



*Los Angeles Gateway Region
Integrated Regional Water Management
Joint Powers Authority*

AGENDA

**Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
Thursday, February 10, 2022 at 12:00 PM**

**Meeting Remote Location
via WebEx**

<https://koaconsultinginc.my.webex.com/koaconsultinginc.my/j.php?MTID=m1d0d39540a753ff0090877c942d0019a>

**or via phone
1-415-655-0001**

Meeting number: 2554 883 8822

Password: GatewayH2O (42839294 from phones or video systems)

(There will be no physical attendance at Progress Park)

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Determination of a Quorum**
- 3. Additions to Agenda (Govt. Code Sec. 54954.2(b))**
- 4. Oral Communications to the Board**

This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on any item under the jurisdiction of the agency. Depending upon the subject matter, the Board may be unable to respond until the item can be posted on the agenda at a future meeting in accordance with provisions of the Brown Act.
- 5. Presentation – ARLA Working Group Study - Lisa Rapp**
- 6. Consent Calendar: (Acted as one item unless withdrawn by request)**
 - a. Minutes of the Board Meeting of January 13, 2022 (Enclosure).
 - b. Approve the Warrant Register for February 2022 (Enclosure).
 - c. Receive and File the Updated Expenditures for Legal Counsel Services (Enclosure).
 - d. Reconsider the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency; and at least one of the following circumstances exist:
 - 1) The COVID-19 state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of Board Members to meet safely in person; or
 - 2) State and local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing.

Lisa Rapp (Lakewood), Board Chair • Adriana Figueroa (Paramount), Vice-Chair • Hannah Shin-Heydorn (Signal Hill), Secretary/Treasurer
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- 7. Update Regarding Greater Los Angeles Integrated Regional Water Management Implementation Grant Round 2 – Grace Kast**
- 8. GWMA Regional Grant Writing Update – Oral Reports**
 - a. PFOS/PFOA and New Wells –by Tom West (Harris & Associates)
 - b. Recycled Water –by Yoshi Anderson (Geosyntec Consultants)
 - c. Storm Water Capture –by Oliver Galang (Craftwater Engineering)
- 9. Safe Clean Water Program**
 - a. Lower Los Angeles River “LLAR” Watershed Area Steering Committee – Tara Dales (LLAR Watershed Coordinator)
- 10. Gateway Region Watershed Management Groups - Oral Reports**
 - a. Lower Los Angeles River Upper Reach 2 (LAR UR2) Watershed Group
 - b. Lower Los Angeles River (LLAR) Watershed Group
 - c. Lower San Gabriel River (LSGR) Watershed Group
 - d. Los Cerritos Channel (LCC) Watershed Group
- 11. Executive Officer’s Oral Report**
- 12. Directors’ Oral Comments/Reports**
- 13. Adjournment to Regular Board Meeting on March 10, 2022.**

NOTICE: GWMA will hold Board Meetings via video conference to meet social distancing recommendations or meet 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.

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

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

Chair Lisa Rapp 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:

Okina Dor	Artesia
Grissel Chavez	Bell Gardens
Len Gorecki)	Bellflower
Alex Rojas	Central Basin Municipal Water District
Gina Nila	Commerce
Dan Mueller	Downey
Cesar Roldan	Huntington Park
Mark Stowell	La Mirada
Lisa Rapp	Lakewood
Melissa You	Long Beach
Jillian Croci	Long Beach Water
Adriana Figueroa	Paramount
Dylan Porter (alternate)	Port of Long Beach
Jesse Sira (alternate)	Santa Fe Springs
Hannah Shin-Heydorn (alternate)	Signal Hill
Gladis Deras	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
Gerald Montgomery	City of Pico Rivera
Sarina Morales Choate	City of Santa Fe Springs
Christy Cooper	Harris & Associates
Tom West	Harris & Associates
Julia Chambers	Harris & Associates
Yoshi Andersen	Geosyntec Consultants

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 Shin-Heydorn and was approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: Dor, A. Rojas, Nila, Roldan, Stowell, Rapp, Croci, Figueroa, Porter, Shin-Heydorn, Beltran, E. Rojas, Smith

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: Chavez, Gorecki, Mueller, Sira, Deras (Minutes only).

ITEM 6 - GWMA GENERAL COUNCIL AMENDMENT TO THE BILLING RATE FOR LEGAL COUNSEL

Executive Officer Grace Kast summarized that Richards Watson Gershon (RWG) has been representing GWMA as Legal Counsel since October 2007; and, over the past 14 years, RWG has not adjusted their billing rates. Legal Counsel Nicholas Ghirelli had submitted a letter to the Executive Officer requesting the Board's consideration to increase the composite billing rate of \$225, which will be phased over the next two years. For services between January 1, 2022 and December 31, 2022, RWG proposes a composite rate of \$250 per hour for general day-to-day services. Beginning January 1, 2023 until further modified, the proposed rate would be \$275 per hour.

