

**GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY REGION  
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT  
LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY**

**May 27, 2020**

**ONLINE MS TEAMS MEETING**

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Dan Lafferty for Mark Pestrella (Los Angeles County Flood Control District)  
Chair, Leadership Committee

Lisa Rapp (Gateway Water Management Authority)  
Chair, Lower SG/LLA River Sub-region

Esther Rojas for Robb Whitaker (Water Replenishment District)  
Vice-Chair, Lower San Gabriel River and Lower Los Angeles River Subregion

Dave Pedersen (Las Virgenes Municipal Water District)  
Chair, NSMB Sub-region

Art Castro for Martin Adams (Los Angeles Department of Water and Power)  
Chair, Upper Los Angeles Sub-region

Alex Heide for E.J. Caldwell (West Basin Municipal Water District)  
Chair, South Bay Sub-region

Kelly Gardner (Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster)  
Chair, Upper San Gabriel Sub-region

Randy Schoellerman for Ken Manning (San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority)  
Vice-Chair, Upper San Gabriel Subregion

Tony Zampiello (Raymond Basin Management Board)  
Groundwater Water Management Area

Guangyou Wang (Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission)  
Open Space Water Management Area

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

Wing Tam for Shahram Kharaghani (City of Los Angeles, Bureau of Sanitation)  
Stormwater Water Management Area

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Amanda Guzman-Perez, Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Giles Coon, Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Grace Kast, Gateway Water Management Authority

Jolene Guerrero, Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Margarit Movsesian, Los Angeles County Flood Control District

Matthew Frary, Los Angeles County Flood Control District

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order at 9:36 a.m. by Dan Lafferty, who served as the Chair.

**1. Introductions**

Chair welcomed all to the meeting and acknowledged COVID-19 related challenges and the ongoing efforts throughout Los Angeles County.

Chair indicated that the meeting was being recorded and that roundtable introductions would be skipped due to the online format.

## 2. Roll Call

Chair called on staff, Giles Coon, to discuss Microsoft Teams Meeting protocol. Staff, Margarit Movsesian, proceeded with roll call of LC Members present on videoconference/call. Quorum was present.

## 3. Approval of October 23, 2019 and January 22, 2020 Meeting Notes\*

Chair noted there was no December LC meeting, a quorum was not present at the January 22, 2020 LC meeting, and called for a motion to approve both the October 23, 2019 and January 22, 2020 meeting notes. Motion was made by Dave Pederson, and seconded by Grace Kast. Sharon Green abstained. None opposed. Motion was passed.

## 4. New Business

Chair to introduce presenters Ian Achimore, followed by Dale Cox.

### A. Presentation – Consideration of Continued Contribution for Roundtable of Regions Network Coordinator

Chair acknowledged the significant accomplishments of the Network Coordinator to date that affirm prior investments have been fruitful, confirmed that GLAC IRWM's fund balance is sufficient to cover another year's contribution, and called for a motion to approve GLAC IRWM's contribution of \$10,330 for FY 2020-21 services. Dave Pedersen asked a question regarding Burdick & Co involvement. Lisa Rapp asked how the contribution would be funded. Following clarifications and discussion, a motion was made by Dave Pedersen, and seconded by Sharon Green, to approve the contribution. Margarit Movsesian conducted a roll call vote. Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

### B. Presentation – ARKStorm Los Angeles

Chair thanked the presenters, and initiated a Q&A period.

## 5. Old Business

### A. Summary of Current Grants/Key Updates (Prop 84 Rounds 1 – 4)

Amanda Guzamn-Perez reminded the committee that the Project Status Report is provided through the steering committees each month and input is always welcomed. She provided key updates on latest amendments in Prop 84.

#### i. Round 1:

Remaining projects are on schedule.

#### ii. Round 2 Amendment 4:

- Project 4 – Dominguez Gap Spreading Grounds West Basin Percolation Enhancements Project will be requesting a budget modification to fully expend grant funds based actual expenses.

- Project 8 – Peck Water Conservation Improvement Project - Formal modification request was submitted to DWR for consideration. Staff is following up on DWR's additional information request.

iii. Round 3 Amendment 2

Remaining projects are on schedule.

iv. Round 4 Amendment 2:

Project 4 : Franklin D. Roosevelt Park Regional BMP Project, Project 14: Water LA Neighborhood Retrofits, Project 15: Hoover, Toll, & Keppel School Recycled Water – On January 29, 2020, the State executed the modification request for all projects.

**B. Prop 1 DACIP and GLAC DAC Committee**

Grace Kast reported that some of the DACIP activities have been slowed down or modified to adjust to the COVID-19 emergency. GLAC Region started Task 3 - Needs Assessment and continues to work with the other two sub-regions to coordinate this task.

Staff continue to submit reimbursement requests and quarterly progress reports to DWR.

All in-person outreach has been postponed until further notice. Tree People and CSU continue to work together on alternative solutions to in-person outreach, including virtual meetings, when appropriate. TreePeople has tested 2 web-based events to date this month, and is working with NGOs who will continue to facilitate outreach through these means.

CSU and their subconsultant, Placeworks, continue working on the areawide marketing plan and building the stakeholder database. Staff continues to expand WaterTalks website.

The Task Force is currently reviewing and revising draft Task Order 4 Scope of Work. Staff continues to work on drafting an Amendment request to extend the duration of the grant to December 31, 2021, and to revise the budget to reallocate unspent funds between subtasks and additional funds for grant administration. GLAC DAC Committee will be meeting through Microsoft Team, following the LC Committee meeting.

