

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

May 6, 2020

At 8:30 a.m., President Tamaribuchi called to order the Regular Meeting of the Municipal Water District of Orange County via the Zoom Webinar application (pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order due to the spread of the COVID-19 virus, the meeting was conducted via Zoom). Secretary Goldsby called the roll.

MWDOC DIRECTORS

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

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
Melissa Baum-Haley, Prin. Water Resource Analyst
Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs
Kevin Hostert, Water Resources Analyst
Joe Berg, Dir. of Water Use Efficiency
Charles Busslinger, Principal Engineer
Heather Baez, Government Affairs Manager

*Also MWDOC MET Directors

OTHER MWDOC MET DIRECTORS

Larry McKenney
Linda Ackerman

OTHERS PRESENT

Brad Coffey
Demetri Polyzos
Brandon Goshi
Kathryn Freshley
Mark Monin
Jose Vergara
Dennis Cafferty
Steve LaMar
Doug Reinhart
Peer Swan
Paul Weghorst
Jim Atkinson
Don Froelich
Laura Rocha
Kelly Rowe
John Kennedy
Adam Hutchinson

Metropolitan Water District of Southern Calif.
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El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Mesa Water
Moulton Niguel Water District
Moulton Niguel Water District
Orange County Water District
Orange County Water District
Orange County Water District

Chuck Gibson	Santa Margarita Water District
Saundra Jacobs	Santa Margarita Water District
Justin McCusker	Santa Margarita Water District
Dan Ferons	Santa Margarita Water District
Greg Mills	Serrano Water District
Brad Reese	Serrano Water District
Dennis Erdman	South Coast Water District
Bill Green	South Coast Water District
Brooke Jones	Yorba Linda Water District
Fernando Paludi	Trabuco Canyon Water District
Wayne Miller	Yorba Linda Water District
Al Nederhood	Yorba Linda Water District
Kristy Khachigian	Kristy Khachigian Consulting
Skylar Stephens	San Diego County Water Authority
Ed Means	Means Consulting
Rupert Barnett	

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

No public comments were received.

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.

ACTION ITEM

ELECTION INFORMATION (CANDIDATE’S STATEMENTS)

Secretary Goldsby advised that each election, the Registrar of Voters requests information relative to the Candidate’s Statements, namely whether (or not) the District will pay the Candidate’s Statement cost, and whether the District will limit the statements to 200 or 400 words. She noted that historically the District has voted to limit the statements to 200 words and not pay for them.

Director Dick recommended the Board reinforce what the Board has done in previous years, and upon MOTION by Director Dick, seconded by Director Barbre, and carried (7-0), the Board authorized staff to submit the Transmittal of Election Information/Special District to the Orange County Registrar of Voters, indicating that the Candidate's Statement of Qualifications will be limited to 200 words, and that the District will not pay for the statements. Said MOTION was adopted by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors Barbre, Dick, Finnegan, McVicker, Yoo Schneider, Tamaribuchi & Thomas
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None
ABSTAIN:	None

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION/INFORMATION ITEMS

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

Director McKenney highlighted the IRP discussions at MET, MET's authorization of litigation against the State of California (regarding the Delta), the MET biennial budget (approved), and the discussions by MET's Executive Committee regarding the recruitment process of the MET General Manager, noting that although Chairman Gray wanted to appoint a special committee to conduct the recruitment, MET's Executive Committee voted to have the Organization, Personnel & Technology Committee oversee the matter.

Directors Ackerman, Barbre, and Dick agreed with Director McKenney's report and expanded the discussion on why MET would be considering an agreement with Sespe Consulting for the preparation of Surface Mining and Reclamation Act reclamation plans and environmental documentation (\$510,000), with Director McKenney providing background and information relative to this expenditure.

Considerable discussion was held regarding the recruitment process for the new MET General Manager (and the differences of opinion on whether the OP&T or special committee would be a better avenue for this process).

METROPOLITAN'S 2020 INTEGRATED RESOURCES PLAN (IRP) DISCUSSION SERIES PART 5 – INTRODUCTION TO SCENARIO PLANNING AND CONTINUED LOCAL POLICY DISCUSSION

Mr. Demetri Polyzos (MET Senior Engineer), provided an overview of the 2020 IRP Scenario Planning and Outreach activities. His presentation included information regarding the IRP 2020 roadmap (whitepaper), the plan to identify policy questions, activities to date, lessons learned from a 25-year planning cycle (looking forward), and drivers of change (population, income levels, water use behavior, precipitation patterns, temperature, and sea rise level). Mr. Polyzos also outlined learning scenarios (develop narratives and quantitative assumptions that describe plausible futures), an outline of what a resource mix might appear like, adaptive management strategies, and a timeline for completion of these issues, as well as an outreach schedule.

Discussion ensued with specific emphasis on the trend analysis, adaptive management, the need to include technology as a driver of change, and the need to identify the meaning of supply reliability.

Mr. Brad Coffey (MET's Group Manager, Water Resource Management) then presented information regarding policy issues which will guide MET through the IRP process. These key policy issues included what level of water supply reliability should MET target for the region, whether MET should assume a new role in assuring that local agencies can fully access the regional network (resilience), what role should MET take in assisting the region to plan for an comply with water conservation legislation, how MET will account for member agency local supply plans and incorporate the potential Regional Recycled Water Program, and whether MET should continue to fund water efficiency and local projects at the same level as currently doing.

MWDOC's Principal Water Resources Analyst, Melissa Baum-Haley expanded on the presentations by outlining the results of the MWDOC IRP member agency survey and key themes from survey responses which included: future alternatives, reliability and resiliency, modeling and gap development, local priorities and demand management (conservation v. local projects).

Considerable discussion again ensued regarding reliability goals (reliability of imported supply or resource mix), dependence on the Delta, supply reliability, resiliency and reliability at the retail level, MET's role as a water supplier v. supplemental water supplier (Laguna Declaration), the status of the Delta Conveyance, the importance of desalination, the potential for stranded assets, and the important partnership between MET and its agencies.

The Board received and filed the presentations as presented.

UPDATE REGARDING METROPOLITAN'S BIENNIAL BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 20/21 AND 21/22

Principal Water Resource Analyst, Melissa Baum-Haley, provided an overview of MET's biennial budget adoption, Option 1 (with amendments) (3% increase for calendar year 2021, and a 4% increase for calendar year 2022, both effective January 1, 2021. Option 1 amendments directed staff to return to the MET Board in September with analysis on the following: an evaluation of unrealized staffing levels (only essential hires), eliminating advanced recruitment for overlapping positions, matching capital improvement to reflect actual slowdown of expenditures due to COVID-19, suspension of director inspection trips, suspension of fleet vehicle purchases, and strategic use of reserves and bond debt.

WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS UPDATE

The Board received and filed the staff report.

DELTA CONVEYANCE PROJECT ACTIVITIES UPDATE

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 April 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 10:37 a.m., Legal Counsel Byrne advised that the pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(4)(d), the Board would adjourn to closed session for a conference with legal counsel regarding anticipated litigation (one case).

RECONVENE

The Board reconvened at 10:59 a.m., and Legal Counsel Byrne announced that the Board unanimously voted to initiate litigation, and that the defendants and other particulars regarding the action will be disclosed to any person upon inquiry once MWDOC has formally commenced the action.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Maribeth Goldsby
Board Secretary