Director Dor moved to approve the request as described in Nicholas Ghirelli's letter regarding modifications to Richards Watson Gershon's billing rate; and authorize the Chair to sign the letter amending the legal service agreement.

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

AYES: Dor, Chavez, Gorecki, A. Rojas, Nila, Mueller, Roldan, Stowell, Rapp, Croci, Figueroa, Porter, Sira, Shin-Heydorn, Deras, Beltran, E. Rojas, Smith

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

**ITEM 7 – FIRST AMENDMENT TO PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT
WITH CLIFTON LARSON ALLEN, LLP**

Director You entered at 12:21 PM

Executive Officer Kast noted that Clifton Larson Allen, LLP (CLA), formerly Vicenti, Lloyd & Stutzman, has been providing on-going accounting support services, on an as-needed basis for GWMA since October 2016, providing assistance with general accounting, a quarterly review of the accounting and bank reconciliations, year-end adjusting entries needed for the audit, preparation of audit workpapers and assistance during the audit, assistance with the budget preparation, and has been available for accounting questions as needed. The original agreement with CLA expired in October 2021; however, GWMA staff is recommending CLA's agreement be renewed and extended to December 31, 2022.

GWMA staff is planning to conduct a solicitation for proposals from accounting firms later this calendar year for general accounting services beginning January 1st, 2023. Director/Treasurer Shin-Heydorn expressed support to conduct a solicitation for accounting firms.

Director A. Rojas motioned to approve the First Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement between GWMA and CLA; and authorize the Chair to execute the First Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with CLA.

The motion was seconded by Director Shin-Heydorn and was approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: Dor, Chavez, Gorecki, A. Rojas, Nila, Mueller, Roldan, Stowell, Rapp, You, Croci, Figueroa, Porter, Sira, Shin-Heydorn, Deras, Beltran, E. Rojas, Smith

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

**ITEM 8 – DISCUSSION/ACTION REGARDING AB 361 FINDINGS FOR SPECIAL
BROWN ACT REQUIREMENTS FOR VIRTUAL MEETINGS**

Legal Counsel Ghirelli summarized that under AB 361, the law requires that the Board must continue to reconsider the circumstance of emergency, and such that the emergency continues to make a direct impact on the Board's ability to meet in person. To continue to hold teleconference meetings, the Board must find that state or local officials continue to impose or recommend social distancing measures, or the Board determines by majority vote that as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of the attendees. Moreover, these findings must be made every 30 days.

Director A. Rojas recommended the item be placed on the consent calendar for future meetings. Legal Counsel Ghirelli concurred the item can be placed on the consent calendar.

Director A. Rojas moved to approve the Board has reconsidered the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency; and at least one of following exists: (a) COVID-19 state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of Board Members to meet safely in person, or (b) State

and local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing.

The motion was seconded by Director E. Rojas and was approved by the following voice vote:

AYES: Dor, Chavez, Gorecki, A. Rojas, Nila, Mueller, Roldan, Stowell, Rapp, You, Croci, Figueroa, Porter, Sira, Shin-Heydorn, Deras, Beltran, E. Rojas, Smith

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ITEM 9 – GWMA REGIONAL GRANT WRITING UPDATE ORAL REPORT

Tom West, Christy Cooper and Julia Chambers of Harris & Associates, provided a status update for grant services for PFOS/PFOA and for new wells regional projects. Harris & Associates has sent out a couple of emails to member agencies to solicit expressions of interest. As of January 13th, they had received responses from 10 agencies. Responses are still welcomed from member agencies even if private operators own wells. Commitment is not required at this time. Harris & Associates will continue to follow up with GWMA members regarding the Expressions of Interest submittals. The team has begun evaluating and tracking various grant opportunities. As the next steps, Harris & Associates will be requesting for additional information from those who submitted expressions of interests and potentially host separate conference meetings for those interested for PFOS/PFOA and for new wells.

Yoshi Andersen with Geosyntec Consulting introduced herself and is the main contact for development of a regional recycled water project with a corresponding effort to seek grant funding for recycled water. Andersen noted that she will be sending out an email with an online form to GWMA members soliciting interest and information.

ITEM 10 – SAFE CLEAN WATER PROGRAM ORAL REPORT

Director Nila reported for the LLAR WASC that since the last meeting was cancelled due to the holidays, there have not been any activities. The next meeting will be held on January 25th.

Director You reported that at the last LSGR WASC Meeting, that OhanaVets will continue to be the Watershed Coordinator. The committee will be deliberating on the SIP at the next meeting in February.

ITEM 11 - GATEWAY REGIONAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GROUPS ORAL REPORT

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

Director Nila reported the annual report was completed and submitted. The next meeting will be held on January 24th.

LLAR Watershed Group

Director Deras reported the next meeting will be on the last week of January. She reported that the City of South Gate has received its municipal Safe Clean Water Funds. Therefore, if other member

agencies have not received their funding yet, the municipal allocation should be forwarded to their finance departments in the near future.

