# WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS WITH MET DIRECTORS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY 18700 Ward Street, Board Room, Fountain Valley, California September 4, 2019, 8:30 a.m.

#### **AGENDA**

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### **ROLL CALL**

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/COMMENTS

At this time members of the public will be given an opportunity to address the Board concerning items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. Members of the public may also address the Board about a particular Agenda item at the time it is considered by the Board and before action is taken.

The Board requests, but does not require, that members of the public who want to address the Board complete a voluntary "Request to be Heard" form available from the Board Secretary prior to the meeting.

#### ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED

Determine need and take action to agendize item(s), which arose subsequent to the posting of the Agenda. (ROLL CALL VOTE: Adoption of this recommendation requires a two-thirds vote of the Board members present or, if less than two-thirds of the Board members are present, a unanimous vote.)

#### ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO THE BOARD LESS THAN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO MEETING

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Board less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection in the lobby of the District's business office located at 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, California 92708, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the District's Internet Web site, accessible at <a href="http://www.mwdoc.com">http://www.mwdoc.com</a>.

(NEXT RESOLUTION NO. 2089)

#### PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

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

Recommendation: Receive input and discuss the information.

2. PRESENTATION BY BRAD COFFEY REGARDING THE GOVERNOR'S RESILIENCY PROGRAM

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

3. DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

# 4. MWDOC'S HOSTING OF DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2019

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

- 5. **MET ITEMS CRITICAL TO ORANGE COUNTY** (The following items are for informational purposes only a write up on each item is included in the packet. Discussion is not necessary unless requested by a Director)
  - a. MET's Water Supply Conditions
  - b. MET's Finance and Rate Issues
  - c. Colorado River Issues
  - d. Bay Delta/State Water Project Issues
  - e. MET's Ocean Desalination Policy and Potential Participation in the Doheny and Huntington Beach Ocean (Poseidon) Desalination Projects
  - f. South County Projects

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

# 6. METROPOLITAN (MET) BOARD AND COMMITTEE AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Summary regarding August Board Meeting
- b. Review items of significance for MET Board and Committee Agendas

Recommendation: Review and discuss the information presented.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Note: 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 accommodations should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the District to provide the requested accommodations.



# **DISCUSSION ITEM** September 4, 2019

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Robert Hunter,

**General Manager** 

Staff Contact: Melissa Baum-Haley

SUBJECT: PRESENTATION BY BRAD COFFEY REGARDING THE GOVERNOR'S

**RESILIENCY PROGRAM** 

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors review and discuss the information presented.

#### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

#### **REPORT**

Following Governor Newsom's Executive Order (N-10-19) in April 2019 directing state agencies to develop a comprehensive strategy to build a climate-resilient water system and ensure healthy waterways through the 21st century.

The order directs the secretaries of the California Natural Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency and the California Department of Food and Agriculture to identify and assess a suite of complementary actions to ensure safe and resilient water supplies, flood protection and healthy waterways for the state's communities, economy and environment. The Water Resilience Portfolio will integrate and build on programs, policies and investments already in place to create a climate-resilient water system.

The Secretaries have been soliciting input through the summer at regularly scheduled and special public meetings of the California State Board of Food and Agriculture, California Water Commission, State Water Resources Control Board, and other state agencies. As

Budgeted (Y/N): N/A	Budgeted amount: None		Core _X_	Choice		
Action item amount: N/A		Line item:				
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):						

well as working with academic and other groups, too, to hold workshops and listening sessions on specific topics.

Among the questions agency officials are considering:

- How can the state help communities ensure safe, affordable drinking water?
- What can the state do to better enable local and regional water districts to capture, store and move water?
- What state actions would help deliver the most meaningful water use efficiency gains?
- How can the state better protect fish and wildlife and manage urban and agricultural water through the next drought?
- What can the state do now to prepare for economic adjustments as communities fully implement the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in coming years?
- Which state policies or laws no longer fit California's water reality or public values?
- What are the most troublesome gaps in state data that, if filled, would ease regional water management?
- Are there proven technologies and forecasting tools that should be adopted across California to bolster the sustainability of water systems?
- What models from other states and nations should California consider?

MWDOC has invited Brad Coffey, who leads Metropolitan's Water Resource Management Group, to discus Metropolitan's approach to providing feedback to the Secretaries in the development of the Water Resilience Portfolio along with the top-line messages of the input letter they have submitted.



# **DISCUSSION ITEM** September 4, 2019

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Robert Hunter,

**General Manager** 

Staff Contact: Melissa Baum-Haley

SUBJECT: DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT ACTIVITIES UPDATE

# STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors review and discuss the information presented.

#### **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

# **REPORT**

# **Regulatory Activities**

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) have been working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on reinitiating the consultation for the Coordinated Long-Term Operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project.

