wall, E. Rojas, Smith.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSTAIN:** None.

**ITEM 8 – 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**

Closed session was not held.

**ITEM 9— 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 was initially scheduled to expire on June 30, 2020. Pursuant to Section 2 of the Agreement, GWMA exercised three, one-year options that extended the Agreement’s term through June 30, 2023. No further extensions are available under the current Agreement.

The Amendment would extend the term of the agreement through June 30, 2026, and establish the following flat monthly fee for each of the three services during fiscal year 23/24:

- a. \$29,190 per month for Program Management and Administration/Accounting/ Meetings services;
- b. \$6,598 per month for Grant Administration services; and
- c. \$2,375 per month for Greater Los Angeles IRWM DAC Committee Chair and DACIP Task Force Co-Chair services

The flat monthly fee would be adjusted on July 1st of fiscal years 24/25 and 25/26 based on the CPI increase for the prior year ending in March.

By way of comparison, Koa Consulting currently receives a monthly fee of \$28,203 for Program Management Services, \$6,375 for Grant Administration Services, and \$2,295 DAC services. The new fee rates are approximately 3.5 percent higher than the current rates.

Director Tang motioned to approve the following recommendations:

- a. Approve the proposed Amendment attached as Exhibit A to the Professional Services Agreement attached as Exhibit B with Koa Consulting; and
- b. Direct the Chair to execute the proposed Amendment.

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

**AYES:** Dor, Chavez, Iniguez, O’Grady, Meza, Hernandez-Torres, Mueller, Stowell, Pickler, Averill, Tang, Lee, Gomez, Montalvo, Figueroa, Guerrero, Morimoto, Morales-Choate, Bekele, Wall, E. Rojas, Smith.

**NOES:** None.

**ABSTAIN:** None.

**ITEM 10 – SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM**

No Report.

**ITEM 11 – EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S ORAL REPORT**

Executive Officer Grace Kast had reported that GWMA had submitted regional grant applications for the PFOS/PFOA, New Wells, and for Recycled Water. The funding request for the three grant applications totaled approximately \$25.8M.

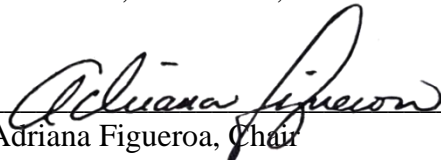
Executive Officer Grace Kast reported that the State of Emergency for remote meetings will end on February 28, 2023. Future meetings will be in-person at Progress Park in the City of Paramount.

**ITEM 12 – 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, March 9, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. at the Clearwater Building, 16404 Paramount Boulevard, Paramount, CA.

  
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Adriana Figueroa, Chair

4/28/23  
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Date