

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

January 6, 2021

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

Al Nederhood
Larry Dick*
Karl W. Seckel
Bob McVicker
Sat Tamaribuchi*
Jeffery M. Thomas
Megan Yoo Schneider

STAFF

Robert Hunter, General Manager
Harvey De La Torre, Assistant General Manager
Joe Byrne, Legal Counsel
Maribeth Goldsby, Board Secretary
Melissa Baum-Haley, Prin. Water Resource Analyst
Alex Heide, Water Resources Analyst
Chris Lingad, Associate Engineer
Kevin Hostert, Water Resources Analyst
Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs
Heather Baez, Government Affairs Manager
Joe Berg, Director of Water Use Efficiency Prog.
Vicki Osborn, Director of Emergency Management
Charles Busslinger, Principal Engineer

*Also MWDOC MET Directors

OTHER MWDOC MET DIRECTORS

Linda Ackerman

OTHERS PRESENT

Thai Phan
Larry McKenney
Syrus Devers
Dick Ackerman
Sara Tucker
Garrett Durst
Ed Means
John Lewis
Deven Upadhyay
Brad Coffey
Kathryn Freshley
Kay Havens
Mark Monin
Jose Vergara
Dennis Cafferty
Mike Dunbar
Toby Moore
Steve LaMar
Doug Reinhart
Peer Swan

City of Santa Ana

Best, Best & Krieger
Ackerman Consulting
NRR
NRR
Means Consulting
Lewis Consulting
Metropolitan Water District of Southern Calif.
Metropolitan Water District of Southern Calif.
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
Emerald Bay Service District
Golden State Water Company
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District

Paul Weghorst	Irvine Ranch Water District
Frank Prewoznik	Irvine Ranch Water District
Marina Lindsay	Irvine Ranch Water District
Jim Atkinson	Mesa Water
Stacy Taylor	Mesa Water
Dick Fiore	Moulton Niguel Water District
Don Froelich	Moulton Niguel Water District
Joone Lopez	Moulton Niguel Water District
Jose Solorio	Moulton Niguel Water District
Sherry Wanninger	Moulton Niguel Water District
Matt Collings	Moulton Niguel Water District
Laura Rocha	Moulton Niguel Water District
Johnathan Cruz	Moulton Niguel Water District
Kelly Rowe	Orange County Water District
Mike Markus	Orange County Water District
John Kennedy	Orange County Water District
Adam Hutchinson	Orange County Water District
Alicia Dunkin	Orange County Water District
Chuck Gibson	Santa Margarita Water District
Sandra Jacobs	Santa Margarita Water District
Justin McCusker	Santa Margarita Water District
Betty Olson	Santa Margarita Water District
Dan Ferons	Santa Margarita Water District
Robert Grantham	Santa Margarita Water District
Jim Leach	Santa Margarita Water District
Dennis Erdman	South Coast Water District
Rick Erkeneff	South Coast Water District
Bill Green	South Coast Water District
Rick Shintaku	South Coast Water District
Fernando Paludi	Trabuco Canyon Water District
Brooke Jones	Yorba Linda Water District
Wayne Miller	Yorba Linda Water District
Kristy Khachigian	KK Consulting
Megan Couch	San Diego County Water Authority
Madeline Chen	

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

SMWD Director Jacobs announced that the South County Agencies formed a Nominating Committee to review potential candidates for the MWDOC MET Director vacancy (as a result of Larry McKenney’s resignation from the MET Board).

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.

General Manager Hunter advised that the presentation materials for Item No. 3 on the agenda (MET Staff update regarding the Southern Nevada Water Authority Partnership, Delta Conveyance Activities, 2020 IRP status, and upcoming issues for 2021) were distributed to the Board and made available to the public.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF MWDOC/MET DIRECTOR LARRY MCKENNEY

Due to Larry McKenney's resignation as MWDOC MET Director, President Tamaribuchi, the Board, and member agencies honored Mr. McKenney with commendations, resolutions, and gifts. Following the presentations, several attendees expressed well-wishes to Mr. McKenney in his new role as General Manager of Amador Water Agency.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES**a. Federal Legislative Report (NRR)**

Ms. Sara Tucker and Mr. Garrett Durst of NRR introduced themselves to the Board as MWDOC's new federal advocacy representatives.

