

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

September 2, 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

Vacant
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
Heather Baez, Government Affairs Manager
Joe Berg, Director of Water Use Efficiency Prog.
Vicki Osborn, Director of Emergency Management
Alex Heide, Water Resources Analyst

*Also MWDOC MET Director

OTHER MWDOC MET DIRECTORS

Larry McKenney
Linda Ackerman

OTHERS PRESENT

Adan Ortega
Steven Faessel
Abby Schneider
Dick Ackerman
Mark Monin
Jose Vergara
Dennis Cafferty
Doug Reinhart
Peer Swan
Paul Weghorst
Dave Youngblood
Jim Atkinson
Don Froelich
Kelly Rowe
Mike Markus
John Kennedy
Adam Hutchinson
Saundra Jacobs
Dan Ferons

City of Fullerton MET Director
City of Anaheim MET Director"
Metropolitan Water District of Southern Calif.
Ackerman Consulting
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Laguna Beach County Water District
Mesa Water
Moulton Niguel Water District
Orange County Water District
Orange County Water District
Orange County Water District
Orange County Water District
Orange County Water District
Santa Margarita Water District
Santa Margarita Water District

Jim Leach
Rick Erkeneff
Fernando Paludi
Brooke Jones
Wayne Miller
Al Nederhood
Megan Couch
D. Kirk
A. Sharkh

Santa Margarita Water District
South Coast Water District
Trabuco Canyon Water District
Yorba Linda Water District
Yorba Linda Water District
Yorba Linda Water District
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 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 distributed to the Board less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

ACTION ITEM

MWDOC COMMENT LETTER ON PUBLIC DRAFT OF THE FRANKS TRACT FUTURES REPORT, ENTITLED "FRANKS TRACT FUTURES 2020 REIMAGINED"

Assistant General Manager, Karl Seckel, provided an overview of the Franks Tract Futures Report, noting that Franks Tract is a 3,000-acre flooded island in the middle of the Delta and that various partners, led by the California Department of Fish & Wildlife (CDFW), are now proposing to restore about 1,000 acres of the Tract to tidal marsh. Franks Tract is not only a publicly-owned state recreation area but also one of the least subsided flooded islands in the central Delta, two conditions that make it a strong candidate for large, landscape scale restoration. Mr. Seckel stated that staff is suggesting the Board authorize a comment letter on the project (not direct participation), and he outlined a number of benefits from the project, with emphasis on reducing the number of conflicts in the Delta.

Director Dick raised concerns regarding the cost of the project (expensive and unknown how it will be funded), whether the cities of Anaheim, Santa Ana, and Fullerton are supportive, and the length of time outlined for completion of the project. Director Dick advised that he was hesitant to support without knowing the complete cost and who would be paying.

Director Ortega shared Director Dick's concerns, noting the need to outline the funding sources. Mr. Seckel advised that funding sources would be identified in the next phase of review.

Considerable discussion ensued, with emphasis on building the health of the Delta, the funding sources, the benefits (to MWDOC) in supporting environmental restoration, future flood control issues, and the importance of finding collaborative solutions to fix the Delta.

President Tamaribuchi advised that this item was not committing MWDOC to any financial participation, but expresses the desire to work together to improve the Delta. General Manager Hunter advised that comments were due later in the day.

Director Yoo Schneider made a MOTION, which was seconded by Director McVicker, to authorize sending the comment letter under President Tamaribuchi's signature (substantially in the form presented).

Discussion continued, and SMWD Director Jacobs suggested the letter be re-organized so that the issue on funding sources is moved to the top (from the end).

Director Dick confirmed that he could support the letter if it were made clear that it did not commit MWDOC to participation, and that it delineates that MWDOC supports the project, but not at any cost.

President Tamaribuchi suggested the letter be changed to incorporate the comments received (MWDOC supports environmental restoration, is concerned about the Delta, supports the concept of the project, but funding needs to be handled in an equitable manner, and the benefits handled accordingly). Assistant Manager Seckel advised that he would re-draft the letter incorporating the Board's comments.

