

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF  
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY**

May 29, 2019

At 8:30 a.m., President Barbre called to order the Special Meeting of the Municipal Water District of Orange County Board of Directors of MWDOC at District facilities, 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, California.

**MWDOC DIRECTORS**

Brett R. Barbre  
Larry Dick  
Vacant, Division 3  
Joan Finnegan (absent)  
Sat Tamaribuchi  
Jeffery M. Thomas  
Megan Yoo Schneider

**STAFF PRESENT**

Robert Hunter, General Manager  
Karl Seckel, Assistant General Manager (absent)  
Joe Byrne, Legal Counsel  
Maribeth Goldsby, Board Secretary  
Harvey De La Torre, Associate General Manager  
Melissa Baum Haley, Sr. Water Resources Analyst  
Tina Dubuque, Executive Assistant  
Heather Baez, Governmental Affairs Manager  
Tiffany Baca, Public Affairs Manager  
Sarah Wilson, Public Affairs Specialist  
Hilary Chumpitazi, Accounting Manager

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Peer Swan  
Jim Atkinson  
Jim Leach  
Don Froelich  
Cathy Green  
Mathew Forester  
Robert McVicker  
Khanh Nguyen  
Larry Crandall  
Brian Lochrie  
Khieu B. Le  
Shirley N. Le  
Hai Quang Lam  
Janet Nguyen  
Tai Do  
T. Keleher  
Jodi L. Boyd  
Luan Pham  
Uc Van Nguyen  
Dao Nguyen  
Thuy Vo  
David Nguyen

Irvine Ranch Water District  
Mesa Water  
Santa Margarita Water District  
Moulton Niguel Water District  
Orange County Water District  
Candidate, Division 3  
Candidate, Division 3  
Candidate, Division 3  
Candidate, Division 3  
Communications Lab  
  
Westminster City Council  
Fountain Valley Resident  
Westminster Resident  
Garden Grove Resident  
Republic of Vietnam Association  
Tustin Resident

Richard Bui  
Gia Nguyen  
Kris Beard  
Betty Burnett  
Jenny Tran  
Myha Bui  
Vi Nguyen  
Mai Luong  
David Tran

## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Mesa Director Jim Atkinson presented the Board with a Proclamation honoring Director Wayne Osborne for his service on the MWDOC Board. President Barbre thanked Mr. Atkinson, advising that staff would arrange to present Mr. Osborne with the Proclamation.

### **AUTHORIZE CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE: CALIFORNIA UNITED WATER CONFERENCE, JUNE 26-28, 2019, AUBURN, CALIFORNIA**

Upon MOTION by Director Thomas, seconded by Director Tamaribuchi, and carried (5-0), the Board authorized staff and Board attendance at the California United Water Conference. Directors Barbre, Dick, Yoo Schneider, Tamaribuchi, and Thomas voted in favor; Director Finnegan was absent.

### **APPOINT MWDOC DIRECTOR, DIVISION 3**

President Barbre advised that he would hold public comments with respect to the Appointment of MWDOC Director for Division 3.

The following individuals spoke in support of Candidate Janet Nguyen: Tom Kelleher, Tai Do, Thuy Vo, Khien Le, Uc Van Nguyen, a not able to identify Garden Grove/Westminster constituent, Janet Tran, Vi Nguyen, a not able to identify Stanton constituent, Lan Nguyen, Jody Boyd, Mr. Nguyen (first name unknown), Luan Pham, Y. Nguyen, Hai Lam, Phat Bui, and Myha Bui.

IRWD Director Peer Swan encouraged the MWDOC Board to choose a candidate who has a good understanding of the water industry.

Ms. Betty Burnett (who had withdrawn her name from the candidacy) also encouraged the MWDOC Board to choose a candidate with a good understanding of the water industry.

Mesa Director Jim Atkinson spoke in support of candidate Bob McVicker.

Directors Yoo Schneider, Dick, and Barbre thanked all in attendance for attending and expressing support.

President Barbre asked that Secretary Goldsby poll the Directors for their first choice in candidates; the Board members stated the following preferences:

<b>Director</b>	<b>First Choice Candidate</b>
Director Yoo Schneider	Khanh Nguyen
Director Thomas	Larry Crandall
Director Tamaribuchi	Khanh Nguyen
Director Dick	Larry Crandall
Director Barbre	Janet Nguyen

Responding to an inquiry from Director Thomas, Legal Counsel Byrne provided an overview of the Incompatible Offices law, noting that Candidate Khanh Nguyen could be deemed to have an Incompatible Offices issue as he is currently elected to the Westminster School Board. In the event an Incompatible Office is deemed to exist, Mr. Nguyen would be required to forfeit his position on the Westminster School Board. Mr. Nguyen confirmed he would not run for the Westminster School Board in the event he was chosen as MWDOC Division 3 Director.

Considerable discussion among the Board ensued, with each Director voicing his/her reasons surrounding support for their first choice candidate. Following discussion, President Barbre asked for additional polling of the Board; each Board member expressed support for the same candidates. President Barbre then asked for polling on second choice candidates and the Board members stated the following preferences:

<b>Director</b>	<b>First Choice Candidate</b>	<b>Second Choice Candidate</b>
Director Yoo Schneider	K. Nguyen	(Declined to identify a 2 <sup>nd</sup> choice)
Director Thomas	L. Crandall	J. Nguyen
Director Tamaribuchi	K. Nguyen	L. Crandall
Director Dick	L. Crandall	K. Nguyen
Director Barbre	J. Nguyen	M. Forrester

At 9:43 a.m., President Barbre, suggested the Board take a ten minute recess. The Board reconvened at 9:53 a.m.

The Board discussed the process, how long the law would allow for them to appoint a candidate (until June 21, 2019), what would happen if the Board could not agree on a candidate with four votes (it would be submitted to the OC Board of Supervisors for appointment), whether it would be prudent to hold a Special Election, and whether to defer this matter to another date.

Director Thomas made a MOTION, which was seconded by Director Dick, to appoint Larry Crandall as MWDOC Director, Division 3. Said MOTION failed by a vote of 2-3, with Directors Thomas and Dick voting in favor, and Directors Barbre, Tamaribuchi, and Yoo Schneider voting against. Director Finnegan was absent.

President Barbre, with the Board’s concurrence, recommended the Board hold a special

meeting on June 3, 2019 (following the Planning & Operations Committee) to again consider this item. Director Barbre requested that all options be agendaized and open for discussion, and/or action, including possibly authorizing the Board call for a special election in the event a candidate is not chosen.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:13 a.m.

**APPROVED:**

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Maribeth Goldsby, Secretary