

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
GATEWAY CITIES COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
AND THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Gateway Cities Council of Governments
16401 Paramount Boulevard
Paramount, California
September 6, 2006**

In the absence of a quorum of the full Board, President Nelson called a meeting of the Executive Committee to order at 9:03 a.m.

PRESENT: President Larry R. Nelson, City of Artesia
Second Vice President John Pratt, City of Bellflower
Immediate Past President Greg Nordbak, City of Whittier
Member Paul Bowlen, City of Cerritos
Member Meredith Perkins, City of Downey
Member Patrick O'Donnell, City of Long Beach
Member Gordon Stefenhagen, City of Norwalk
Member Gene Daniels, City of Paramount
Member Maria Davila, City of South Gate

ABSENT: First Vice President Elba Guerrero, City of Huntington Park
Member Bonnie Lowenthal, City of Long Beach
Member Fernando Pedroza, City of Lynwood
Member Edward H. J. Wilson, City of Signal Hill
Member Don Knabe, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors
Ex Officio Member Kerry Cartwright, Port of Long Beach

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Member Frank Gurule, City of Cudahy
Member Stan Carroll, City of La Habra Heights
Member Felipe Aguirre, City of Maywood
Member Ron Beilke, City of Pico Rivera
Member Betty Putnam, City of Santa Fe Springs

ALSO PRESENT: La Habra Heights City Manager Ronald Bates;
Lakewood Water Director Jim Glancy; Long Beach Water Department
General Manager Kevin Wattier; Long Beach Manager of Government
Affairs Tom Modica; Bridget Sramek, Chief of Staff, Long Beach City
Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell; Paramount Assistant Utility Director
Christopher Cash; Hector Bordas, Los Angeles County Flood Control
District; Ernest Morales, Metro Gateway Cities Director; Cliff Gladstein,
President, Gladstein, Neandross Associates; Tracy Young, Time-Warner
Cable; Frank Osgood, Author, Region Aroused; Nadene Bristow, Gateway
Cities COG Media Relations Consultant; Jerry Wood, Executive Director,

I-5 Joint Powers Authority; GCCOG Executive Director Richard Powers; GCCOG Deputy Executive Director Jack Joseph; GCCOG Program Development Director Deborah Chankin; Karen Heit, GCCOG Transportation Deputy.

Roll was taken through self-introductions.

Member O'Donnell led the pledge of allegiance.

There were no amendments to the agenda.

No one wished to speak during public comments.

The Executive Director introduced Tracy Young of Time-Warner Cable. Ms. Young offered local access on Warner-Cable for programming regarding activities of the COG. The Executive Director said that Time Warner Cable recently aired an interview with President Nelson regarding the issue of homelessness.

The Executive Director passed out a photograph of the recent presentation made to Immediate Past President Nordbak at the Whittier City Council meeting. The Executive Director reported that the recent visit to the State of Florida truck inspection facilities was a success and that there would be a full report on the trip presented next month.

The Executive Director extended an invitation to any members attending the League of California Cities Conference in San Diego the next day to join the COG at a maglev freight demonstration at General Atomics' maglev test track. He said that he wanted to let the I-710 cities know that a Request for Proposals for the environmental work had been drafted and will go to the cities for technical review.

Members Edward H. J. Wilson, Signal Hill, and Mario Beltran, Bell Gardens arrived at the meeting at 9:11 a.m. President Nelson announced that a quorum of the full Board of Directors was now present.

The Executive Director announced that Member Gurule had accepted appointment to the Transportation Committee.

Member Diane Du Bois, Lakewood, arrived at 9:13 a.m.

The Executive Director reported that Metro Executive Director Roger Snoble would be coming to the COG to present a briefing on transportation projects and issues. He said that State Housing Director Lynn Jacobs had been invited to come down and brief the COG on housing issues. He said that the I-5 Joint Powers Authority, Orange County Transportation Authority, Metro, and the COG

would be meeting regularly to discuss cross county border transportation issues.

The Executive Director said that there would be a group photograph taken of the Board of Directors at the October meeting.

It was moved by Member Putnam, seconded by Member Wilson, to approve the consent calendar as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Executive Director introduced Lakewood Water Director Jim Glancy and Long Beach Water Director Kevin Wattier, to make reports to the Board of Directors regarding the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP).

Mr. Glancy reported that all four of the COG's representatives to the IRWMP Board agreed that they could not sign the original MOU as drafted. He said that the city managers had met and agreed that the COG should let the County know that there was a problem. Since then, a new MOU has been drafted which looks much better. He said that, as a result, the COG's IRWMP representatives have changed their position since the August letter to the County. He said that they will continue to work with the greater Los Angeles region IRWMP under the new MOU, which restricts its coverage to implementation of Proposition 50. He said the new plan is not yet finalized.

Kevin Wattier reported that their discussions with the County are not unique in the state. He said that Long Beach was also concerned about the governance issues. He said that there is a fundamental flaw in the legislation that needs to be fixed, and that they have asked Senator Lowenthal to carry legislation to amend the IRWMP rules. In the meantime, they do not want to disrupt the Proposition 50 funding opportunities. The aim is to come back and revisit the governance structure. He said the group wants to look at this again after the Proposition 50 process is completed.

Signal Hill City Manager Ken Farfsing said that their concern is that the COG cities' projects have not been going forward for funding.

Member Felipe Aguirre arrived at 9:25 a.m.

Mr. Wattier said that the decision making body has members who have submitted projects for funding. He said that this is a fundamental flaw, producing an inherent conflict of interest.

Member Bowlen asked who would be in opposition to changing the MOU.

Mr. Wattier responded that there is no overt opposition, but that we just want to revisit the structure. He said that it is an experiment in something that has never been tried before.

Member Wilson said that he was concerned that going forward with the structure will set it as the precedent.

Member Gurule arrived at 9:26 a.m.

Member Perkins asked what had changed since the August letter was sent.

Mr. Wattier responded that the MOU now mentions that its primary purpose is implementation of Proposition 50; and instead of a 20-year open ended process, it now goes only to 2010. He said that this will allow us to make course corrections as we move towards a new MOU.

Immediate Past President Nordbak said his concern is the process by which this change happened. He said the August letter from the COG was sent prior to Board approval. He said we got to where we wanted to go, but that there needs to be prior Board approval. He said the letter should have either been approved by the Board or sent specifically from the City Managers Steering Committee.

Member Bowlen said that he concurred with Immediate Past President Nordbak's comments.

President Nelson said that we need to get resolution to this problem, which the Board will address at its next meeting. He said that they need to find a happy medium.

It was moved by Member Wilson, seconded by Member Gurule, to receive and file the report. The motion was approved unanimously.

President Nelson announced that representatives from both sides of Proposition 87 had been invited to appear at the meeting, but that neither was able to attend. He asked that the item be continued to the next meeting. It was moved by Immediate Past President Nordbak, seconded by President Nelson, to reschedule the item on Proposition 87 to the October meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Member Carroll reported that the first public hearing to be held by SCAG on the upcoming RHNA process would be held on September 28th.

It was moved by Immediate Past President Nordbak, seconded by Member Gurule, to adjourn. The motion was approved unanimously.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m.