At 6:00 p.m., President Osborne called to order the Special Meeting of the Municipal Water District of Orange County Board of Directors Board Room at the District facilities, 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, California. Fountain Valley Councilwoman Cheryl Brothers led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MWDOC DIRECTORS
Brett R. Barbre
Larry Dick
Joan Finnegan (absent)
Wayne Osborne
Megan Yoo Schneider
Sat Tamaribuchi
Jeffery M. Thomas

STAFF PRESENT
Robert Hunter, General Manager
Karl Seckel, Assistant General Manager
Maribeth Goldsby, Board Secretary
Harvey De La Torre, Prin. Water Res. Planner
Jonathan Volzke, Public Affairs Manager
Kevin Hostert, Water Resources Analyst
Heather Baez, Government Affairs Manager

ALSO PRESENT
Larry McKenney
Elizabeth Swift
Doug Davert
Seymour Everett
John Sears
Lisa Ohlund
Scott Goldman
Mark Monin
Jose Vergara
Cheryl Brothers
Steve Nagel
Barbara Delgleize
Lyn Semeta
Brian Ragland
Mary Aileen Mathias
Doug Reinhart
Peer Swan
Michele Steggell
Jim Atkinson
Jim Fisler
Stacy Taylor
Scott Colton
Richard Fiore
Don Froelich
Brian Probolsky
Joone Lopez
Jake Vollebregt
Teresa Smith
Chuck Gibson
Jim Leach

MWDOC MET Director
City of Buena Park
East Orange County Water District
East Orange County Water District
East Orange County Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
City of Fountain Valley
City of Fountain Valley
City of Huntington Beach
City of Huntington Beach
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
City of La Palma
Mesa Water
Mesa Water
Moultan Niguel Water District
Moultan Niguel Water District
Moultan Niguel Water District
Moultan Niguel Water District
Moultan Niguel Water District
Santa Margarita Water District
Santa Margarita Water District
No public comments were received.

Following a brief introduction, President Osborne invited introductions around the room.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

INPUT OR QUESTIONS ON MET ISSUES FROM THE MEMBER AGENCIES/MET DIRECTOR REPORTS REGARDING MET COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

No comments were received, however President Osborne stated that Mr. Chuck Gibson (Santa Margarita Water District) would be commenting at the end of the meeting regarding the benefits of combined legislative advocacy efforts in Washington, DC.

DISCUSSION WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM MWDOC’S MEMBER AGENCIES REGARDING KEY REGIONAL ISSUES AND KEY ORANGE COUNTY ISSUES, INCLUDING THE GOVERNOR BROWN’S UPDATED DROUGHT REGULATIONS, THE CALIFORNIA WATER FIX, AND WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS AND ISSUES.

President Osborne stated that the evening would consist of a short presentation by General Manager Robert Hunter, and the remainder of the meeting would consist of open dialogue/questions between the Board and audience. The following topics were covered:

Water Supply Conditions
Governor Brown’s Updated Drought Regulations
The California Water Fix
Mr. Hunter began the evening with a presentation and overview of the current water supply conditions as well as an overview of the Governor’s updated drought regulations.

Discussion ensued regarding issues surrounding the supply/demand due to conservation regulations, how conservation may affect the approval of the California Water Fix, the impact the regulations and conservation have on water prices which, in turn, impact both the building industry and lower income residents, and the need to change the dialogue regarding water rights in order to protect local control.

Mr. Hunter then provided an overview of the status of the California Water Fix (Fix) and considerable discussion was held regarding the projected cost of the Fix, how this cost compares to the cost of desalination, the length of time projected to complete the Fix (if approved), and the importance of the Fix to improving regional supplies.

Mr. Hunter distributed copies of MWDOC’s Resolution No. 2039, Supporting the California Water Fix and California Eco Restore, and encouraged all in attendance to have their agencies/cities approve similar resolutions.

Responding to inquiries regarding how to learn more about the Fix, Mr. Hunter advised that the Department of Water Resources web site has useful fact sheets and videos. MWDOC staff agreed to send a list of resources on how the Fix would benefit Orange County to those in attendance.

It was suggested that an overview of the Colorado River supplies be presented at the next Elected Officials Forum.

Mr. Chuck Gibson (Santa Margarita Water District), then highlighted MWDOC’s legislative advocacy efforts in Washington, DC (in obtaining funding for Orange County projects, such as the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the National (WIIN)) and encouraged both MWDOC and its member agencies to work collaboratively on applying for WIIN funds (with MWDOC taking the lead). He suggested a work group be formed to address these issues. It was noted that this issue would be presented to MWDOC’s Public Affairs & Legislation Committee for further discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Osborne adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

_______________________________
Maribeth Goldsby, Secretary