

MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
Jointly with the
PUBLIC AFFAIRS/MET OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
January 17, 2005, 8:30 a.m.
MWDOC Conference Room 101

Committee:

Director Royce, Chairman
Director Clark
Director Dick

Staff: K. Hunt, K. Seckel, M. Stone, R. Bell
D. Cordero, K. Davanaugh, M. Tuchman

Ex Officio Member: B. Barbre

MWDOC Committee meetings are noticed and held as joint meetings of the Committee and the entire Board of Directors and all members of the Board of Directors may attend and participate in the discussion. Each Committee has designated Committee members, and other members of the Board are designated alternate committee members. If less than a quorum of the full Board is in attendance, the Board meeting will be adjourned for lack of a quorum and the meeting will proceed as a meeting of the Committee with those Committee members and alternate members in attendance acting as the Committee.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED

Determine there is a need to take immediate action on item(s) and that the need for action came to the attention of the District subsequent to the posting of the Agenda. (Requires a unanimous vote of the Committee.)

ACTION ITEMS

1. RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A WATER 2025 CHALLENGE GRANT APPLICATION
2. AUTHORIZATION TO HIRE MCGUIRE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS, INC. TO PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE WITH MEMBER AGENCY CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORTS

DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. ACWA WASHINGTON, D.C. LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE AND MWDOC FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
(FEBRUARY 15-17, 2005)

4. LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES
 - a. Staff Legislative Report
 - b. Report on State Legislative Activities by Townsend Public Affairs, Inc.
 - c. Report on Federal Legislative Activities by James Barker

INFORMATION ITEMS

(The following items are for informational purposes only – background information is included in the packet. Discussion is not necessary unless a Director requests.)

5. PUBLIC AFFAIRS ACTIVITIES REPORT

OTHER ITEMS

6. REVIEW ISSUES RELATED TO LEGISLATION, OUTREACH, PUBLIC INFORMATION ISSUES, AND MET
7. GENERAL MANAGER'S / DIRECTORS' REPORT

ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: At the discretion of the Committee, all items appearing on this agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated and may be subject to action by the Committee. On those items designated for Board action, the Committee reviews the items and makes a recommendation for final action to the full Board of Directors; final action will be taken by the Board of Directors. Agendas for Committee and Board meetings may be obtained from the District Secretary. Members of the public are advised that the Board consideration process includes consideration of each agenda item by one or more Committees indicated on the Board Action Sheet. Attendance at Committee meetings and the Board meeting considering an item consequently is advised.

Accommodations for the Disabled. Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary, at (714) 963-3058, or writing to Municipal Water District of Orange County at P.O. Box 20895, Fountain Valley, CA 92728. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that District staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodation should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the District to provide the requested accommodation.



ACTION ITEM
January 19, 2005

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: PAMO COMMITTEE
(Directors Royce, Clark, and Dick)

Kevin Hunt
General Manager

Staff Contact: J. Berg

SUBJECT: Resolution Supporting a Water 2025 Challenge Grant Application

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors adopt the attached resolution supporting our Water 2025: Preventing Crises and Conflict in the West grant application.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

SUMMARY

The “Water 2025: Preventing Crises and Conflict in the West” grant application instructions require submitting organizations to include an official Resolution adopted by the governing Board “verifying that:

- The Board or governing body has reviewed and supports the proposal submitted;
- The applicant is capable of providing the amount of funding and/or in kind contributions specified in the funding plan; and
- If selected for a Challenge Grant, the applicant will work with Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a cooperative agreement.”

The Water 2025 grant application being developed by staff will request funding (\$30,000) for an Irrigation System Distribution Uniformity Improvement Pilot Program.

Distribution uniformity refers to how evenly irrigation water is applied to the landscape by the sprinkler system. Pilot program participants will have previously participated in MWDOC’s SmarTimer Rebate Program to achieve scheduling improvements. These scheduling improvements will reveal uniformity deficiencies that cause excess irrigation in one area of a yard and insufficient irrigation in other areas of a yard. The most common

Budgeted (Y/N):	Budgeted amount:
Action item amount:	Line item:
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):	

method used to overcome “hot spots” from insufficient irrigation is to increase the overall irrigation schedule to meet the irrigation need of the driest area in the landscape. The proposed pilot program would correct this uniformity imbalance by:

- Repairing or replacing broken, blocked, or misaligned sprinkler heads;
- Matching precipitation rates among sprinkler heads; and/or
- Reducing precipitation rates.