The USFWS and NMFS are continuing to address comments on the draft proposed action and biological opinion documents, and in July the fish agencies reported that they have been granted a two-month extension for completing the biological opinions.

The fishery agencies are planning to release revised draft biological opinion documents on July 31 for another round of independent peer review, and for review by the public water agencies as authorized under the WIIN Act. Metropolitan staff is preparing to review the documents. The final biological opinions are expected to be released by the end of August.

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

#### **State Water Resources Control Board**

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is in the process of developing and implementing updates to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan). The Natural Resources Agency has been leading a separate but related effort to negotiate Voluntary Agreements (VAs) with upstream and export water users to support environmental objectives through a broad set of management tools.

On July 1, the Secretaries of CalEPA and Natural Resources released a Voluntary Agreements Progress Report. The report describes progress to date on evaluation of assets, development of recommendations for a governance structure and science-based decision-making approach, and identification of key policy issues for enforcement of the VAs. The report also describes a general timeline for moving forward that includes State determination of the adequacy of the VAs by October this year, and completion of SWRCB environmental review by 2021. Metropolitan staff is providing technical review of VA documents and providing input to the process.

# **Joint Powers Authorities**

Both the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) and the Delta Conveyance Finance Authority (Finance Authority) held meetings on July 18. Action by the DCA Board included approving a letter of credit for approximately \$847,000 for the DCA office lease and a new template for the monthly Board reports. Also during the meeting, Carrie Buckman, the Department of Water Resources' new Environmental Manager for the one-tunnel conveyance program was introduced. The Finance Authority Board approved the amended investment policy which delegates authority to the Treasurer to invest funds. In addition, the Finance Authority received a report from Kathryn Mallon, DCA Executive Director, regarding DCA activities and anticipated budget for the next three years.

# **Additional Information**

Additional information on the Bay-Delta Issues can be found in *Issue Brief D - Bay Delta/State Water Project Issues* of the Discussion Item regarding Metropolitan Water District items critical to Orange County.



# **INFORMATION ITEM**

September 4, 2019

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager

SUBJECT: MWDOC'S HOSTING OF DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL MEETING

**ON SEPTEMBER 26, 2019** 

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors receive and file the information.

# **COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

#### SUMMARY

In 2009, Delta Stewardship Council (Council) was created as a governance structure with the authority to determine the consistency of the Delta Plan with the perspective that restoring the Delta is equally important as providing a reliable water supply for our state. Additionally, these coequal goals shall be achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource, and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place.

The Council is responsible for facilitation, coordination, and integration of a range of actions and policies in support of the coequal goals. Implementing the Delta Plan occurs through: the Council's leadership of the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee; ongoing staff-to-staff agency coordination; development of science to support the Delta Plan and related activities; and use of the Council's regulatory authority over covered plans, programs and/or projects that must be consistent with the Delta Plan.

The Council's monthly meetings present an opportunity for the public to learn about and comment on implementation of the Delta Plan. MWDOC has been selected to host the Council's upcoming September 26, 2019 meeting.

Due to the unavailability of MWDOC's Boardroom, MWDOC will host the meeting at the administrative Offices of Orange County Sanitation District located at 10844 Ellis Avenue,

Budgeted (Y/N): N/A	Budgeted amount: None		Core <u>X</u>	Choice			
Action item amount: N/A		Line item:					
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):							

Fountain Valley, CA 92708. Prior to the meeting, per request, the Council will tour OCWD's Groundwater Replenishment System.

Agendized for discussion at the meeting, the Council will discuss the California Water Reliance Portfolio and Regional Self Reliance, the afternoon session will also include two panel sessions:

Panel 1: Southern California Sustainable Water Resources with Focus on Future Recycled Water Projects

Panel 2: Future Water-Use Efficiency Programs and Innovation



# **DISCUSSION ITEM** September 4, 2019

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager

Staff Contact: Karl Seckel

Harvey De La Torre Melissa Baum-Haley

SUBJECT: METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT (MET) ITEMS CRITICAL TO

**ORANGE COUNTY** 

#### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Board of Directors to review and discuss this information.

