The Los Angeles Board of Public Works as it is now known was formed by the provisions of the city charter adopted by the citizens of this city in 1925. However, the first Board of Public Works in Los Angeles was created in the year 1906, following adoption by the city council of an amendment to the charter.

Prior to 1906 the duties of the present board, to a certain extent, were handled by the street superintendent. This official was elected by vote of the people and served for a term of two years.

The Board of Public Works created by the city council in 1906 had but three members. They were appointed by Mayor Owen McAlleer, chief executive of the city at that time.

The present Board of Public Works has a membership of five and like all other commissions of the local municipal government, the members are appointed by the mayor. Each member is appointed for a term of five years.

The Board of Public Works is the only full-time salaried commissions created under provisions of the present city charter. All other commissioners receive remuneration only for each meeting attended and not more than $50. in any one month. Members of the Board of Public Works are required to devote their entire time to the duties of the office and may be found in their offices in the city hall during the regular business hours. Meetings are held three times each week, with special sessions called at frequent intervals. Public hearings are often necessary.