A statistical evaluation included in the proposal will quantify water savings and potentially justify a longer-term program.

The matching requirement of 50% will be easily achieved through in-kind and funding contributions provided by MWDOC and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. These contributions are estimated at \$30,000, for a total pilot program cost of \$60,000. The proposed pilot program will target approximately 200–250 single-family homes for repairing or replacing broken, blocked, or misaligned sprinkler heads; matching precipitation rates among sprinkler heads; and/or reducing precipitation rates.

A Resolution meeting the Water 2025 proposal solicitation requirement is attached for committee consideration.

Resolution No. _____

**Resolution of the Board of Directors of
Municipal Water District of Orange County
Seeking Grant Funding**

WHEREAS, the United States Bureau of Reclamation (“Reclamation”) is accepting applications for grants under the “Water 2025 Challenge Grant Program” for water conservation, water reliability, water transfers, water banking and other projects and studies aimed at improving water supply and reliability: and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of Municipal Water District of Orange County desires to obtain funding from the Water 2025 Challenge Grant Program (Fiscal Year 2005) for an Irrigation System Distribution Uniformity Improvement Pilot Program;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Municipal Water District of Orange County agrees and authorizes that:

1. The Board of Directors has reviewed and supports the proposal submitted under the Water 2025 Challenge Grant Program;
2. The Municipal Water District of Orange County is capable of providing the amount of funding and in-kind contributions specified in the funding plan; and
3. If selected for a Challenge Grant, the Municipal Water District of Orange County will work with the Bureau of Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a cooperative agreement.
4. Joseph Berg, the Water Use Efficiency Programs Manager of the Municipal Water District of Orange County is hereby authorized and directed to prepare

the necessary data, make investigations, and file such application with the
Bureau of Reclamation.

Adopted at the regular meeting of the Board of Directors held January 19, 2005, by the
following roll call vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No.
___ adopted by the Board of Directors of Municipal Water District of Orange County at
its meeting held on January 19, 2005.

Maribeth Goldsby, Secretary
Municipal Water District of Orange County

Almost all of the District's member agencies participate in the technical meetings, and approximately 20 typically work through the District to handle graphics and printing. Because of the complexity of working with the individual agencies and producing the reports, the District has retained the same technical and graphics consultant for the past four years to benefit from their familiarity with the project and the participants.

Staff recommends retaining Ken Reich from McGuire Environmental Consultants Inc. (McGuire) to again perform the technical work for the reports (see attached memo and Scope of Work) at a cost not to exceed \$15,000. The billing rate remains unchanged from 2004. The District will also have Tim Hogan Graphic Design again work with McGuire and the agencies to design, print and distribute the report for the participating agencies. Billing for the services of Tim Hogan Graphic Design is directly passed through to the agencies by MWDOC.

**ASSISTING MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
WITH THE PREPARATION OF 2004 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORTS
FOR MEMBER AGENCIES**

SCOPE OF WORK

Task 1 – Recommend Content and Format Revisions for Annual Water Quality Reports

Task 1.1 - Review Department of Health Services 2005 Update CCR Guidance Manual for possible changes in format or content applicable to the Year 2004 CCRs due by July 1, 2005.

Task 1.2 – Update non-mandatory contaminant language (DBP Stage II, for example) and create text for new topics proposed by MWDOC member agencies.

Task 2 – Attend organizational meetings with MWDOC and member agencies

Task 2.1 – Meet with MWDOC, OCWD and Tim Hogan to prepare schedule and discuss format and contents of reports.

Task 2.2 – Prepare a presentation describing any regulatory or guidance changes and review of compliance calculation methodology.

Task 2.3 – At a meeting with MWDOC member agencies, discuss schedule for CCR implementation, make Task 2.2 presentation, and review data calculations for contaminants not covered by OCWD database. For participants in OCWD monitoring program this would include distribution system data, lead and copper and any groundwater treatment/blending. For agencies not participating in the OCWD monitoring program, this would include groundwater as well as distribution system, lead and copper, and treatment/blending of surface and/or groundwater. Along with Tim Hogan, discuss overall organization (text and water quality table) of the CCRs.

Task 3 – Prepare CCR data tables.