Ms. Tucker then reviewed the results of the recent elections in Georgia, as well as President Biden's appointments, and the current make-up of the House and Senate.

Mr. Durst highlighted (1) the Omnibus appropriations bills, which provided funding for a number of MWDOC support projects including \$11.67 million for the Doheny Ocean Desalination Project, and (2) the Western Water package (also included in the omnibus, and it increases the authorization ceiling for the WaterSMART program by \$170 million).

Both Ms. Tucker and Ms. Durst advised that they would be coordinating closely with ACWA Federal Affairs Committee, would engage with MWDOC's legislative delegation on MWDOC issues, and would notify MWDOC if any potential conflicts of interests were identified with NRR and other clients.

Considerable discussion ensued regarding the Doheny Project, the Desalination Development Act (of which Director Yoo Schneider agreed to facilitate a discussion if necessary), the importance of coordinating with the ACWA Federal Affairs Committee, the importance of salinity control in the Colorado River, and the need to set meetings with MWDOC's the newly elected legislative delegation.

The Board received and filed the report.

b. State Legislative Report**c. MWDOC Legislative Matrix**

Mr. Syrus Devers of BBK, reviewed his report which was included in the packet, highlighting issues relating to the pandemic emergency relief, the SWRCB report re reservoir capacity, membership changes to the Assembly Water Policy Committee, and he noted that Assemblywoman Janet Nguyen was appointed to the Water, Parks, & Wildlife Committee.

The Board received and filed the report.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEMS

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

President Tamaribuchi welcomed MET Director Thai Phan (MET Director for Santa Ana) to the meeting, and thanked Santa Ana's former MET Director, Jose Solorio, for his service as a MET Director.

Director Ackerman highlighted the recent RFP for technical services relating to the rate refinement process, noting that A&N Technical Services was awarded the contract. She provided an overview of the proposed rate refinement process (meetings will be held with the Board and member agencies, etc.). She also highlighted that the MET Board approved the COVID-19 Member Agency Payment Deferral Program.

Director Dick advised that MET's continued focus remains on the Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) and Local Resources Program (LRP). He also highlighted MET's Committee appointment process.

President Tamaribuchi reported that the MET Board approved agreements regarding the Storm Water Pilot Program, as well as agricultural lease extensions in areas commonly known as Bacon Island and the eastern portions of Bouldin Island in the Delta.

Following discussion, the Board received and filed the report.

METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA STAFF UPDATE BY DEVEN UPADHYAY REGARDING THE SOUTHERN NEVADA WATER AUTHORITY PARTNERSHIP, DELTA CONVEYANCE ACTIVITIES, 2020 INTEGRATED RESOURCES PLAN STATUS, AND UPCOMING ISSUES FOR 2021

Mr. Deven Upadhyay (MET's Assistant General Manager/Chief Operating Officer), presented an overview of MET activities, including the recent MET Board decisions (support for Delta Conveyance costs and the Southern Nevada funding agreement), a recap of 2020 supply conditions, and an update on the IRP discussions.

Considerable discussion ensued with emphasis on the Southern Nevada funding agreement and potential partnerships, enhanced reliability and regional benefits, the status of water storage, and the IRP scenarios (and how demand would affect each scenario).

President Tamaribuchi thanked Mr. Upadhyay for the information and the Board received and filed the report.

INFORMATION ITEMS

MWD ITEMS CRITICAL TO ORANGE COUNTY

- a. MET's Finance and Rate Issues
- b. MET's General Manager Recruitment Process
- c. MET's Water Supply Conditions

- d. Colorado River Issues
- e. Delta Conveyance Activities and State Water Project Issues

The Board received and filed the report as presented.

METROPOLITAN (MET) BOARD AND COMMITTEE AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS

- a. Summaries regarding the November and December MET Board Meetings
- 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 10:49 a.m.

Maribeth Goldsby
Board Secretary