

**GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGION
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT
LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY [DRAFT]
SEPTEMBER 23, 2015**

**COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
900 SOUTH FREMONT AVENUE, ALHAMBRA, CA**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Gary Hildebrand for Gail Farber (Los Angeles County Flood Control District)
Chair, Leadership Committee

Chris Cash (Gateway Water Management Authority)
Chair, Lower San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers Subregion

Mary-Beth Vergara for Mark Stanely (Watershed Conservation Authority)
Vice Chair: Lower San Gabriel & Los Angeles Rivers Subregion

EJ Caldwell for Rich Nagel (West Basin MWD)
Chair, South Bay Subregion

Rob Beste (City of Torrance)
Vice-Chair, South Bay Subregion

Andy Niknafs for Dave Pettijohn (City of Los Angeles, Department of Water and Power)
Chair, Upper Los Angeles River Subregion

Belinda Faustinos (Council for Watershed Health)
Vice-Chair, Upper Los Angeles River Subregion

David Pedersen (Las Virgenes Municipal Water District)
Co-Chair, North Santa Monica Bay Subregion

Barbara Cameron (City of Malibu)
Co-Chair, North Santa Monica Bay Subregion

Kelly Gardner (Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster)
Chair, Upper San Gabriel River and Rio Hondo Subregion

Randy Schoellerman (San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority)
Vice-Chair, Upper San Gabriel River and Rio Hondo Subregion

Sharon Green for Grace Hyde (County of Los Angeles Sanitation Districts)
Sanitation Water Management Area

Tony Zampielo (Raymond Basin)
Groundwater Water Management Area

Daniel Loo for Sharam Kharaghani (City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation)
Stormwater Water Management Area

OTHERS PRESENT:

Angela George, Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Russ Bryden, Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Virginia Maloles-Fowler, Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Erica Sasman, Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Amanda Guzman-Perez, Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Mercedes Passanisi, Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Dave Rydman, Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts
Erik Conard, Los Angeles County, County Counsel
Esther Rojas, Water Replenishment District
Grace Kast, Gateway Water Management Authority

Greg Jaquez, MNS Engineers
Linda Palmquist, MNS Engineers
Miguel Luna (DAC Coordinator), DAKELUNA
Reymundo Trejo, Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
Wendy La, LASER, LLC

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 9:40 a.m. by Gary Hildebrand

1. Introductions

Leadership Committee members, staff, and public present introduced themselves.

2. Approval of June 24, 2015 Meeting Notes

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Grace Kast and seconded by Andy Niknafs: minutes were approved unanimously.

3. Old Business

A. Next Steps for GLAC IRWM Update from Planning Subcommittee. Chair called on Virginia Maloles-Fowler for an update.

- i. Plan Implementation Items
- ii. Future Opportunities

Virginia Maloles-Fowler reported on a Draft Monitoring Plan for tracking progress in achieving the targets and objectives listed in the GLAC IRWM Plan and on alternatives to the OPTI project database.

iii. Memorandum of Understanding and Operating Guidelines

Ms. Maloles-Fowler reported that all parties had completed review of the MOU and Operating Guidelines. Dave Pedersen and Barbara Cameron provided additional comments to address North Santa Monica Bay's governing structure.

Mr. Pedersen made a motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding and Operating Guidelines, with the addition of his prior comments, subject to the concurrence of the other subregions and Water Management Areas representatives. The motion was seconded by Sharon Green who asked LACFCD to clearly label the document as the final version to avoid confusion. Motion passed unanimously.

B. Prop 84 Implementation Grants - Chair called on Virginia Maloles-Fowler for an update.

Ms. Maloles-Fowler confirmed the Region's "Prop 84 - 2015 Round" grant application was submitted by DWR's deadline of August 7, 2015. DWR subsequently requested applicants complete a supplemental form on groundwater contamination as required by AB 1249. Staff worked with project proponents to provide DWR with this information. The GLAC IRWM requested approximately \$35 million in grant funds. The total funds available to the Los Angeles – Ventura Funding Area were \$40 million.

Ms. Maloles-Fowler also stated that the Leadership Committee will be presented with “lessons learned” from this application process at a future meeting.

