

**MINUTES
BOARD MEETING
WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY (WCA)
May 14, 2015**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mejia at 4:05 p.m. The meeting was held at:
Hall of Admin., 500 W. Temple Street, Room 830, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Gateway Cities COG, 16401 Paramount Blvd., Conf. Room, Paramount, CA 90723

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Brian Mejia, Chair (for Supervisor Antonovich)
Mr. Armond Ghazarian (for Ms. Farber)
Ms. Connie Sziebl (for Supervisor Knabe)
Ms. Lacey Johnson (for Supervisor Ridley-Thomas)
Ms. Teresa Villegas, Vice Chair (for Supervisor Solis)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ms. Karly Katona (for Supervisor Ridley-Thomas)
Mr. Frank Colonna
Mr. Dan Arrighi

STAFF PRESENT

Mark Stanley, Executive Officer
Debbie Enos, Deputy Executive Officer
Dena Tarighi, Board Secretary
Jennifer Thompson, Fiscal Manager
Terry Fujimoto, Counsel

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

There were no corrections noted.

Board member Villegas moved to have the March 19, 2015 minutes approved. Chair Mejia seconded the

motion. Board Voted - 4 ayes; 0 nays; 0 abstentions.

5. CHAIR'S REPORT

No report given. Meeting went into Closed Session at approximately 4:07 pm.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORTS

6. LIAISON & ACTIVITIES REPORT

The Executive Officer stated that the Integrated Regional Water Management Leadership Committee is accepting project proposals for their additional round of Proposition 84 IRWM Implementation Grants. The high scoring projects will be submitted for final selection to the Department of Water Resources at their May 27th meeting. He also stated that WCA was originally going to submit a proposal, but decided not to submit one for this round. Mr. Stanley briefly mentioned that the San Gabriel River Discover Center Authority is publishing a monthly informational newsletter highlighting the progress of the project to keep the stakeholders informed. Mr. Stanley mentioned that the WCA junior ranger program was a huge success according to the feedback from the parents of the seventeen children involved. He went on to say that the WCA is seeking to receive more grants for this new program and programs of this type in the future. Mr. Stanley briefly discussed the Azusa River Wilderness Park Project in that in July there will be a presentation of the final design and that staff is preparing a grant proposal for the ATP in the amount of \$2 million for this project. Board Member Villegas asked if WCA was going to close the gap of the bike trail because her office received a call concerning the ending of the bike trail. Mr. Stanley assured Ms. Villegas that there is going to be a connection of the bike trail to the River Wilderness Park and it is included in the design that will be presented in July to the board. The Duck Farm Project was briefly mentioned and Mr. Stanley stated that as of May 11th marked the completion of the construction documents from AECOM which means the permit process will be able to move forward once the resubmittal of the plans have been reviewed and approved. Mr. Stanley also mentioned that staff is also in the process of bringing an onsite property manager for the Duck Farm to provide enhanced security and maintenance activities on the property in exchange for living on the property in a RV. Mr. Stanley stated that informational and operational signs will be installed at the Mt. Baldy Habitat & Open Space property by eagle scouts and have been fabricated as requested by Legal Counsel and the WCA Insurance Carrier. Lastly, Mr. Stanley mentioned that a MOU is being prepared between WCA and the City of San Dimas that outlines the cooperative development and operation, as well as designating the WCA as lead agency for CEQA purposes.

7. EXPENDITURE REPORT

The Executive Officer explained that all administrative and operational lease revenue is on target with projection and in terms of expenses, he further explained that expenditures for alarm services are paid quarterly and are paid through the end of the fiscal year. He further explained that expenditures for general liability insurance are above budget projections by approximately 10% due to industry increases and newly acquired Mt. Baldy property according to the Authority's insurance broker. Mr. Stanley stated that the WCA would be just under budget for the fiscal year.

8. FUND BALANCE REPORT

The Executive Officer stated that there are three items of note which are V15, V38 and V48/V61. Nothing further was discussed and the board did not have any questions.

CONSENT CALENDAR

9. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT FOR ON-CALL FACILITY MAINTENANCE SERVICES WITH POSITIVE PLUMBING INC.

Chair Mejia mentioned to the board members that this portion of the calendar was something a little different in which the board would be voting just one time for Items 9 through 11 and Mr. Stanley mentioned that a correction was made to the resolutions of Items 9 and 10 which would state that the contract would be for one year with an option to renew for an additional year. Vice Chair Villegas asked on Item 11 if the WCA already had the funding for the project and Mr. Stanley stated that WCA does not have the funding because the WCA has to apply for the grant first and the board needs to approve the applying of the grant. Board member Sziebl asked if the WCA had a Youth Employment Plan in place already and Mr. Stanley answered that each time an application is filed with Park and Open Space District a Youth Employment Plan has to be put in place. Chair Mejia asked for a motion to approve Items 9 through 11.

10. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING A CONTRACT FOR JANITORIAL SERVICES WITH BRITE WORKS, INC.

11. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPLICATION TO THE PROPOSITION A 2015 COUNTYWIDE COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM FOR RIVER WILDERNESS PARK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT.

Vice Chair Villegas moved to approve the resolutions for Items 9 through 11. Board member Sziebl seconded the motion. Unanimously passed. Board Voted – 4 ayes; 0 nays; 0 abstentions.

REGULAR CALENDAR

12. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO 1) ACCEPT THE FY 13/14 WCA FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE AUDIT AND RELATED FINDINGS; AND, 2) APPROVE REMEDIATION ACTIONS.

Jennifer presented this item and introduced Derek Rampone from Moss, Levy & Hartzheim LLP to discuss the findings from the WCA Financial Compliance Audit and ask for approval for the remedial actions in response to the audit findings.

Vice Chair Villegas moved to adopt the resolution; Board member Johnson seconded the motion. Unanimously passed. Board Voted – 4 ayes; 0 nays; and 0 abstentions.

13. CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE PRELIMINARY BUDGET FOR FY 15/16.

Jennifer Thompson presented this item and stated that the WCA is seeking approval for the preliminary budget for Fiscal Year 2015/2016. Jennifer also briefly discussed the four expenditure components which are Administrative, Personnel, Operations, Grants and Special Projects for a total budget of \$4,990,459.

Vice Chair Villegas moved to adopt the resolution; Chair Mejia seconded the motion. Unanimously passed. Board Voted – 4 ayes; 0 nays; and 0 abstentions.

- 14. CLOSED SESSION: PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9 (d)(2), THE WATERSHED CONSERVATION AUTHORITY MAY HOLD A CLOSED SESSION ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM: 1) LEINCO ENTERPRISES V. WCA, ET AL., LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. BC500513. STATEMENTS, RESPONSES, QUESTIONS OR DIRECTIONS TO STAFF PURSUANT TO SECTION 54954.2(a) OF THE GOVERNMENT CODE.**

Meeting went into Closed Session at approximately 4:07 pm and went back into Public Session at 4:18 pm. Staff from Olivarez & Madruga Attorney's office provided an update on recent and upcoming activity.

- 15. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting will be held on June 25, 2015.

- 18. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Mejia at approximately 4:54 pm.

X

Brian Mejia
Chair

X

Dena Williams
Board Secretary