Task 3.1 – Review OCWD data and input OCWD data into CCR tables.

Task 3.2 – Assist in scheduling interviews with member agencies. It is anticipated that as many as 20 agencies will need to be interviewed.

Task 3.3 – Conduct interviews with member agencies for the purpose of collecting water quality data applicable to the year 2004 CCR water quality grid tables and discussing nature of any customized or mandatory language that may be required.

Task 3.4 – Follow-up discussions with agencies

Task 3.5 – Revise MWDSC water quality data table.

Task 3.6 – Prepare draft data tables for each member agency.

Task 3.7 – Prepare final data tables after review by MWDOC and member agencies.

Task 3.8 – Determine which agencies will require mandatory health effects language based on water quality data and agency interviews. Coordinate inclusion of all mandatory and non-mandatory text for each agency with Tim Hogan.

Task 4 – Final CCRs

Task 4.1 - Review all final draft CCRs

ESTIMATED BUDGET TO ASSIST MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY WITH MEMBER AGENCY 2004 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORTS

<u>Task</u>	<u>Estimated Hours</u>	<u>Estimated Cost</u>
Task 1 Content and Format Revisions for CCRs		
1.1 - Review DHS CCR Guidance Manual	2	\$260.00
1.2 - Prepare new text/revise existing text	8	\$1,040.00
Task 2 - Organizational Meeting with Member Agencies		
2.1 - Organizational meeting w/ MWDOC and Tim Hogan	2	\$260.00
2.2 - Prepare CCR guidance presentation	8	\$1,040.00
2.3 - Meeting w/ member agencies	3	\$390.00
Task 3 - CCR Data Tables		
3.1 - Review and input OCWD data in CCR tables	8	\$1,040.00
3.2 - Assit in scheduling member agency interviews	2	\$260.00
3.3 - Conduct interviews	10	\$1,300.00
3.4 - Follow-up discussions with agencies	8	\$1,040.00
3.5 - MWDSC data table	4	\$520.00
3.6 - Prepare draft tables	32	\$4,160.00
3.7 - Prepare final data tables	8	\$1,040.00
3.8 - Determine mandatory language and coordinate inclusion into CCR	4	\$520.00
Task 4 - Review all final draft CCRs	8	\$1,040.00
TOTAL	99	\$13,910.00

This year's ACWA Washington D.C. Conference is scheduled for February 15-17, 2005 at the Washington Court Hotel. The Orange County Congressional Delegation luncheon and water issues briefing is scheduled for Wednesday, February 16 at noon in the Rayburn House Office Building. Preparation for the luncheon has already begun, with invitations already having been sent to each member's office, the issues briefing book being updated, and phone calls being made to begin confirming member attendance.

Staff has also been working with the District's federal legislative advocate, Jim Barker, to develop a legislative agenda and funding strategy for 2005-06. There are three potential projects that staff recommends the District make its federal funding priorities: 1) Ocean desalination; 2) A groundwater emergency water service project; and 3) The SmartTimer Irrigation Controller Installation Program For Urban Water Conservation.

These issues, as the primary components of the District's federal legislative agenda, would be presented to the Congressional delegation during the luncheon and discussed during separate meetings with key Congressional members and staff, as well as with agency and administration representatives. The issues would also be detailed in the luncheon briefing book and summarized in a leave behind piece for the individual meetings.

While the details of the projects and the briefing materials are still being developed for the conference, staff has provided the following summaries to provide a sense of direction for how the project will be presented.

□ **Ocean Desalination**

MWDOC will seek federal participation from the Bureau of Reclamation for a Title XVI Research and Demonstration Project in Orange County. A federal authorization and first year appropriation would be sought to initiate the project. The primary aspect of the research and demonstration project would be the utilization of subsurface intake systems, including horizontal wells, at alluvial marine aquifers, to reduce impacts to the marine environment and provide pre-treatment benefits for a reverse osmosis (RO) treatment plant.