#### **DETAILED REPORT**

This report provides a brief update on the current status of the following key MET issues that may affect Orange County:

- a) MET's Water Supply Conditions
- b) MET's Finance and Rate Issues
- c) Colorado River Issues
- d) Bay Delta/State Water Project Issues
- e) MET's Ocean Desalination Policy and Potential Participation in the Doheny and Huntington Beach Ocean (Poseidon) Desalination Projects
- f) South Orange County Projects

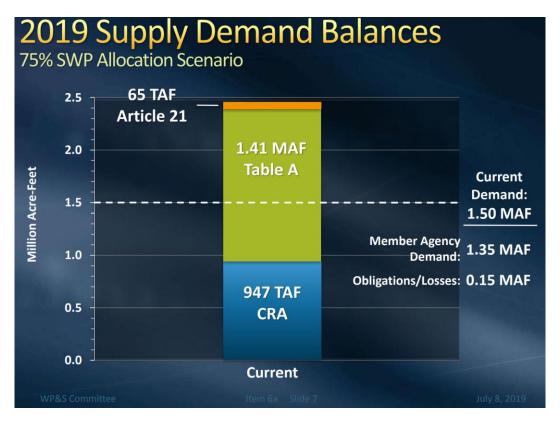
# **ISSUE BRIEF # A**

**SUBJECT: MET's Water Supply Conditions** 

#### RECENT ACTIVITY

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) in June increased the State Water Project (SWP) "Table A" allocation to 75%. This allocation provides Metropolitan with approximately 1.41 MAF in SWP deliveries this water year. DWR's approval considered several factors including existing storage in SWP conservation reservoirs, SWP operational regulatory constraints, and the 2019 contractor demands.

With estimated total demands and losses of 1.50 million acre-feet (MAF), along with 947 thousand acre-feet (TAF) of Colorado River water and a 75% SWP Table A Allocation plus an additional 65 TAF of Article 21 supplies, Metropolitan is projecting that supply will exceed demand levels in CY 2019. Based on this, estimated total dry-year storage for Metropolitan at the end of **CY 2019 is projected to go up to 3.3 MAF**.

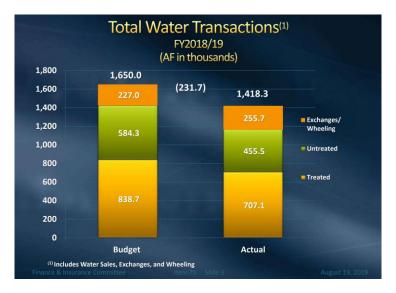


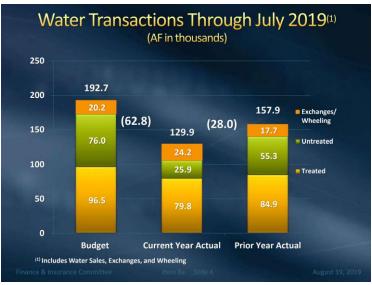
# **ISSUE BRIEF # B**

# **SUBJECT: MET's Finance and Rate Issues**

#### **RECENT ACTIVITY**

For the period ending June 30, 2019, water transactions through June were 231.7 TAF (14%) lower than budget and 25.2 TAF (2%) lower than the 5-year average. Variance from the budget was due to lower demands from a wet winter and the elimination of any drought conditions. Water transactions for July were 62.8TAF (\$57.5) lower than budget and 7.3 TAF lower than the 5-year average.





# **ISSUE BRIEF # C**

**SUBJECT:** Colorado River Issues

RECENT ACTIVITY

# **Reclamation Announces 2020 Colorado River Operating Conditions**

On August 15, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) released its Colorado River Basin August 2019 24-Month Study, which sets the annual operations for Lake Mead and Lake Powell in 2020. The operation of Lake Powell and Lake Mead in this August 2019 24-Month Study is pursuant to the December 2007 Record of Decision on Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and the Coordinated Operations of Lake Powell and Lake Mead (Interim Guidelines), and reflects the 2019 Annual Operating Plan.

Consistent with the Interim Guidelines, the Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) Surplus Condition is the criterion governing the operation of Lake Mead for calendar year 2020. In addition, the Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) Agreement will also govern the operation of Lake Mead for calendar year 2020.

Based on projections in the 24-Month Study, Lake Mead will operate in the Normal or ICS Surplus Condition in Calendar Year 2020 and Lake Powell will operate in the Upper Elevation Balancing Tier in Water Year 2020 (October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020).

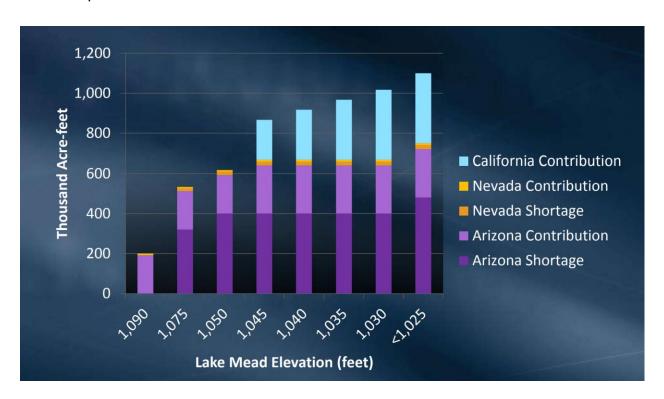
The Upper Basin experienced above average snowpack, and runoff was 145% of average this past spring, raising Lake Powell's elevation by more than 50 feet since early April. Total Colorado River system storage today is 55% of capacity, up from 49% at this time last year. In addition, critical drought contingency plans adopted by the seven Basin States, federal government and Mexico earlier this year are now in place to reduce risks to the system.