LSGR Watershed Group

None.

LCC Watershed Group

None.

ITEM 12 – EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S ORAL REPORT

None.

ITEM 13 – DIRECTORS’ ORAL COMMENTS/REPORTS

None.

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

The next regular Board Meeting of the Directors of the Gateway Water Management Authority will be on Thursday, February 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 www.gatewaywater.org 72 hours in advance of the meeting.

Lisa Ann Rapp, Chair

Date



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February 10, 2022

AGENDA ITEM 5b – Approve the Warrant Register for February 2022

SUMMARY:

The Warrant Register is a listing of general checks issued since the last warrant register. Warrants will be signed by 2 of the 3 Board Officers and released by Traci Gleason, serving as the Administrative/Accounting Manager of the Gateway Water Management Authority, upon Board Approval.

DISCUSSION:

The Warrant Register for expenditures dated February 2022 in the amount of \$678,945.15 is submitted for approval. Invoices and supporting documentation are available for review at the office of the GWMA.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The Warrant Register totals \$678,945.15. Funds to cover payment are available in the GWMA budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve the Warrant Register for February 2022.

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WARRANT REGISTER
DISBURSEMENT JOURNAL
February 2022

Invoice Date	Vendor	Invoice Number	Description	Amount
12/21/2021	Anchor QEA	6387	RMC Compliance FY 20/21 (Services through 11/30/2021)	\$ 10,471.38 ✓
12/21/2021	Anchor QEA	6388	RMC Compliance FY 21/22 (Services through 11/30/2021)	\$ 80,549.40 ✓
8/31/2021	City of Bell Gardens	32274	JAF Park Cistern (Zusser Inv 1953-17 Mod)	\$ 234,046.92 ✓
10/14/2021	City of Bell Gardens	32284	JAF Park Cistern (Zusser Inv 1953-18 Mod)	\$ 57,038.00 ✓
1/1/2022	City of Paramount	4749	Office Lease (Jan 2022)	\$ 363.80 ✓
2/1/2022	City of Paramount	4763	Office Lease (Feb 2022)	\$ 363.80 ✓
12/29/2021	CWE	21852	JAF Park Cistern (Nov 2021)	\$ 4,669.73 ✓
1/13/2022	CWE	22010	LARUR2 (Nov-Dec 2021)	\$ 86,534.11 ✓
1/31/2022	Gateway Cities Council of Governments	1-31-2022	Office Supplies/FedEx (Jan 2022)	\$ 100.00 ✓
1/7/2022	Geosyntec Consulting	458061	GWMA Grant Funding (Through 12/31/2021)	\$ 777.63 ✓
1/13/2022	Harris & Associates	51174	GWMA Grant Funding (Through 12/31/2021)	\$ 2,776.25 ✓
12/31/2021	John L. Hunter and Associates, Inc.	GWM1LSG12111	LSGR WMP (Nov 2021)	\$ 14,386.25 ✓
1/13/2022	John L. Hunter and Associates, Inc.	GWM1LSG12112	LSGR WMP (Dec 2021)	\$ 62,964.62 ✓
1/27/2022	Koa Consulting, Inc.	K114-01-50	COG Water-Related Coordination Activities and Executive Officer Services, DAC Chair and DACIP Co-Chair (Jan 2022)	\$ 33,908.00 ✓
1/27/2022	Koa Consulting, Inc.	K114-01-51	Expense Reimbursement for GWMA Website Domain and File Server	\$ 857.40 ✓
1/18/2022	Richard Watson & Associates	22-192-003-001	LCC WMP CIMP (December 2021)	\$ 88,755.36 ✓
1/21/2022	Richards Watson Gershon	235303	Legal Services (through Dec 31, 2021)	\$ 382.50 ✓
Total				\$ 678,945.15

Reviewed and Approved by:


Hannah Shin-Heydorn, Signal Hill



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February 10, 2022

AGENDA ITEM 5c – Status of Total Legal Expenditures for General Legal Counsel Services for Fiscal Year 2021-2022

SUMMARY:

At the Board meeting in June 2021, the Board approved the budget for legal counsel services of \$30,500 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2021-2022 to address legal issues. The Board has previously directed staff to provide monthly updates on total expenditures for legal counsel services.

Legal Counsel Services Update:

\$ 30,500.00	FY 2021-2022 Budget amount for Legal Counsel services
<u>\$ 2,322.57</u>	Expenditures for Legal Counsel services through December 31, 2021
\$ 28,177.43	Remaining budget amount available through June 30, 2022

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total expenditures for Legal Counsel services for FY 2021-2022 through December 31, 2021 total \$2,322.57. Sufficient funds to cover payment for legal counsel services are remaining in the GWMA FY 2021-2022 budget.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the status the updated expenditures for Legal Counsel Services.

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