A listing of the upcoming research, demonstration and feasibility work would include, but not be limited to:

- Permitting work
- Regulatory compliance
- Hydrogeology work for subsurface intake and pre-treatment of ocean waters at Doheny Beach
- Hydraulic evaluation of existing SOCWA sewer outfall facility and impact on its proposed operation
- Survey of the local ocean environment and evaluation of potential impacts
- Electrical service feasibility
- Conceptual design
- Preliminary design
- 316(b) type study of the ocean intake on fish larvae and other plankton, if required
- Ocean current sampling, modeling of brine discharge and dispersion characteristics

- California Environmental Quality Act requirements
- National Environmental Policy Act requirements
- Land and Right of Way acquisition

□ **Groundwater Emergency Water Service Project**

Due to the lack of storage and the limited local potable supplies in south Orange County available during planned shutdowns and emergency outages of the import water system, MWDOC would develop a demonstration concept to allow short-term emergency pumping and transport of water, previously stored in the groundwater basin, to assist in meeting demands in south Orange County during these situations.

A preliminary project concept indicates that a \$15 million project would provide for up to 15 cfs of emergency supplies. MWDOC would request a federal appropriation to initiate the first phase of the project.

A program set up with MWDOC utilizing a pump-in concept could provide a number of benefits:

- Flexibility of operations within the OCWD basin
- Help to manage coastal pumping depressions
- Help to manage coastal water quality operational constraints
- Could attract south Orange County funding to help during planned shutdowns and emergency outages
- Could be incorporated into a west Orange County program
- Could utilize existing pumping capacity by agencies willing to enter into the arrangement
- From south Orange County's perspective, could be implemented quickly compared to other projects being pursued

□ **SmartTimer Irrigation Controller Installation Program for Urban Water Conservation**

MWDOC would seek federal funding that would help expand its SmartTimer Installation Program, the first of its kind in the nation to deal with the distribution, installation and verification of operation of "smart" irrigation controllers. These controllers automatically deliver the appropriate amount of water for daily irrigation needs based on actual soil, slope and changing evapotranspiration conditions throughout the year. They can also automatically turn off irrigation systems when it rains, and some during emergency situations to help with demand management.

MWDOC has already kicked off a \$2.5 million implementation program to distribute and install about 3,900 SmartTimers and it is looking for additional support to expand the program. The initial \$2.5 million investment is estimated to save about 1,400 acre-feet (AF) of water per year, at a cost of about \$160 per AF. Full implementation of the program would make it possible for approximately 30,000 AF of water per year to be saved in Orange County, at an estimated cost of about \$50 million. Federal funding would help accelerate the implementation of the program and provide additional information to benefit implementation of this type of program in other portions of the United States.

Staff is also working with federal advocate Jim Barker to identify the members of Congress and federal agency officials with whom the District should meet during the conference. The following is a preliminary list of potential meetings for Committee discussion and feedback.

- ❑ *Rep. Ken Calvert*
- ❑ *Rep. Ed Royce*
- ❑ *Rep. Christopher Cox*
- ❑ *Rep. George Radonovich (Possible Water/Power Subcommittee Chair)*
- ❑ *Rep. Jerry Lewis (Appropriations Committee Chair)*
- ❑ *EPA Representative - Re: STAG Grant*
- ❑ *Bureau of Reclamation Representative*
- ❑ *Josh Johnson (House Resources Committee Staff)*



DISCUSSION ITEM

January 17, 2005

TO: Public Affairs/MET Oversight Committee
(Directors Royce, Dick, Clark)

FROM: Kevin Hunt
General Manager

Staff Contact: David J. Cordero

SUBJECT: STAFF LEGISLATIVE REPORT

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Committee receive and file the report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting):

SUMMARY

Legislative Coordination

The next MWDOC Member Agency Legislative Coordination meeting for staff is scheduled for Monday, January 31 from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m., in MWDOC Conference Room 101. A formal meeting notice has been e-mailed to the agencies and the meeting agenda is presently being developed. It will be e-mailed to the agencies the week before the meeting. Staff is working with Townsend Public Affairs to prepare information and materials for the meeting.

ACWA Region 10

Staff helped coordinate a meeting for Orange County ACWA member agencies on January 7 to discuss and provide feedback on ACWA's draft "California Water Blueprint." The report is intended to identify both specific and general water management projects that ACWA believes the state must help the water industry address in order to meet future demand in California. Also discussed at the meeting was the current effort by the ACWA Property Tax Taskforce to develop a database containing property tax revenue information for each ACWA member agency. This information will help ACWA in future budget negotiations by

Budgeted (Y/N): N/A	Budgeted amount:
Action item amount: N/A	Line item: N/A
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):	

calculating fiscal impacts of property tax shifts on its members and allowing ACWA to share this information during negotiations. Discussions on the ACWA State Legislative Agenda and governance issues were not discussed because of time limitations and will be discussed at a future meeting.