The Study projects Lake Mead's January 1, 2020, elevation to be 1,089.4 feet, about 14 feet above the Lower Basin shortage determination trigger of 1,075 feet. Lake Powell's January 1, 2020, elevation is projected to be 3,618.6 feet — 81 feet below full. Because Lake Mead is projected to begin the year below the drought contingency plan's threshold of 1,090 feet, Arizona, Nevada and Mexico will make water savings contributions to Lake Mead in 2020.

Despite the above average 2019 snowpack, the Colorado River Basin continues to experience its worst 20-year drought on record, dating back to 2000. This 20-year period is also one of the driest in the 1,200-year paleo record. The August 2019 24-Month Study can be found at <a href="https://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/24mo.pdf">https://www.usbr.gov/lc/region/g4000/24mo.pdf</a>.

From the Lower Basin Drought Contingency Plan (DCP) the state contributions for Arizona, Nevada, and California are designated as the following:

- Arizona In Years when Lake Mead elevation is projected to be above 1,045 feet and at or below 1,090 feet on January 1, the State of Arizona shall make annual DCP contributions in the total amount of 192,000 acre-feet.
- Nevada In Years when Lake Mead elevation is projected to be above 1,045 feet and at or below 1,090 feet on January 1, the State of Nevada shall make annual DCP contributions in the total amount of 8,000 acre-feet.
- California In Years when Lake Mead elevation is projected to be above 1,045 feet and at or below 1,090 feet on January 1, the State of California is not required to make DCP contributions.

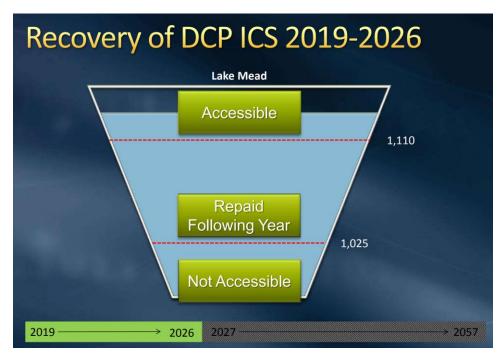


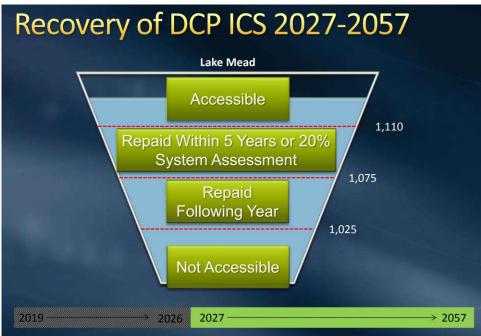
#### Metropolitan Submits Updated 2019 Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) Plan

After the DCP agreements became effective in May, Reclamation requested that all Colorado River contractors with ICS accounts submit updated ICS Plans to reflect any changes resulting from implementation of the DCP.

On June 17, Metropolitan submitted the updated 2019 ICS Plan. This update reflects Metropolitan's new and amended Extraordinary Conservation ICS (ECICS) exhibits, which added Metropolitan's conservation and local resource programs. This expansion in Metropolitan's conservation programs that qualify to create ECICS give Metropolitan greater flexibility in creating California's 400,000 acre-foot maximum annual ICS creation volume, which Metropolitan is targeting to leave in Lake Mead this year.

The recovery of DCP ICS contributions varies based on the Lake Mead elevation and is illustrated below:





# Metropolitan/Palo Verde Irrigation District Fallowing Program Update

Under the Fallowing Program, Palo Verde farmers refrain from irrigating between 7 and 28 percent of the valley lands in any year at the request of Metropolitan, making water that would have been used for farming on these lands available to Metropolitan. Land taken out

of production is maintained in accordance with approved soil and water management plans, and rotated every one to five years. The program allows Metropolitan to receive additional water, while providing stable income to the farming community. Annual payments to farmers vary in response to actual acreage fallowed.

In July each year, Metropolitan issues a fallowing call for the contract year, beginning August 1 of the following year. Metropolitan is maintaining the current 40 percent fallowing call which will be in place for two years, from August 1, 2019 through July 31, 2021.