C. Funding Future Grant Applications

Subregions were requested to discuss options for funding future grant applications to make the IRWM program more accessible to DACs and NGOs.

D. Consultants

Subregions were requested to discuss the need for and the logistics of procuring and holding an approved list of qualified consultants that could be used on an as-needed basis for IRWM support services.

4. New Business

A. Supervisor Kuehl’s Water Dialogue

Mr. Bryden reported that on September 3rd, Supervisor Kuehl hosted a water dialogue that brought together State Water Resources Board Chair Felicia Marcus, Board Member Fran Spivey-Weber; and Department of Water Resources Director, Mark Cowin, and over 40 executive managers from the region’s leading water resources agencies to discuss the drought, integrated water management, and a path forward.

Several takeaways emerged from the dialogue including the importance of the State’s Water Action Plan, their Financial Assistance Application Submittal Tool (FAAST), and their intent to place even more emphasis on the IRWM program.

B. Prop 1 Program Guidelines

Information on funding amounts and schedules for Prop 1 programs is provided by the State at <http://bondaccountability.resources.ca.gov>.

IRWM Program

Mr. Bryden and Ms. Green reported that DWR recently held a public workshop for the IRWM Program. Highlights included a report that the Los Angeles-Ventura Funding Area was assigned \$70 million for Implementation Grants and an additional \$19 million for DAC Projects. DWR is not yet certain if this funding will be distributed in one or two funding rounds. The Draft PSP is scheduled for release in December 2015.

Stormwater Program

Mr. Bryden also provided an update on the Prop 1 Stormwater Program including a discussion of Enhanced/Watershed Management Plans (E/WMPs) being considered a “functionally equivalent” stormwater resources plan and how they could be incorporated into the GLAC IRWM Plan. Achieving these designations is required in order for E/WMPs to be eligible for Prop 1 Stormwater Program grant funding.

5. Committee Reports

A. Steering Committees

Lower San Gabriel & Los Angeles Rivers Sub-Region - No meeting

North Santa Monica Bay Sub-Region – No meeting

South Bay Sub-Region - No meeting

Upper Los Angeles River Sub-Region - No meeting

Upper San Gabriel River and Rio Hondo River Sub-Region – No meeting

B. Water Management Areas

Open Space – No report

Stormwater – No report

Groundwater - Tony Zampello spoke about continuing historic record low water levels in the Main San Gabriel Basin and the high cost of purchasing replacement water to meet obligations for next year.

Sanitation - Sharon Green spoke about a proposed joint project between the Sanitation Districts and Metropolitan Water District to purify secondary effluent from the Sanitation Districts' Joint Water Pollution Control Plant in the City of Carson to produce advanced treated recycled water and deliver the treated water for groundwater replenishment throughout Los Angeles, Orange, and San Bernardino counties. The project will be designed with a long-term capacity to treat and deliver up to 150 MGD (168,000 acre-feet per year).

Surface Water - No report

C. Legislative Committee

Mr. Caldwell provided an update on legislation being tracked by the group. Bills reported on included SB 163 (requires 50% reuse of wastewater by 2026 and 100% by 2030), SB 20 (creation of the California Water Fund Public Goods Charge to partially fund future IRWM activities), SB 208 (advance payment of IRWM grant funds for DACs and NGOs), and SB 485 (Sanitation Districts' treatment of stormwater and dry weather runoff).

D. DAC Committee

Mr. Luna shared that a recent workshop planned in the San Fernando Valley was cancelled due to lack of participation. Looking forward, an OPTI project entry training event is planned for mid-October to assist with submittal of new DAC projects.

6. Public Comment:

No Comments

7. Future Agenda Items/Announcements/Other Items

David Pedersen passed out a letter written by Las Virgenes MWD to the State regarding the State's recent policy decision to disallow areas served by Metropolitan Water District to apply for the State's new turf removal rebate program. Las Virgenes MWD expressed concern that this policy decision placed hardships on disadvantaged communities within Metropolitan Water District's service area.

David Rydman from the County's Waterworks Districts provided a summary of the effort to develop and coordinate multi-lingual messaging regarding the drought. It appeared most messaging focused on the Governor's directives of mandatory reduction of water consumption.

A. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m. The next Leadership Committee meeting is scheduled for October 28, 2015, 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

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