A full meeting of ACWA Region 10 (Orange and San Diego Counties) was scheduled for Thursday, January 13, with anticipated attendance by MWDOC directors and staff. This meeting was also to focus on the "California Water Blueprint" and allow any other regional business to be discussed. Additional information about this meeting can be provided at the PAMO Committee meeting.

ACWA State Legislative Committee

The ACWA State Legislative Committee will meet on Friday, January 21 for its first meeting of the year. The meeting will be held at ACWA Headquarters (910 K Street, Sacramento) at 10 a.m. Attending the meeting on the District's behalf will be Sean Fitzgerald (Townsend Public Affairs).

The meeting schedule for 2005 is as follows:

- ❑ Friday, January 21, 2005
- ❑ Friday, February 11, 2005
- ❑ Friday, March 11, 2005
- ❑ Friday, April 8, 2005
- ❑ Friday, April 29, 2005
- ❑ Friday, May 20, 2005
- ❑ Friday, June 10, 2005
- ❑ Friday, July 1, 2005
- ❑ Friday, July 22, 2005
- ❑ Friday, September 2, 2005
- ❑ Friday, October 21, 2005 (planning meeting)

Local Government Reform Legislation

Assembly Local Government Committee Chair Simon Salinas is considering introducing a local government reform bill before the February 18 bill introduction deadline that would likely apply to cities, counties and special districts. The bill would define what constitutes a meeting and also address issues related to stipends. The provisions of the bill are based on two documents: The Institute for Local Self Government's "A Public Official's Guide to Use of Public Resources" and ACWA's 2004 "Guidelines for Conduct."

The provisions that are currently on the table include:

1. A local agency may issue a stipend to members of the legislative body for attendance at the following occurrences: (a) A meeting of the legislative body; (b) A meeting of an advisory body; and, (c) A conference, as described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of Section 54952.2 (Government Code).
2. "Meeting" has the same meaning as specified in Subdivision (a) of Section 54952.2 (Government Code).

3. For meetings not specified in #1 above, the legislative body, in public meeting, shall create a written policy on the other specific types of occasions that a member of the legislative body may receive a stipend for attending.
4. Each legislative body shall create a detailed expense reporting form to be filed by the members of the legislative body for reimbursement of documented expenses incurred on behalf of the local agency. Each member of the legislative body shall provide a brief report on meetings attended at the expense of the local agency at the next meeting of the legislative body. All documents of the local agency relating to agency expenses are subject to the California Public Records Act.
5. Penalties for misuse of public resources or falsifying expense report in violation of expense report policies of the local agency may include, but not be limited to: (a) The loss of reimbursement privileges; (b) Responsibility for restitution to the local agency; and, (c) Prosecution for misuse of public resources.
6. Members of the legislative body shall use the IRS Publication 1542 rates for reimbursement of travel and per diem.

Staff will continue to monitor this issue and provide an update at the next meeting of the PAMO Committee.

Key Assembly Committee Assignments

Attached to this report is a list of member assignments to key Assembly committees that hear water-related legislative bills. The following Assembly members representing Orange County serve on some of these committees:

Mimi Walters (R-Laguna Niguel) – Appropriations
Lynn Daucher (R-Brea) – Water, Parks & Wildlife
Rudy Bermudez (D-Norwalk) – Water, Parks & Wildlife
Tom Harman (R-Huntington Beach) – Natural Resources
Van Tran (R-Costa Mesa) – Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials (Vice Chair)

KEY STATE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

Appropriations

Chu (Chair) (D- Monterey Park)
Runner (Vice Chair) (R-Lancaster)
Bass (D-Los Angeles)
Berg (D-Eureka)
Calderon (D- Montebello)
Emmerson (R-Rancho Cucamonga)
Gordon (D- El Segundo)
Haynes (R-Murrieta)
Karnette (D-Long Beach)
Klehs (D-San Le andro)
Leno (D-San Francisco)
Nakanishi (R-Lodi)
Nation (D-San Rafael)
Oropeza (D-Long Beach)
Ridley-Thomas (D-Los Angeles)
Saldaña (D-San Diego)
Walters (Laguna Niguel)
Yee (D-San Francisco)