# Pilot Study Proposal to the USBR 2019 Colorado River Basin Study Program

In April 2019, Metropolitan, the Central Arizona Water Conservation District (CAWCD), and the Southern Nevada Water Authority (SNWA) submitted a joint letter of interest proposing a pilot research study under the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's (USBR's) Colorado River Basin Study Program. Based on the letter of interest, USBR invited the three agencies to submit a more formal joint proposal, which they did in July. USBR will evaluate the proposal against others to determine whether it will receive matching federal funds. If funded, the project would investigate methods used to quantify agricultural water conservation in the Lower Colorado River Basin (Lower Basin), focusing on case studies of seasonal fallowing, deficit irrigation, and irrigation equipment conversion (e.g., conversion from flood irrigation to sprinklers). The aim of the project is to evaluate existing quantification methods and suggest methodological improvements to better guide investment in Lower Basin agricultural conservation going forward. The project team would consist of Metropolitan, CAWCD, SNWA, USBR Lower Colorado Region, an outside consultant, and a broad stakeholder group.

# **ISSUE BRIEF # D**

**SUBJECT:** Bay Delta/State Water Project Issues

# **RECENT ACTIVITY**

For information specifically relating to the Delta Conveyance Project (f.k.a. the California WaterFix) please, refer to the associated Board Item – Delta Conveyance Project Activities.

#### **Science Activities**

Metropolitan staff is working with the State Water Contractors (SWC) and ITN Industry News to produce a news and current affairs-style program that will explore the threats posed to fish and wildlife. The program will highlight the impact of effective fisheries management and look at how organizations are addressing the complexities of fisheries conservation and creating a sustainable future. The collaborative science that SWC is investing in and supporting will highlight how fisheries science is being used to inform water project operations and policy decisions. This Fisheries Strong video will provide a platform for the exchange of ideas, highlight the important work of fisheries and conservation professionals, and showcase some best practice stories from across America on what people and organizations are doing well from the top down to the grassroots level. The program will be launched at the American Fisheries Society annual conference, featured on the association website, and shared widely online to their members and be featured across 50 or more different distribution channels including the AFS website, social media, newsletters, YouTube and more as a means to provide practical, real-world solutions for advancing the industry.

A scientific paper published in the June edition of the San Francisco Estuary & Watershed Science Journal presented results of a study funded by Metropolitan to characterize early 20th century salinity conditions in the Delta. The paper compares two salinity datasets from the early 20th century – the records of distance travelled by the C&H Sugar's freshwater barges and salinity measurements by the State of California. The C&H Sugar's barge data has been used extensively in the Bay-Delta community as a surrogate for the degree of salinity intrusion in the Delta. This paper finds that the salinity intrusion estimated through C&H Sugar's barge data is systematically lower by up to 10 km when compared to other salinity measurements during the same period, and therefore, questions the conclusions about the salinity intrusion based on the barge data.

Metropolitan staff continued participating in the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program (CSAMP), including participation on the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT). In July, CAMT and the CSAMP Policy Group discussed and approved the Process Guidelines for the Delta Smelt Structured Decision Making (SDM) project, which will allow the consultant to proceed with the next phase of the project. The overall objective of this SDM project is to identify actions to benefit Delta smelt, and evaluate and rank the actions in a scientifically structured process to support consideration of prioritized management actions. The CSAMP Policy Group received updates on restoration projects to benefit salmon at Battle Creek, the San Joaquin River and the Yolo Bypass, and was briefed on planned Delta smelt management actions, pilot studies and

monitoring activities this summer and fall related to the food web and flow management actions proposed to benefit Delta smelt.

# **Delta Flood Emergency Management Plan**

DWR has invited Metropolitan to participate as a member of the Delta Working Group which coordinates Delta emergency response programs among local, state and federal agencies, and provides a sounding board for current studies and initiatives. The group is composed of flood response agencies, including Local Management Agencies (LMAs), Delta counties, California Governor's Office of Emergency Services, DWR and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

DWR also reported that the State Department of General Services will post for bid a large sheet pile procurement contract in August 2019 to supplement rock inventories supporting levee breach and channel closures for development of the freshwater pathway in an emergency. Previous DWR technical reports have supported pathway development through sheet pile closures in lieu of or in combination with rock closures.

DWR is receiving and making available large inventories of super sacks from commercial sources which can supplement local, state and federal agency inventories for channel closures generally inaccessible by other means. DWR also announced a new \$10 million local agency grant program to support emergency response inventories and programs of Delta LMAs.

#### **ISSUE BRIEF # E**

SUBJECT: MET's Ocean Desalination Policy and Potential Participation in the Doheny and Huntington Beach Ocean (Poseidon) Desalination Projects

#### **RECENT ACTIVITY**

#### **Doheny Desal**

The details of this have been moved to briefing Issue F as it pertains only to South Orange County.

