

Safe, Clean Water Program

Lower San Gabriel River

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



Meeting Minutes:

December 15, 2020

9:00AM- 12:00 PM

WebEx Meeting

Attendees:

Committee Members and Alternates:

Julian Juarez (LA County Flood Control District)

Jeremy Melendez* (Central Basin)

Lyndsey Bloxsom* (Water Replenishment District)

Kristen Ruffell (LA County Sanitation Districts)

Dan Knapp (Conservation Corps of Long Beach)

Adam Galia (Resident)

Joseph Gonzalez* (Rivers and Mountains Conservancy)

Mike O'Grady (Cerritos)

Delfino Consunji (Downey)

Lisa Ann Rapp (Lakewood)

Melissa You (Long Beach)

Bernie Iniguez (Bellflower)

Noe Negrete (Santa Fe Springs)

Vicki Smith (Whittier)

Committee Members Not Present:

Stephen Scott (City of Long Beach)

Gabrielle Weeks (Long Beach Coalition for a Safe Environment)

*Committee Member Alternate

1. Welcome and Introductions

District staff conducted a roll call of committee members, and with a majority present, quorum was established. The meeting was called to order. The District discussed housekeeping items and the public comment process.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from November 4th, 2020

Ms. Lisa Ann Rapp asked if committee members have reviewed November 4, 2020 minutes and if there were any changes to be made. With no changes requested, Ms. Rapp requested a motion to approve minutes. Mr. Delfino Consunji motioned to approve minutes, with Ms. Kristen Ruffell seconding.

The Committee voted to approve the meeting minutes from November 4th, 2020 (14 Yes, unanimous).

3. Committee Member and District Updates

Ms. Melanie Morita (District) provided the District update noting: the Scoring Committee has begun scoring projects, all municipal transfer agreements have been sent out and the District has begun receiving annual plans, all regional transfer agreements are now out and the District has begun receiving scopes of work, and the ROC will discuss today partial funding guidance and interim guidance moving forward.

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District, Ms. Ruffell, and Mr. Jeremy Melendez clarified the ROC meeting minutes will be posted within a week and meeting recordings will not be posted.

4. Ex Parte Communication Disclosures

Ms. Rapp disclosed she participated in a meeting with a group of organizations who are working to evaluate a scientific study proposal from the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments and co-sponsored by the Gateway Water Management Authority.

5. Public Comment Period

No comment card submitted; no public comments provided.

6. Discussion Items:

a) Watershed Coordinator Selection

i) Process Overview

During the interview process, District staff will read each interview question and have it presented on the screen. Each Watershed Coordinator (WC) will be allowed 20 minutes to answer all the questions. District staff will manage a timer and provide a time remaining reminder to the interviewees at the end of the interview and then 10 minutes will be allowed for follow up questions and answers. Committee members were sent the set of WC interview questions, note-taking sheet, the WC roles/responsibilities, and each WC's Statement of Qualifications (SOQs). It is important to write notes to remember critical information when voting at the next meeting, or should the Committee member present at today's meeting not be present at the following meeting (in this case, the meeting notes should be passed onto the alternate member). If any of the Committee members have a financial link to any of the WC interviewees, these Committee members must recuse and remove themselves from the WC selection process. For WC applicants that did not meet the scoring threshold, debriefing meetings have already been scheduled with LA County Public Works' Contracts Division.

ii) Interviews

The following firms and respective presenters conducted the WC interviews by answering all of the interview questions and individual WASC member questions.

- (1) S. Groner Associates Inc. – Angie Lee and Ly Nguyen

WASC individual members with specific questions after the interview were Mr. Adam Galia, Ms. Lyndsey Bloxom, Ms. Ruffell, Mr. Noe Negrete, and Mr. Consunji.

- (2) OhanaVets Inc. – Kekoa Anderson

WASC individual members with specific questions after the interview were Ms. Bloxom and Mr. Joseph Gonzalez.



(3) TreePeople, Inc. – Blake Whittington and Cindy Montanez

WASC individual members with specific questions after the interview were Ms. Ruffell, Mr. Dan Knapp, Mr. Consunji, and Mr. Gonzalez.

(4) CASC Engineering & Consulting – Ed Suher

WASC individual members with specific questions after the interview were Mr. Galia, Mr. Gonzalez, and Mr. Consunji.

(5) Fresh Coast Capital, LLC dba Greenprint Partners – April Mendez

WASC individual members with specific questions after the interview were Ms. Ruffell, Ms. Bloxom, Mr. Consunji, Mr. Negrete, and Mr. Melendez.

7. Public Comment Period

No public comments were made.