Natural Resources

Hancock (Chair) (D-Berkeley)
LaMalfa (Vice Chair) (R-Redding)
Gordon (D- El Segundo)
Harman (R- Huntington Beach)
Keene (R-Grass Valley)
Koretz (D-West Hollywood)
Laird (D-Santa Cruz)
Nava (D- Santa Barbara)
Saldaña (D-San Diego)
Wolk (D-Davis)

Utilities and Commerce

Levine (Chair) (D-Van Nuys)
Bogh (Vice Chair) (R-Beaumont)
Baca (D-San Bernardino)
Blakeslee (R-San Luis Obispo)
Cohn (D-Saratoga)
De La Torre (D-South Gate)

Budget

Laird (Chair) (D-Santa Cruz)
Keene (Vice chair) (R-Grass Valley)

Budget Sub 3 (Resources)

Pavley (Chair) (D-Aguora Hills)
Blakeslee (R-San Luis Obispo)
Evans (D-Santa Rosa)
Montañez (D-San Fernando)
Plescia (R-San Diego)

Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials

Ruskin (Chair) (D- Palo Alto)
Tran (Vice Chair) (R- Costa Mesa)
Chu (D-Monterey Park)
De La Torre (South Gate)
Goldberg (D- Los Angeles)
J. Horton (D-Inglewood)
Leslie (R-Tahoe City)

Utilities and Commerce (cont.)

Emmerson (R-Rancho Cucamonga)
Horton, J. (D – Inglewood)
Montañez (D– San Fernando)
Ridley-Thomas (D-Los Angeles)
Wyland (R- Del Mar)

Water, Parks and Wildlife

Wolk (Chair) (D-Davis)
Villines (Vice-Chair) (R-Fresno)
Baca (D-San Bernardino)
Bermudez (D-Norwalk)
Daucher (R-Brea)
Dymally (D-Compton)
Emmerson (R-Rancho Cucamonga)
Matthews (D-Tracy)
Maze (R-Visalia)
Mountjoy (R-Monrovia)
Parra (D-Hanford)
Pavley (D-Aguora Hills)
Saldaña (D-San Diego)

Local Government

Salinas (Chair) (D-Salinas)
Emmerson (Vice Chair)
(R-Rancho Cucamonga)
De La Torre (D-South Gate)
Houston (R-Livermore)
Lieber (D-Mountain View)
Nation (D-San Rafael)
Wolk (D –Davis)



M E M O R A N D U M

To: Public Affairs/Met Oversight Committee
Municipal Water District of Orange County

From: Christopher Townsend, President
Sean Fitzgerald, Client Manager

Date: January 17, 2005

Subject: Monthly Activity Report

Governor's Initial Budget

Governor Schwarzenegger released his initial budget proposal on Monday, January 10th. At the time of this report, we have not yet had an opportunity to analyze the impacts of this proposal on water and infrastructure policy. We will provide a more detailed report at the PAMO meeting on Monday, January 17th. It is important to note that January budget proposals often include cuts, revenue enhancements and other policies that are meant to stir debate in specific policy areas. Given the state's fiscal condition and the Governor's early statements about the upcoming budget proposal, it would not be surprising if this proposal includes several such proposals.

Desal Sites/Infrastructure Preservation Legislation

TPA continues its work on two fronts in an effort to ensure that decisions by various state agencies that might impact potential desalination sites and infrastructure include consideration of those impacts in concert with other factors. As discussed at previous PAMO meetings, TPA has met with Dan Skopec of Gov. Schwarzenegger's administration regarding a possible Executive Order to this effect. In addition, we will seek an author to introduce a resolution that expresses clear legislative recognition of the role desalination plays in the state's future water supply as well as of the important state role in ensuring that critical infrastructure is not unduly impacted by state action. Among the next action steps is meeting with other Met desal agencies to seek their input to both of these efforts. Additionally, we will seek confirmation of an author for the resolution.