**C. Prop 1 Implementation Round**

Amanda Guzman-Perez reported that DWR released Draft Round 1 Recommended Funding List on May 7th. The total award to GLAC was \$15,288,680, including a DAC award of \$3,430,000. The total award to the funding area was \$37,730,000, with the non-DAC allocation amounts being essentially equal across the three regions, even though the requested amounts and complexity of needs were not equal. Comments on the recommended funding are due to DWR on May 28th.

The subregion members met on May 15 and May 20 to discuss the recommendations, discuss the intent of a draft comment letter, and plan for the anticipated award should the recommended amounts stand.

The District reported that the subregions had worked together to reduce the non-DAC request amount from \$30M to about \$16M, still about \$5M above the draft non-DAC award. In the case DWR will not change the amount of funding to GLAC, further collaboration will be needed to determine the final distribution of the \$11M to be awarded.

An overview of the current draft comments letter was provided – Highlights include:

- Inequity of funding distribution with no consideration of population and area
- Inconsistency with the intent of Prop 1 Round 1 as outlined in PSP and demonstrated in methodology for allocations to each Funding Area.
- Cited Water Codes that require Program Preferences be considered
- Historical precedent and performance
- Request for a meeting with DWR.

The DWR Recommended Funding List and the tentative new recommendation of distributing \$16M are included in the reference materials.

Final awards are expected the first week in July.

The chair facilitated verbal discussion of the situation and proposed comment letter. Sub-region chairs recommended that, in addition to Arthur Hinojosa, the comment letter be sent to DWR Director Karla Nemeth with request for a meeting between Karla and a select executive level group from GLAC.

Chair asked staff for any public comment before voting. No additional comments.

Dave Pedersen reiterated the importance of holding an executive level meeting and ensuring the comment letter goes to the director of DWR. He also requested we state in the letter that we will follow up to help arrange a meeting with leaders of the Greater Los Angeles area and to not include a reduction in amount ask, yet. Finally, he suggested that the letter acknowledge that the decision impacts the ability of the 3 regions in the area working together on pre-determined splits in the future.

Lisa Rapp added that Board of Supervisors and elected leaders should be briefed given the short time frame of this decision. The committee and Chair acknowledged the short time frame.

Chair summarized all discussion and suggestions: letter not to include reduction in ask amount; letter be sent to Karla Nemeth; and letter to include request to meet to discuss region's concerns with Karla and leadership from the region. Chair called for motion to authorize LACFCD to finalize letter in cooperation with subregion chairs and submit to DWR before COB tomorrow, 5/28. Motion was made by Dave Pedersen and seconded by Alex Heide. Lisa Rapp suggested copying elected officials (Board of Supervisors, Mayor of Los Angeles, and key leaders on legislation) on letter, if able. Alex Heide asked whether cc-ing elected officials will slow down the process for County, and wanted to make sure there are no concerns with meeting the submittal deadline. Chair expressed concern about timely providing the letter if cc's were included, and recommended sending the letter without, for the time being. Motion stands. Margarit Movsesian conducted roll call vote. Sharon Green abstained. None opposed. Motion passed.

#### **D. Update on WaterforLA**

Jolene Guerrero reported on WaterforLA. Next campaign will be on Water Quality.

#### **E. Update on Safe, Clean Water Program**

Matthew Frary reported on Safe, Clean, Water Program, citing various components and subprograms and a two-pronged approach, technical and political. The District continues to proactively move forward through virtual platforms. Tax revenue from FY19-20 is approximately 90% collected.

## F. County Water Plan

Chair provided an update on the County Water Plan. Effort began 2 years ago and was put on hold as the County put forward the Sustainability Plan. Working on authorization from board to hire consultant to begin renewed efforts to work on County Water Plan. Goal is that the plan will consider all water sectors, and board will adopt as County policy document. Sharon Green asked about IRWM 2.0. Chair clarified that the approach is much like IRWM and will supplement and expand on IRWM rather than be duplicative.

## 6. Standing Committee Reports

### A. Steering Committees

- i. NSMB – No formal meeting. Focus has been on Prop 1 Round 1 project submittals.
- ii. South Bay – No formal meeting. Focus has been on Prop 1 Round 1.
- iii. ULAR – No formal meeting. Staying in touch with project proponents.
- iv. USGRRH – No formal meeting. Staying in touch with project proponents, two had to pull out.
- v. LSGLAR – No formal meeting.

### B. Water Management Area Representatives

- i. Groundwater – reported close to average rainfall but Main San Gabriel Basin still not recovered.
- ii. Open Space – reported on various challenges, recreational use, and wildfire control prevention.
- iii. Sanitation – No updates on sanitation. Briefly discussed the EPA, along with other federal agencies' adoption of National Water Reuse Action Plan and suggested it be a future committee meeting discussion topic. Roger Gorke is the EPA representative and may be available to present for next meeting.
- iv. Stormwater Quality – No update. Suggested future topic for discussion could be PFOS and PFOA contamination and effects on dealing with Stormwater.
- v. Surface Water – Not in attendance.
- vi. Stormwater Capture – reported regional numbers for rainfall and capture to date.

### C. Legislative Committee

No update.

## 7. Public Comment

None

## 8. Future Agenda Items/Announcements/Other Items

Chair invited members to make announcements, recommendations for future agenda items, and/or discuss other items. No new suggestions, but Giles confirmed acknowledgement of potential topics shared in Item 6b.

## 9. Next Meeting

Chair announced that the next meeting is anticipated to be held July 22, 9:30-11:30. Location/format TBD.

## 10. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 11:27 am.