#### **Poseidon Huntington Beach**

The Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (SARWQCB) continues to work with Poseidon on renewal of the NPDES Permit for the HB Desalination Project. At the June 14, 2019 SARWQCB meeting, the Regional Board staff provided an information item update on the "Identified Need" for the Poseidon project. In evaluating whether the proposed location is the "best site feasible", the Ocean Plan directs the Regional Board to evaluate, in part, if the identified need for desalinated water is consistent with applicable water planning documents. In the case of the proposed Poseidon project, the applicable water planning documents are Municipal Water District of Orange County's (MWDOC) 2015 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), the OC Water Reliability Study, OCWD's Long Term Facilities Plan and other OCWD planning documents. There were a considerable range of views expressed at the meeting. One of the reactions from the SARWQCB was that they did not believe they could permit a project if it was not highly probable that the project would move forward. The alternative position was noted that it is hard to agree ahead of time to move forward with the project if the full extent of terms and conditions are unknown.

The Regional Board schedule for the permit is:

Draft Permit Will be discussed in a Fall Workshop

Final Permit Anticipated issuance by the end of the year

Assuming success, Poseidon would then seek its final permits from the California Coastal Commission. The August 2, 2019 meeting of the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board was cancelled. The next Regional Board meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2019.

#### **ISSUE BRIEF # F**

**SUBJECT:** South Orange County Projects

RECENT ACTIVITY

# **Discussions with SMWD Water Quality and Innovations Committee**

Karl Seckel and Charles Busslinger met with the SMWD Water Quality and Innovations Committee to discuss various water quality issues (their Committee has periodically requested an update from MWDOC on various water quality issues). The issues updated in the discussions included:

- MET Update on Colorado River Water Quality Issues (from MET's July 2019 E&O update)
  - a. Chromium 6 Remediation clean-up began in 2004; 1 billion gallons of chromium-6 being cleaned-up on an interim basis; about 25% cleaned-up; construction began in 2018 on the permanent clean-up and should be completed in 2023 and operate for about 30 years. The levels of chromium-6 upstream and downstream are at non-detect levels.
  - b. Perchlorate Remediation identified in 1997; treatment has reduced loading into Lake Mead from 1000 pounds per day to less than 100 pounds per day with levels of perchlorate at MET's CRA intake having dropped from about 9 ppb to about 1 ppb; the long-term solution is being worked on.
  - c. Moab Uranium Mill Tailings Clean-up 16 million tons of uranium mill tailings are located within 750 feet of the Colorado River and are within the 100 year flood plain. DOE started moving the tailings about 30 miles inland where they will be buried and encased; about 60% has been moved. Only very low levels of radioactivity have been picked up at MET's CRA intake. Additional Federal funding is speeding up the process.
  - d. Paradox Valley Salinity Control 200,000 tons of salts are being picked up in the Dolores River from natural salt formations; the salinity control project has shallow extraction wells and injection wells 16,000 feet deep to help keep the saline groundwater from commingling with the Dolores River. The system eliminates 100,000 tons of salts per year from the Colorado River. The injection well is past its useful life and was recently shutdown due to seismic activity from the injection process (operates at over 5,000 psi). This system represents 10% of all of the salinity control measures on the Colorado River system. A Federal EIR/EIS is scheduled for completion later this year (although it has been in progress since 2013) on alternatives that include replacing the existing system, using evaporation ponds or using a "salt-

maker" system with near zero discharge of liquids to create salt-cake as a product. The shutdown of this system will ultimately result in about a 10 mg/l increase at MET's intake to the Colorado River in 4 to 6 years as the additional salt makes is way through the system.

- 2. PFAS issues in the OCWD Basin and impacts thereof
  - a. OCWD conducting research on treatment options
  - b. State still considering what to do
  - c. Depending on State outcome, OCWD could suffer the loss of production of 100,000 AF per year, about 1/3 of their production; currently, it makes shutting the Diemer Plant down for 7 days very difficult
- 3. MET Allowing Emergency Water Pump-in to their facilities
  - a. MET has adopted a change to their administrative code that allows member agencies to use the MET pipelines for delivery of local water in the event MET cannot make deliveries of their water. This would allow a pump-in of groundwater into the EOCF#2; the PFAS issue has probably delayed work on this project.
- 4. Recommendations from White Papers by Black &Veatch & Hazen Sawyer on Issues Related to Future Operations and Integration of NEW Supplies within the Orange County Distribution System. MWDOC staff discussed some of the work being investigated on potential water quality issues associated with bringing on new supplies and introducing them into the regional, sub-regional or local pipeline systems as well as other occurrences such as low flow conditions, nitrification and stranding of assets. Staff noted the White Papers have not yet been released, but will be circulated soon and MWDOC will conduct a workshop.