Other Legislation

The legislative session has only just begun, so bill introductions have not yet begun in earnest. One measure that will be closely watched is the re-introduction of Sen. Deborah Ortiz' special district governance reform legislation. The Senator has expressed her intent to introduce the measure again this year, though political factors may have an impact on how far she is able to pursue the measure. The recent passing of Rep. Bob Matsui leaves vacant the Congressional seat the overlaps Sen. Ortiz' current state senate seat. Mr. Matsui's widow, Doris, has announced her candidacy for this post, and Sen. Ortiz is likely to have done the same by the time of the PAMO meeting. The special primary election will take place in March, with a general election

to be held in May. With policy committee deadlines in March, a victory by Senator Ortiz in the primary would most likely leave her unable to follow the bill through to completion. There will certainly be much more to this story as it unfolds.

**MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
WASHINGTON REPORT
January 11, 2005**

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Congressional Session Status</u></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The House and Senate started their new session on January 4th and began the organizational process of starting a new session: room assignments, committee assignments, selection of committee subcommittee and full committee chairman and the election of leadership members. The selection of subcommittee chairman remains an ongoing process that could continue into late January due to the complications of “term limit rules governing the various members”. 2. There have been several significant developments: Congressman Jerry Lewis is the new Full Committee Chairman of the powerful House Appropriations Committee. Congressman Chris Cox is the Chairman of the newly created Homeland Security Committee, a new committee that now has full legislative bill writing authority. Congressman Ken Calvert may be rotating off the Water and Power Subcommittee of the Natural Resources Committee—in order to head a panel on the Science and Technology Committee. 3. Meanwhile, MWDOC staff met in December to prepare recommendations for the 2005-6 Congressional Session and their recommendations are contained within this document.
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CalFed</u></p>	<p>With the CalFed Bill passing last session, MWDOC is working with other California interests to seek federal funding for CalFed projects. This is a major priority for Senator Feinstein.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Desalination</u></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The US Desal Coalition will ask Members of Congress to reintroduce its “national bill” from the last session. 2. MWDOC staff recommends that MWDOC seek the introduction of legislation to authorize a South Orange County Ocean Water Desal Research and Demonstration Project—amending Title XVI of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation’s Reclamation Reuse Program. The goal would be to have this bill prepared for introduction in the next 90 days. 3. On the Camp Pendleton Desal front, the SDCWA will take the lead on this issue.

MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY

WASHINGTON REPORT

January 11, 2005

<p><u>Federal Funds for MWDOC</u></p>	<p>MWDOC is seeking two separate earmarks this year:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) <i>Agriculture Appropriations</i>: MWDOC will seek an additional \$500,000 from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), U.S. Department of Agriculture.2) <i>VA/HUD Appropriations</i>: MWDOC will seek an appropriation for an Emergency Ground Water Service System out of the State and Tribal Assistance Grant Program (STAG program). The approximate cost of this program is \$15 million over a multi-year period. The yearly request would be \$2 million. <p><i>Appropriation Notes:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">a. We are no longer a “new start” in the NRCS account and this means we are more likely to have success this year. Last year we were one of only four “new starts” that were approved out of thousands, which were submitted.b. Last year we received federal funds for study money out of the STAG account. This year we are seeking “project money”. Though this year promises to be another tight budget year, we are hopeful that we can begin a multi-year funding process to obtain funds from this account, a part of the EPA. We will be considered a “New Start” for this EPA account. <p>We are in the process of determining who the best Members of Congress are to be the lead sponsors for each of these appropriations earmarks—as well as the important authorization bill we wish to introduce.</p>
<p><u>MBTE/Groundwater Contamination</u></p>	<p>This issue will be monitored this session.</p>
<p><u>Perchlorate/Department of Defense</u></p>	<p>Senator Feinstein intends to introduce a Perchlorate clean up bill, which would be national in its scope. Senator Feinstein’s staff is still working on the draft and her staff, as of last week, could not predict when the bill would be ready for introduction.</p>

**MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
WASHINGTON REPORT**

January 11, 2005

<p><u>Army Corps of Engineers</u></p>	<p>The Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) legislation will be under consideration again this year. This legislation contains authorizations for the Army Corps of Engineers.</p>
--	--

