

**MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP BOARD MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY (MWDOC)
WITH THE MWDOC MET DIRECTORS**

March 4, 2020

At 8:30 a.m., President Tamaribuchi called to order the Regular Meeting of the Municipal Water District of Orange County in the Board Room at the District facilities located in Fountain Valley. Director Barbre led the Pledge of Allegiance and Secretary Goldsby called the roll.

MWDOC DIRECTORS

Brett R. Barbre*
Larry Dick*
Joan Finnegan
Bob McVicker
Sat Tamaribuchi
Jeffery M. Thomas
Megan Yoo Schneider (absent)

STAFF

Robert Hunter, General Manager
Karl Seckel, Assistant General Manager
Joe Byrne, Legal Counsel
Maribeth Goldsby, Board Secretary
Harvey De La Torre, Associate General Manager
Chris Lingad, Associate Engineer
Charles Busslinger, Principal Engineer
Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs
Kevin Hostert, Water Resources Analyst
Joe Berg, Dir. of Water Use Efficiency

*Also MWDOC MET Directors

OTHER MWDOC MET DIRECTORS

Larry McKenney
Linda Ackerman (absent)

OTHERS PRESENT

Kathryn Freshley
Kay Havens
Mark Monin
Jose Vergara
Doug Reinhart
Peer Swan
Laura Rocha
Kelly Rowe
John Kennedy
Alicia Dunkin
Chuck Gibson
Jim Leach
Dennis Erdman
Brooke Jones
Al Nederhood
Bill Hasencamp
Brad Coffey
Kristy Khachigian
Megan Couch

El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Moulton Niguel Water District
Orange County Water District
Orange County Water District
Orange County Water District
Santa Margarita Water District
Santa Margarita Water District
South Coast Water District
Yorba Linda Water District
Yorba Linda Water District
Metropolitan Water District of So. California
Metropolitan Water District of So. California
Kristy Khachigian Consulting
San Diego County Water Authority

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC COMMENTS

President Tamaribuchi inquired whether any members of the public wished to comment on agenda items.

No public comments were made.

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.)

No items were presented.

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

President Tamaribuchi inquired as to whether there were any items distributed to the Board less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

No items were presented.

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS**INPUT OR QUESTIONS ON MET ISSUES FROM THE MEMBER AGENCIES/MET DIRECTOR REPORTS REGARDING MET COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION**

Director McKenney highlighted MET's Committee activities/discussions, including the Finance and Insurance Committee (discussion on whether MET can place a value on its water currently in storage, and bond issuance), the Engineering & Operations Committee (discussion on capital projects), the Water Planning & Stewardship Committee, the Bay-Delta Committee (of which Director Ackerman was named Chair), the Communications & Legislation Committee, and the recently formed Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) Committee. Director McKenney advised that several MET Board workshops would be held regarding the biennial budget.

Director Dick concurred with Director McKenney's report, noting that Barry Pressman is Chair of the newly form IRP Committee.

GOVERNOR'S DRAFT WATER RESILIENCE PORTFOLIO

Mr. Brad Coffey (MET's Group Manager-Water Resource Management) presented information regarding the draft Water Resilience Portfolio. Mr. Coffey's presentation included an overview of Governor Newsom's Executive Order and the draft report released on January 3, 2020. He advised that MET is focusing on three priorities, namely, advancing potable reuse, resiliency strategy for the Delta, and a vision for inter-governmental collaboration, and that MET sought input on its comment letter (which included these focus areas) from the MET Board and MET member agencies.

Considerable discussion ensued regarding investment in desalination technologies, subsidence, seismic issues on the Delta, and regional vulnerability locations.

The Board received and filed the report as presented.

ORAL UPDATE REGARDING COLORADO RIVER SALINITY CONTROL ISSUES

Mr. Bill Hasencamp (MET's Manager, Colorado River Issues and Chair of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum) provided an update on the Colorado River's salinity control issues. His presentation included information on the EIS for the Paradox Valley Unit of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program (which analyzes alternatives for replacing an aging well in the Paradox Valley that captures and prevents about 100,000 tons of salt from reaching the Colorado River each year), the water supply sources, the levels of salinity in imported water supplies, and the impact during dry years (MET has a higher dependence on Colorado River supplies during dry years). Following his overview of the summary of alternatives (no action, replacement of injection well, construction of evaporation ponds, and construction of zero liquid discharge facility to capture brine), he advised that the Salinity Control Forum will recommend designing and constructing evaporation ponds to assist with salinity control.

Discussion ensued regarding the various alternatives, and where the evaporation ponds would be located (BLM land). Mr. Hasencamp encouraged member agencies to submit comment letters on the EIS; President Tamaribuchi suggested MWDOC's letter be submitted to the Administration & Finance Committee for review and comment. Following discussion, the Board received and filed the report.

WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS UPDATE

MWDOC Water Resources Analyst, Kevin Hostert, provided a presentation on the U.S. drought monitor, climate outlook, local precipitation statistics, northern California Accumulated precipitation, storage level data throughout the state, the State Water Project Table A allocations (currently at 15%), and MET estimated storage levels.

Following the presentation, the Board received and filed the report as presented.

DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Associate General Manager Harvey De La Torre advised that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) posted a Notice of Preparation that will initiate the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Delta Conveyance Project and that public comment hearings are underway (staff will be presenting comments later in the day at the Los Angeles Public Meeting).

The Board received and filed the staff report.

MWD ITEMS CRITICAL TO 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 by MET in the Doheny Desalination Project
- f. Orange County Reliability Projects
- g. East Orange County Feeder No. 2
- h. South County Projects

The Board received and filed the report as presented.

METROPOLITAN (MET) BOARD AND COMMITTEE AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

The report was received and filed.

CLOSED SESSION

At 10:32 a.m., Legal Counsel Byrne announced that the Board would adjourn to closed session for a conference with legal counsel regarding anticipated litigation (significant exposure to litigation), pursuant to Paragraph (2) Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9, Claim of Rosemary Ramirez Against the Municipal Water District of Orange County for personal injury, Date of Claim January 14, 2020

RECONVENE

The Board reconvened at 10:39 a.m., and Legal Counsel Byrne announced that the Board voted unanimously (5-0) to reject the claim of Rosemary Ramirez. Directors Dick, McVicker, Finnegan, Tamaribuchi, and Thomas voted in favor; Directors Barbre and Yoo Schneider were absent.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Maribeth Goldsby
Board Secretary