By a vote of 6-0, Director Yoo Schneider's MOTION, which was seconded by Director McVicker, the Board authorized submittal of a comment letter under President Tamaribuchi's signature on the public draft of the Franks Tract Futures Report, entitled "Franks Tract Futures 2020 reimagined", as revised by the Board. The following roll call vote was taken:

AYES:	Directors 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 MET Finance & Insurance Committee's activities, including the public comments opposed to the property tax item, the Engineering & Operations Committee discussion regarding the Colorado River reduction in pump flows, the residential multi-family retrofit project, water sales due to heat (peaked at 60%), the MET General Manager recruitment process (selected Hawkins Company to conduct the recruitment), and the IRP process.

Director Ackerman expanded on the discussion regarding the Colorado River reduction in pump flows, as well as highlighting the Lake Skinner Solar facility.

Director Dick highlighted the upcoming MET Chair election, noting his support for Chair Gloria Gray serving an additional term.

Director Faessel concurred with all of the reports, noting his support for Chairman Gray.

Discussion ensued regarding the Local Resources Program (LRP) and the need to establish goals for the LRP program, and the IRP process. President Tamaribuchi noted that the South County group met and discussed MET issues and the importance of a developing a unified voice with respect to these two programs/processes. He suggested the representatives from Anaheim, Santa Ana, and Fullerton be included when developing such a message.

INTRODUCTION OF METROPOILTAN'S FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE – ABBY SCHNEIDER

MET's new Federal Legislative Representative, Abby Schneider, highlighted and updated the Board on several pieces of legislation, including the COVID-19 relief packages, S 4308 (Special Districts Provide Essential Services Act), HR 7163 (VA FOIA Reform Act of 2020), and HR 7575 (Water Resources Development Act of 2020). Ms. Schneider also noted that no appropriations have been released.

The Board welcomed Ms. Schneider and received and filed the report as presented.

METROPOLITAN'S 2020 INTEGRATED RESOURCES PLAN (IRP) DISCUSSION SERIES – PART 8

Principal Water Resources Analyst, Dr. Melissa Baum-Haley, advised that at the August 17, 2020 IRP Special Committee meeting, MET staff provided context and review on the purpose of the IRP and presented an associated white paper (included in the packet), to provide the MET Board a common understanding of the purpose, benefit, and uses of the 2020 IRP and to provide a basis for further discussion. She then presented an overview of the purposes of the IRP noting that it serves as a process and a plan, and serves as a building block for MET Board policies.

Dr. Baum-Haley's presentation included information on how the IRP will be used as a "Planning" document as a guideline for investments, reference point for accessing progress, understanding changing needs, determining how to cost-effectively address changing needs, and as a common basis for evaluating its portfolio. She also highlighted the issue of IRP targets versus program implementation (the reliability gap is made up of a diverse portfolio of actions and adaptive management). Looking forward, the IRP provides a long range view of future needs and evaluating current options and actions under different future scenarios. Dr. Baum-Haley reviewed the IRP process and timeline and how adaptive management fits into the process. She advised that in September, the MET Board will address defining scenarios.

Considerable discussion ensued with emphasis on adaptive management, drivers of change, scenario planning (how to better prepare), economic impacts, effects of demands, rate structure issues, and the importance of maintaining simplicity in the IRP for better understanding.

The Board received and filed the report.

INFORMATION ITEMS

DELTA CONVEYANCE ACTIVITIES

The Board received and filed the report that was included in the Board packet.

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 and Huntington Beach (Poseidon) Desalination Projects
- f. South County Projects

The Board received and filed the report as presented.

METROPOLITAN (MET) BOARD AND COMMITTEE AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS

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

The report was received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:27 a.m.

Maribeth Goldsby
Board Secretary