Jim Barker
1/11/05

Public Affairs Activities Report
December 9, 2004 – January 12, 2005

<p>Member Agency Relations</p>	<p>Forty individuals representing our member agencies, the County's CEO office and several O.C. cities attended the Public Information Officers Crisis Communications Seminar on January 11. Conducted by WEROC (Kelly Hubbard) and Public Affairs (Michelle Tuchman), the four-hour seminar included an overview of PIO responsibilities during an emergency, including how to respond to media inquiries, coordinating responses with the WEROC PIO, the County's Operational Area and other Orange County water agencies. How to develop a crisis communications plan was also discussed. Tabletop exercises allowed the group to practice the information learned. The seminar, which was held at Irvine Ranch Water District, was also attended by a representative from the Orange County Sheriff's Department and the Orange County representative from the State Department of Health Services. As a follow-up, staff offered to assist member agencies in developing their own crisis communications plans and in conducting media training for board members and senior staff, two groups who are often called upon to be spokespersons during emergencies.</p>
<p>Special Projects</p>	<p>Prop 50 Funding – Work continues with the South Orange County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Group. Bi-weekly meetings are attended by K. Seckel and M. Tuchman. MWDOC Public Affairs will be facilitating upcoming meetings with stakeholders, an important component of the Prop 50 requirements.</p> <p>Dana Point Desal – K. Seckel and M. Tuchman have been invited to speak at the Jan. 12 meeting of the San Clemente chapter of Surfrider. The group is especially interested to learn about the results of the fatal flaw study on the possible San Onofre location as well our proposed boring work at Doheny State Beach.</p> <p>O.C. Infrastructure Report Card – Michelle is chairing the Public Relations Committee for the 2005 Report Card. A committee meeting was held Jan. 10 to develop outreach strategies. The Report Card will be presented on Oct. 18.</p> <p>O.C. Children's Water Education Festival – MWDOC and the Discovery Science Center will be coordinating two booths at the annual Festival on April 5 and 6.</p>

Public Outreach	The December edition of <i>Currents</i> was mailed the week of December 20. The January edition is in production.
Media Relations	<p>Press Release – January 11: <i>Wes Bannister Sworn in as Chairman of Metropolitan Water District of Southern California</i> (Release was picked up by Brown and Caldwell's <i>California Water News</i>.)</p> <p><i>Drought on despite big rain totals</i> – Gordon Dillow, columnist – Gordon's column, which ran in the January 12 edition of the <i>Register</i>, discussed the need to use water wisely, even though Orange County has received a record rainfall this season.</p> <p>Director Barbre was interviewed by <i>OC Metro</i> re the Tri-Tunnel Proposal.</p> <p>Teri Sforza, the <i>Register</i> reporter who requested last July several pieces of information, including data on our reserves policy, and expense records and Statements of Economic Interest for Directors, the general manager and chief engineer, is now asking for expense records for the remainder of 2004. Teri is making this same request of all other water districts she initially approached last year.</p> <p>Dave Brooks, <i>Huntington Beach Independent</i>, is working on a story re desal.</p>
Legislative Affairs	<p>David Cordero and Matt Stone met with legislative advocates Sean Fitzgerald and Chris Townsend (Townsend Public Affairs) to plan for the new legislative session and some near-term activities for the District. Staff will be working with its state legislative advocates to begin scheduling introductory meetings with the new state legislators who represent Orange County, plan special briefing sessions with legislative staff, coordinate attendance and participation in various legislative meetings, and ensure frequent communication and updates on legislative issues.</p> <p>A special meeting for the Orange County members of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) was held to discuss and provide feedback on ACWA's draft "California Water Blueprint." ACWA Region 10 Vice Chair Trudy Ohlig-Hall led the meeting and ACWA Executive Director Steve Hall was in attendance to respond to member comments. Staff helped coordinate and publicize the meeting and worked with OCWD and IRWD staff to summarize the feedback after the meeting and distribute it to the attendees. Staff also helped</p>

publicize and attended a full meeting of ACWA Region 10 (Orange and San Diego Counties) that was held the following week in San Marcos.

Staff continues to provide support to WACO and ISDOC; coordinating a dinner for the WACO Planning Committee with MWD Vice President Dr. Tim Quinn the night before his presentation at the January WACO meeting, and assuming centralized management and administration of ISDOC in coordination with OCWD staff.

Planning for the ACWA Washington D.C. Conference (February 15-17) has begun, with staff currently preparing briefing materials for meetings with Congressional members and staff, as well as for the annual water issues luncheon with the Orange County Congressional Delegation. The District co-hosts the luncheon with Orange County Water District, Orange County Sanitation District, and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

A reception honoring Congressman Ken Calvert for his efforts in support of the federal reauthorization of CALFED was held in Orange County. Staff worked with Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to plan and execute the event.