

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS  
Gateway Cities Council of Governments  
16401 Paramount Boulevard  
Paramount, California  
January 18, 2006**

President Nordbak called the meeting of the Board of Directors to order at 6:03 p.m.

**PRESENT:** President Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier  
Second Vice President Larry R. Nelson, City of Artesia  
Immediate Past President Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill  
Member John Pratt, City of Bellflower  
Member John Crawley, City of Cerritos  
Member Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy  
Member Anne Bayer, City of Downey  
Member Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park  
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights  
Member Diane DuBois, City of Lakewood  
Member Bonnie Lowenthal, City of Long Beach  
Member Fernando Pedroza, City of Lynwood  
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood  
Member Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk  
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount  
Member Betty Putnam, City of Santa Fe Springs  
Member Gil Hurtado, City of South Gate

**ABSENT:** Member George Mirabal, City of Bell  
Member Ralph Morrow, City of Avalon  
Member Mario Beltran, City of Bell Gardens  
Member Robert Fierro, City of Commerce  
Member Lillie Dobson, City of Compton  
Member Leonard Chaidez, City of Hawaiian Gardens  
Member Bob Chotiner, City of La Mirada  
Member Frank Colonna, City of Long Beach  
Member Jeff Siccama, City of Montebello  
Member David Armenta, City of Pico Rivera  
Member William Davis, City of Vernon  
Member Don Knabe, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

**ALSO PRESENT:** Maywood Councilmember Samuel Pena; Lakewood Director of Community Development Charles Ebner; South Gate Assistant to the City Manager Binti Harvey; South Gate City Engineer Mohammad Mostahkami; La Mirada Public Works Director Steve Forster; Bell Special Projects Manager Raul Romero; Connie Sziebl, Field Representative for Supervisor Don Knabe; Jerry Wood, Interim Executive Director, I-5 Joint Powers Authority; Al Perdon, Executive Director, Orangeline Development Authority; Patrician Price, Public Affairs Specialist, SCAQMD; Kristine Guerrero, Regional Representative, League of California Cities; Ralph Webb,

Southeast Water Coalition; Frank Osgood, Author, Region Aroused; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Assistant General Counsel Thomas Duarte; GCCOG Program Development Director Deborah Chankin.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

Member Carroll led the pledge of allegiance.

The Executive Director requested that item VI.H be considered separately from the balance of the consent calendar. President Nordbak agreed that item VI.H be separated from the balance of the consent calendar.

Patrician Price, SCAQMD, invited the Board members to attend the District's first Asthma Conference, which will be held on Friday, February 17, at the Los Angeles Biltmore Hotel.

It was moved by Second Vice President Nelson, seconded by Member Lowenthal, to approve the consent calendar as presented, with the exception of item VI.H. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director read a letter from Gerald M. Caton, COG Treasurer, relating to item VI.H, the Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2004-2005. In his letter, the Treasurer expressed his concern regarding the low year-end general fund balance shown in the financial report. He said his concern is that, if it were not for the large number of grants that the COG receives, the COG would be experiencing severe cash flow problems. The Treasurer recommended that the President appoint a subcommittee to work with the Executive Director and city managers to find a long-term solution for the funding of the COG.

President Nordbak said that his preference would be to find out why the COG fund balance is so low rather than to appoint a committee to look at additional funding. Member Lowenthal said that appointing a committee was a good idea. President Nordbak asked for volunteers to serve on the committee. He appointed Member Bayer to chair the committee and to be joined on the committee by Members Guerrero and Pedroza and the Executive Director. He appointed Downey City Manager Gerald Caton to the committee and asked that Mr. Caton select two other city managers to serve on the committee. It was moved by Second Vice President Nelson, seconded by Member Pedroza, to approve the appointment of a committee as stated by the President and to receive and file the annual financial report for fiscal year 2004-2005. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director reported that the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) Steering Committee had approved the COG's proposal that three cities (in addition to the City of Long Beach) be allotted seats on the IRWMP Steering Committee. He said that, in response to an invitation from the COG, three cities had self-nominated staff members to fill these three seats: Downey, Paramount, and Lakewood. He said that the Lakewood representative would also be representing the COG and the Southeast Water Coalition. It was moved by Member Daniels, seconded by Member Crawley, to approve the nominations of staff members from the cities of Downey, Paramount, and Lakewood to serve on the IRWMP Steering Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Director of Program Development reported that there had not been a meeting of the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy Board since the December meeting of the COG Executive Committee.

Jerry Wood, Interim Executive Director of the I-5 Joint Powers Authority, reported that the freeway agreements for the Carmenita interchange with I-5 had been executed by Caltrans. He said that the draft environmental impact report for the section of I-5 from I-605 to the Orange County line was being reviewed, and that there is a January 26 bid opening date for the Orange County section of the project. He reported that the "mini study" on the I-5/I-710 interchange had been approved by the City of Commerce and was awaiting approval from East Los Angeles.

The Executive Director reported that it was anticipated that actions would be taken by the Port of Los Angeles in February and the MTA in March to approve funding for the environmental impact report on the I-710 project.

Member Stefenhagen reported that the SR91/I-605 Corridor Cities Committee would be meeting soon to strategize on the next steps in that project.

Member Lowenthal reported that the Transportation Committee had not met this month. She said that there is an ongoing discussion at the MTA regarding its budget, which did not include funding for municipal operators. She said the issue would be discussed next week by the full MTA Board.

It was moved by Member Guerrero, seconded by Second Vice President Nelson, to receive and file all of the reports made pursuant to the agenda. The motion was approved unanimously.

It was moved by Member Gurule, seconded by Member Pedroza, to receive and file the SCAG Regional Council and policy committee agendas. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Nordbak announced that there was now a vacancy in the position of First Vice President and asked that next month's agenda include an item for the Board to decide whether to have a special election to fill that position or to leave it vacant until the next regularly scheduled election.

The Executive Director announced that former Compton Councilmember Marcine Shaw, who had served as the second President of the Gateway Cities Council of Governments Board of Directors, had passed away. He said that Councilmember Shaw was one of the original organizers of the COG and that she had been an invaluable member of the Board of Directors. He asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Marcine Shaw.

It was the consensus of the Board to adjourn the meeting in memory of Marcine Shaw.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:32 p.m.