

**Greater Los Angeles County Integrated Regional Water Management
Leadership Committee Meeting Notes
August 26, 2009**

**At the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue, Alhambra**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair, Los Angeles County Flood Control District: Mark Pestrella for Gail Farber

Lower Los Angeles Subregion

Vice-Chair: Belinda Faustinos (Watershed Conservation Authority)

North Santa Monica Bay Subregion

Chair: Randall Orton (Las Virgenes Municipal Water District)

Vice-Chair: Barbara Cameron (City of Malibu)

South Bay Subregion

Chair: Rich Nagel (West Basin MWD)

Vice-Chair: Theresa Wu (Water Replenishment District) for Robb Whitaker (Water Replenishment District)

Upper Los Angeles Subregion

Chair: Andy Niknafs (City of L.A. Department of Water & Power) for Tom Erb (City of L.A. Department of Water & Power)

Vice-Chair: Nancy Steele (L.A. & San Gabriel Rivers Watershed Council)

Upper San Gabriel Subregion

Chair: Wendy La (Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster) for Carol Williams (Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster)

Vice-Chair: Grace Kast (San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority)

Water Management Area

Groundwater: Tony Zampiello (Raymond Basin Management Board)

Sanitation: Sharon Green (County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County) for Steve Maguin (County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County)

Stormwater: Shahram Kharaghani (City of Los Angeles Watershed Protection Division)

Surface Water: Grace Chan (Metropolitan Water District) for Jeff Kightlinger (Metropolitan Water District)

COMMITTEE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT:

Lower Los Angeles Subregion, Chair: Art Aguilar (Central Basin MWD)

Water Management Area-Open Space: Shelly Luce (Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Amir Alam (Los Angeles County Department of Public Works)

Siya Araumi (Los Angeles County Flood Control District)

John Biggs (Brown & Caldwell)

Hector Bordas (Los Angeles County Flood Control District)

Donna Chen (City of Los Angeles Bureau of Sanitation)

George De La O (Los Angeles County Flood Control District)

Jan Dougall (Las Virgenes MWD)

Terri Grant (Los Angeles County Flood Control District)

Gary Hildebrand (Los Angeles County Flood Control District)

Kenneth Hu (Los Angeles County Department of Public Works)

Burt Kumagama (Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office)

Leighanne Reeser (West Basin MWD)

Randy Schollerman (San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority)

Mary Zauner (County Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County)

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1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 9:46 a.m.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JULY 22, 2009 MEETING SUMMARY

A motion was made to approve the meeting notes of July 22, 2009. The motion passed unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments.

4. IRWMP NEWS

George De La O provided the following news:

- The Department of Water Resources (DWR) said that the Greater Los Angeles County Region had a good Region Acceptance Process (RAP) interview.
- The draft implementation guidelines for Proposition 84 will be released in early October.
- DWR has \$5.5 million of the approved \$25 million for Prop. 50 projects for disbursement. Out of this amount, we must first deduct \$515,000 for the Las Virgenes Creek Restoration Project and another \$17,000 for the San Gabriel Valley Arundo Removal Project. That leaves us with a little less than \$5 million. It is up to the Leadership Committee to decide how we allocate the rest of these monies. It was also reported that the State will more funds available in the future.

Rich Nagel suggested that staff put together a plan to distribute the remaining funds for the Leadership Committee to analyze and make a decision. Belinda Faustinos clarified that it isn't a matter of *if*, but when our 14 Prop. 50 projects will get reimbursement from the State. It may take some time, but all 14 projects will receive reimbursement from the State. Nancy Steele asked staff to find out how the State came up with \$5.5 million for our region and how does it compare with the money other regions received. She also suggested obtaining input from the local project sponsors to develop the recommendation.

A motion was introduced for Leadership Committee to provide a letter of support for projects seeking grant funding from the State. The motion passed. Sharon Green abstained. The Leadership Committee supported providing a letter of support for the Malibu Civic Center Stormwater Management Project.

5. WEST BASIN MWD AND WATER DESALTING FACILITY IN REDONDO BEACH

Rich Nagel provided a PowerPoint presentation on the subject matter (attached).

6. DAC AD HOC COMMITTEE UPDATE

Belinda Faustinos said that the DAC Ad Hoc Committee has been meeting regularly for the past couple of months and their recommendations will be complied and provided to the Leadership Committee in a letter.

7. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Rich Nagel recommended that we should monitor the status of all water bonds.

8. STRATEGIC PLAN SUBCOMMITTEE

Hector Bordas suggested that the Leadership Committee consider assembly of a subcommittee to concentrate on sensitive and high importance water management issues. The subcommittee will be tasked to come up with a plan and to take that plan to the Leadership Committee for consideration. Nancy Steele recommended that the Leadership Committee come up with the

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specific responsibilities and goals of such a subcommittee. Hector Bordas said that this subcommittee will be discussing issues such as engaging the Gateway Cities JPA and encouraging cooperation, funding issues, policy issues, etc. Mark Pestrella mentioned that advocacy groups and grant support are important issues we need to consider. Hector Bordas said that a frame work will be developed and forwarded to the subcommittee for review and comment. Nancy Steele mentioned that climate change issues are also of importance and should be incorporated.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/OTHER ITEMS

All subregions were encouraged to hold Steering Committee meetings, even without assistance from our consultant.

10. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, September 23, 2009 at 9:30 a.m.