

**GREATER LOS ANGELES COUNTY
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 22, 2014
LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
900 SOUTH FREMONT, ALHAMBRA, CA**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Terri Grant for Gail Farber (Los Angeles County Flood Control District) – Chair
Leighanne Kirk for Rich Nagel (West Basin MWD) – Chair, South Bay Sub-Region
Rob Beste (City of Torrance) – Vice Chair, South Bay Sub-Region
Andy Niknafs for Dave Pettijohn (Department of Water and Power) – Chair, Upper Los Angeles River Sub-Region
Kelly Gardner (Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster) – Chair, Upper Upper San Gabriel River Subregion
Randy Schoellerman (Water Quality Authority) – Vice-Chair, Upper San Gabriel River Sub-region
Sharon Green for Grace Hyde (County of Los Angeles Sanitation Districts) – Sanitation WMA
Grace Chan for Jeff Kightlinger (Metropolitan Water District) – Surface Water WMA
Tony Zampielo (Raymond Basin) – Groundwater WMA
Marybeth Vergara for Mark Stanley (Watershed Conservation Authority) Vice-Chair, Lower Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers Sub-region
Esther Rojas for Robb Whitakker (Water Replenishment District)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Mark Pestrella (Chief Deputy Director), Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Angela R. George (Watershed Management Division Head), Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Russ Bryden (Staff), Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Virginia Maloles-Fowler (Staff), Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Erica Sasman (Staff), Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Dan Sulzer, USACE
Guangyu Wang, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission
Lee Alexanderson, (Staff), Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Jan Dougall, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Raymundo Trejo, USGVMWD
E.J. Caldwell, West Basin Municipal Water District
Genevieve Osmena (Staff), Los Angeles County Flood Control District
Mark Horne
Enrique Huerta, Land Use Planning Consultant

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

The Chair opened the discussion for any changes to the meeting minutes. Three changes were requested. Change last sentence of item 8 and item 6, Randal Orton and not Randy Schoellerman volunteered to be on the Operational Guidelines subcommittee, and Grace Chan provided clarification to her report regarding Metropolitan Water's workshop from multiple ones to only one workshop.

MOTION: Motion to approve the September 24, 2014 meeting minutes with the three changes was made by Tony Zampielo and seconded by Sharon Green. Meeting minutes with changes were approved by unanimous vote.

3. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE UPDATE (WEST BASIN)

E.J. Caldwell shared a handout of legislative bills and went over several of them, including the water bond, AB 1471. It was noted the water bond had bipartisan support as well as Governor Brown's support during his campaign. It is expected to pass. It was also noted GLAC IRWM was highly competitive for the funding in SB103 and SB104, expedited Round 3 drought relief emergency regulation and funding bill. Lastly, three bills relating directly to IRWM, AB1731, AB1874, and SB1049, failed but may be raised again. The first bill focused on DAC communities funding minimum, the second bill focused on improving DWR IRWM grant selection process, and the third bill focused on representation required in the IRWM Regional Water Management Group.

4. WATER BOND AND DROUGHT COORDINATION

Advertisements for Prop 1 ongoing led and promoted by Gov. Brown. Only 2 legislators opposed the water bond. West Basin Municipal Water District took a position to support Prop 1 and is educating the public on this proposition. They are also working to get information to media. News agencies are currently looking to do stories on each proposition, so there is an opportunity to provide messaging.

5. NEXT STEPS FOR GLAC IRWM (R. BRYDEN/V. MALOLES-FOWLER)

5.1 Update on Operating Guidelines

V. Maloles updated the Leadership Committee on the subcommittee's progress reviewing the Operational Guidelines which were provided as a handout. Only minor changes are being considered and it is anticipated recommendations will be presented in the next Leadership Meeting. Sharon Green, vetted through steering committee may not be ready for Dec. meeting; few areas not being fully implemented, by large pretty good guidelines. Highlight of proposed changes and update steering committees? Kelly and Sharon, compliance change not followed

through is the notice of meeting minutes, procedures for replacing people when they retire, move on, etc. Provide copy for next meeting announcement for everyone.