8. Meeting Schedule

The District will send another poll that will use January as a template for the committee members to provide their monthly reoccurring availability.

9. Items for next agenda

The District stated that at the next meeting the WASC will be voting on the watershed coordinators that presented today.

Ms. Bloxom asked if additional follow up questions are part of the voting process. The District stated they will need to check the contracts division to see if that is allowed. Ms. Rapp and the District clarified WASC discussion is included as part of the voting process.

Mr. Knapp asked if applicants can be the coordinator for more than one watershed area. The District responded the coordinator will have the first right of refusal, and if they do not pick this watershed area, the WASC will vote for another coordinator.

Mr. Negrete stated that he would have preferred an interview panel. The District stated that generally the interview process is done in closed sessions, but the ordinance allows the WASC to select and interview the WC proposers. Per Brown Act, a meeting that has a quorum is required to be a public meeting. Ms. Bloxom asked about the voting methods and the District shared a couple options that are being explored.

10. Adjournment

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Ms. Rapp thanked WASC members and public for their attendance and participation and adjourned the meeting.

Next Meeting: TBD
Virtual Meeting – Webex Events

LSGR WASC - December 15, 2020

		Quorum Present				Voting Item
Member Type	Position	Member	Voting?	Alternate	Voting?	Approve Meeting Minutes
Agency	FCD	Julian Juarez	X	Carolina Hernandez		Y
Agency	Central Basin	Alex Rojas		Jeremy Melendez	X	Y
Agency	Water Replenishment District	Diane Gatza		Lyndsey Bloxom	X	Y
Agency	Sanitation Districts	Kristen Ruffell	X	Mike Sullivan		Y
Agency	City of Long Beach Parks and Recreation	Stephen Scott		Meredith Reynolds		
Community Stakeholder	Conservation Corps of Long Beach	Dan Knapp	X	Irene Lopez-Muro		Y
Community Stakeholder	Resident	Adam Galia	X	Thalia Campos		Y
Community Stakeholder	Rivers Mountains Conservancy	Mark Stanley		Joseph Gonzalez	X	Y
Community Stakeholder	Long Beach Coalition for a Safe Environment	Gabrielle Weeks				
Community Stakeholder						
Municipal Members	Cerritos	Mike O'Grady	X	Rebecca Scott		Y
Municipal Members	Downey	Delfino Consunji	X	Dan Mueller		Y
Municipal Members	Lakewood	Lisa Ann Rapp	X	Konya Vivanti		Y
Municipal Members	Long Beach	Melissa You	X	Alvin Papa		Y
Municipal Members	City of Bellflower	Bernie Iniguez	X	Glen Kau		Y
Municipal Members	Santa Fe Springs	Noe Negrete	X	Marlin Munoz		Y
Municipal Members	Whittier	Vicki Smith	X	Kyle Cason		Y
Total Non-Vacant Seats		16			Yay (Y)	14
Total Voting Members Present		14			Nay (N)	0
Agency		4			Abstain (A)	0
Community Stakeholder		3			Total	14
Municipal Members		7				Approved

Attendance

LSGR WASC - December 15, 2020

Adam Galia	Julian Juarez
Alexander Iglesias - SCW	Justin Jones
Angie Lee	katie m
Anna Gruben	Kekoa Anderson
ANNA BLAHO	Kevin Kim
April Mendez	Kirk Allen - SCWP Staff (LACFCD)
Ariel Whitson	Konya Vivanti
Aydin Pasebani	Kristen Ruffell
Benjamin Shorofsky	Lisa Rapp
Bernie Iniguez	Lonnie Chung
Blake Whittington	Ly Nguyen
Brenda Morales	Lyndsey Bloxom
Bryce Lee	Manny Gonez
Carlos Moran	Melanie Morita - SCW
Cecilia Salazar	Melina Watts
Chris Imhoff	Melissa You
Cindy Montanez	Meredith Reynolds
CJ Caluag	Michelle Kim
Clarasophia Gust	michelle struthers
D Ready	Mike O'Grady
Dan Knapp	Mike Antos
Daniel Berger	Noe Negrete
David Kala Anderson	Oliver Galang
Delfino Consunji	Paul Glenn (GHD)
Ed Suher	Peter Massey
Elisha Back	R T
eve flore	Richard Watson
Grace Kast	Robert Studer
Irene Lopez-Muro	Tara Dales
JD	Tori Klug
Jeremy Melendez	Traci Gleason
Jim Sparber	Vicki Smith
Jonathan Pacheco Bell	Wataru Kumagai City of Long Beach
Joseph Gonzalez	