Overall, SMWD's committee thanked MWDOC for flagging these issues and presenting them to the Committee so they had an improved understanding. Input from the Committee included the following:

- They felt that salinity control was a much more critical issue than people are aware
  of and should be given a higher visibility and attention. Some of the work being
  updated in the next several years, including the Colorado River Sanitary Survey, the
  Water Quality Standards for the Colorado River System, and the economic impacts
  of salinity to the end user.
- They asked about the ability to lobby/provide input on National, Colorado River and State issues and how to get ahead of the regulation setting process and where local agencies could help.

They suggested that one of MWDOC's Joint Workshop Meetings with its MET
Directors should focus on Water Quality at least once per year to provide an
overview and update; wide advertisement of the meeting should be solicited to get a
large audience in attendance, with the goal of raising the intelligence quotient on
water quality and its potential impacts.

# **Doheny Desal Project**

On June 27, 2019 the South Coast Water District (SCWD) Board certified the Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) for the Phase I Local Doheny Ocean Desalination Project, which would produce up to 5 million gallons per day (MGD) of new, drinking water supplies for the area. SCWD subsequently filed its Notice of Determination and is beginning the permitting process with various permitting agencies.

In March 2018, SCWD was awarded a \$10 million grant from the State Department of Water Resources for the Doheny Ocean Desalination Project.

In April 2019, U.S. Representative Mike Levin announced that SCWD is set to receive more than \$8.3 million in US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) WaterSMART Desalination Construction Program grant funding for the Project. The grant is subject to pending federal appropriations and needs to be included in the E&W Appropriations list of projects for which the Secretary of Interior intends to award grants. Congressman Levin is acting as the lead office on this request in the House.

On July 11, 2019 SCWD's Board adopted a resolution pursuing a second year (round) of the USBR WaterSMART Desalination Construction Program grant funding. SCWD is eligible to receive a cumulative total of \$20 million for the Project from USBR. Approximately two to six awards are expected to be made by USBR with up to \$12 million available in this round. The recipient must provide at least 75% of the total project costs.

#### **Next Steps:**

- Alternative Power Supply Management Study –SCWD staff is currently reviewing a
  proposal from engineering consultant Burns & McDonnell for a 6 month detailed study of
  alternative power alternatives. The study would include a District-wide assessment and
  Conceptual Management Plan including studying a community choice aggregation
  option.
- Legislative SCWD is working on AB 1752 to allow the District to proceed with a DBO Contract while maintaining access to State funding for the Project (both DWR grant money and SRF loans). A vote in anticipated in mid-October.
- Project Delivery Beginning work on the development of several documents including; Request for State of Qualifications (SOQ) for potential bidders, contract documents, and a RFP package.
- 4. Peer Review Cost Estimate California American Water (CalAm), who developed the 6.4 MGD Monterey Ocean Desal Project using slant well technology, is completing a peer review cost estimate. A Board workshop, tentatively scheduled for August 22, 2019, will present the assumptions, costs, and lessons learned.

- 5. Slant Well Risk Evaluation A second workshop will be scheduled to get CalAm's perspective on the risks of slant well technology.
- 6. SCWD Local Potable Water System Integration Updated hydraulic modeling and surge analysis of the SCWD system.
- Project Partners continuing to discuss partnering opportunities with interested agencies
- 8. High Level Schedule

a. Environmental permitting Summer 2020

b. DBOM Contract Develop/Award Fall 2020

c. Funding Fall 2020

d. Final Design Dec. 2020

e. Construction Late 2022

#### **SMWD Trampas Canyon Recycled Water Reservoir**

Trampas Canyon Reservoir and Dam (Trampas Reservoir) is a seasonal recycled water storage reservoir, with a total capacity of 5,000 AF, of which 2,500 AF is available to meet Santa Margarita Water District's projected base recycled water demands, and 2,500 AF to meet future water supply needs. When completed, the Trampas Reservoir will allow SMWD to store recycled water in the winter and draw on that water during the peak summer months.

The construction of the Trampas Canyon Recycled Water Seasonal Storage Reservoir consists of three main components:

- 1. Trampas Canyon Dam (Dam)
- 2. Conveyance facilities to transport recycled water into and out of the Reservoir (Pipelines)
- 3. Trampas Canyon Pump Station (Pump Station)

The construction of the facilities is being completed in three phases:

- 1. Preconstruction/Site Preparation for the Dam and Pump Station Construction
- 2. Dam and Pipelines
- 3. Pump Station

#### **PROJECT STATUS**

Preconstruction/Site Preparation

Complete

# **Dam and Pipelines**

The Construction Contract was awarded in December 2017 and is approximately 53% complete.

# Pump Station

The 100% design of this facility has been submitted by AECOM and is still being reviewed by the District. The design process is scheduled to conclude in August 2019, and the project will likely be available to start the construction bidding process in September 2019. Overall completion of the Pump Station construction is expected to be in June 2020, about 2 months ahead of the Reservoir and Dam completion.