5.2 Future Opportunities

Terri Grant opened the discussion for IRWM's future role possibilities including new funding, partnerships with business, health, and planning, and expanded stakeholder inclusion. V. Maloles briefly shared SAWPA's One Water Conference

Discussion on the following subjects:

- 1) Retreat: Schedule workshop retreats. The last retreat was five years ago. It was suggested to contract a facilitator so LACFCD could fully participate in activities.
- 2) Sub-Regions: Discuss IRWM future at the sub-region level. Ideas to be presented at future Leadership Committee Meeting. Additionally, Leadership Committee speakers could present topics at local committee meetings.
- 3) Expand Outreach: In order to have more diversity, go to local areas, as opposed to inviting groups to the Leadership Meeting. In addition to reaching out for new partnerships, Enrique Huerta expressed his recommendation to consider reducing the costs of funding application costs. Per Mr. Huerta, the high costs have impeded the participation of smaller cities that can't absorb the costs. He has submitted his comment letter to PEI Report and has included a list of the current projects on OPTI. This will allow sponsoring agencies to save the costs of preparing a second tier site specific EIR.
- 4) ERWMP: There was a strong interest in collaborating, as funding and overlapping project opportunities. It was suggested to look further at storm water and how this fits into IRWMP.
- 5) New Funding: There was interest in other funding opportunities with different State Agencies, such as the State Water Board and Fish & Wildlife. The next Leadership Committee meeting will discuss follow up on ideas.

6. MS4 PERMIT UPDATE

Genevieve Osmena gave a presentation on the EWMPs progress from the MS4 permit adopted on December 2012. Nineteen (19) collaborative groups were formed to develop plans required by the Regional Water Quality Control Board to comply with the permit. The expanded Enhanced Plans for Storm Water Quality are due in June 2015 and is expected to be approved in 2016. They are favoring multi benefit projects and have used the research from IRWM and they have recommended groups look at the Opti Database when appropriate. The Programmatic Environmental Impact Report was also mentioned and encouraged to provide comments by the end of this month.

7. BASIN STUDY/ STORMWATER CAPTURE MASTER PLAN

Lee Alexanderson, LACFCD, presented the LA Basin Study, a three year study on the impact of climate change on existing infrastructure in the LA Region. The study looks at both climate and population changes through 2095. Flexibility is the focus in meeting the wide range of potential changes in climate. Based on study results, there will be recommended policies and projects. There is no funding allocated towards implementing these projects. The LA Basin Study is available for review at <http://www.usbr.gov/lc/socal/basinstudies/LABasin.html>.

Rafael Villegas of the LADWP presented on the Storm Water Capture Master Plan. This plan focused on a 20 year time period primarily in the San Fernando Reservoir, as LADWP has water rights to this water body. A draft will be available in 2015. The study looked at ways to best capture storm water to recharge the potentially 300 AFY. Based on soil analysis, projects both central and distributive, were looked at for cost and impact to capture water. Smaller distributive projects such as rain gardens and rain barrel storage was considered to be most effective.

8. STEERING COMMITTEE CHAIRS' & WMA REPS' REPORTS (VARIOUS)

Sub-Regional Steering Committees reported on the discussions held at their respective October meetings, as follows:

North Santa Monica Bay: Jan Dougall reported the subcommittee met and discussed possible future projects for the next round of funding in Prop 84. Requested the Leadership Committee reconsider the option of having phone access to the meeting due to location from this sub region.

South Bay: No report.

Upper Los Angeles River: No report

Lower San Gabriel and Los Angeles River: No report

Upper San Gabriel and Rio Hondo: No report

Open Space: No report

Sanitation District: No report

Storm Water: No report

Surface Water: No report

Groundwater – Tony Zampielo reported that the groundwater levels have further decreased to a new historic low level of 181 feet. A Water Supply Emergency, Section Code 375, was declared. A plan is being developed for a groundwater level projection of 160 feet, estimated based on no rain within the next 6 months. In this case scenario, 8 wells would be put out of production. For scale, 160 feet is 250,000 AFY lower than the low point of 190 feet reached in 2010.

9. IRWM GRANTS UPDATE (V. MALOLES-FOWLER)

Virginia Maloles-Fowler stated that the Proposition 50 Amendment 3 has been fully executed and reported that the Proposition 84 Round 2 Grant Agreement has been received and will be submitted for signature. Proposition 84 Round for the Drought, a letter was sent to DWR on October 8th, after learning more information on how DWR selected their Drought recommendations in a public session on September 30. In the previous Leadership Committee Meeting on September 24, it was concluded no letter was necessary as GLAC was recommended for the full application amount. This letter, written by RMC, was provided as a handout in the meeting.

Virginia reported the follow-up to completing the final report for the Planning Grant will be a collaborative effort between LACFCD, subcommittee, and RMC. The RMC proposal of \$12,000 was based on RMC completing report independently. The collaborative effort will reduce the total cost. Clarifications from DWR on the deliverables under the MOU, was favorable, this also helped to reduce the effort needed to complete the Final Report.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/OTHER ITEMS

Question was asked regarding the status of the DAC Coordinator and Community Liaison. Marybeth Vergara stated that the candidates for the positions will be interviewed next week.

Discussion on the 2014 Drought Grant Award regarding the 30 days submittal for additional information and scheduling of proponents' local match for their board approval requirements.

12. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 11:43 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, December 10, 2014
9:30 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.