# San Juan Watershed Project

NO NEW INFORMATION

# **South Orange County Emergency Service Program**

NO NEW INFORMATION

# **Strand Ranch Project**

NO NEW INFORMATION

# Other Information on South County Projects:

If any agencies would like to have updates included herein on any projects within your service area, please email the updates to Karl Seckel at <a href="mailto:kseckel@mwdoc.com">kseckel@mwdoc.com</a>.

# Summary Report for The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Adjourned Board Meeting August 20, 2019

# **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

Director Paskett was appointed as Chair of to the Conservation and Local Resources Committee. Director Apodoca was appointed as a member of the Engineering and Operations Committee. Director Ballin was appointed as Vice Chair to the Organization, Personnel, and Technology Committee. (**Agenda Item 5E**)

# FINANCE AND INSURANCE COMMITTEE

Adopted the Resolution Levying Ad Valorem Property Taxes for the Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2019 and ending June 30, 2020 for the Purposes of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California maintaining the tax rate at .0035% of assessed valuation (exclusive of annexation levies), the same rate levied in FY 2018/19; and directed staff to transmit that resolution to the county auditors for the levy and collection of the ad valorem property tax. (Agenda Item 8-1)

# **ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

Awarded \$10,439,354 contract to McMillen Jacobs Associates to replace seven radial gates along the CRA; and authorized an increase of \$600,000 to an agreement with Lee & Ro, Inc., for a new not-to-exceed total of \$920,000. (Agenda Item 8-2)

Awarded \$32,946,000 contract to J.F. Shea Construction, Inc. to install the discharge line isolation coupling assemblies at all five CRA pumping plants. (**Agenda Item 8-3**)

Adopted the CEQA determination that the proposed action was previously addressed in the certified 2005 Final EIR and related documentation and that no further environmental analysis or documentation is required; and awarded \$2,944,000 contract to Mehta Mechanical Company, Inc. to construct the water quality instrumentation improvements at the Weymouth plant. (Agenda Item 8-4)

Authorized the General Manager to enter into the agreement with State of California Department of Water Resources under the terms described in the Board letter for the sale of output from the Foothill Feeder, Lake Mathews, San Dimas, and Yorba Linda power plants. (Agenda Item 8-5)

# WATER PLANNING AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Received and filed information regarding the General Manager's decision to implement the Cyclic Cost-Offset Program as of August 1, 2019, pursuant to the authority approved by the Board on April 9, 2019. (No action required.) (**Agenda Item 8-6**)

# **LEGAL AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE**

Authorized an increase in maximum amount payable under contract for legal services with Horvitz & Levy, LLP in the SDCWA v. Metropolitan, et al. rate litigation in the amount of \$150,000 for a total amount not to exceed \$600,000. (Agenda Item 8-7) (No Closed Session)

# **CONSENT CALENDAR**

In other actions, the Board:

Adopted resolution requiring Metropolitan to base its maximum medical contributions on the highest cost HMO plan Region 2, Anthem Traditional HMO, for employees and annuitants under Government Code Section 22892(a). (**Agenda Item 7-1**)

Reviewed and considered information provided in the adopted Final Mitigated Negative Declaration and Addendum 1 and adopted the Lead Agency's findings and MMRP related to the proposed action, and authorized the General Manager to enter into a Local Resources Program agreement with the Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District and La Puente Valley County Water District for the La Puente Recycled Water Project for up to 60 AFY of tertiary-treated recycled water under the terms included in the letter. (Agenda Item 7-2)

# **OTHER MATTERS**

Reported on list of certified assessed valuations for fiscal year 2019/20 and tabulation of assessed valuations, percentage participation, and vote entitlement of member agencies as of August 20, 2019. (Agenda Item 5A)

Inducted new Director Tana McCoy from the City of Compton. (Agenda Item 5D)

Directors Kurtz and Record were appointed to the PVID Property Utilization Committee. (Agenda Item 5E)

Reported on Fresno meetings with Central Valley farmers and the Latino Water Coalition. (Agenda Item 5G)

Presentation of Commendatory Resolution for Director Sinanyan representing the City of Glendale. (Director Sinanyan was not present) (Agenda Item 5H)

Approved Commendatory Resolutions for Directors Mark Gold representing the City of Los Angeles and Janna Zurita the representing the City of Compton. (**Agenda Item 5I**)

Discussed Department Head Performance Evaluations. (Agenda Item 10-1)

Reported on Department Head 2019 Salary Survey. (Agenda Item 10-2)

Discussed and approved Compensation Recommendations for General Manager, General Counsel, and General Auditor. (**Agenda Item 10-3**)

# THIS INFORMATION SHOULD NOT BE CONSIDERED THE OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MEETING.

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