

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

June 1, 2022

At 8:30 a.m., President Yoo Schneider called to order the Regular Meeting of the Municipal Water District of Orange County via the Zoom Webinar application (due to the current state of emergency related to the spread of COVID-19 and pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)). Director Erdman led the Pledge of Allegiance and 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 (absent)
Harvey De La Torre, Asst. Gen. Mgr.
Joe Byrne, Legal Counsel
Maribeth Goldsby, Board Secretary
Melissa Baum-Haley, Prin. Water Resource Analyst
Alex Heide, Water Resources Analyst
Charles Busslinger, Dir. of Engineering/Dist. Eng.
Kevin Hostert, Water Resources Analyst
Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs
Chris Lingad, Associate Engineer
Joe Berg, Director of Water Use Efficiency
Vicki Osborn, Director of Emergency Management

*Also MWDOC MET Directors

OTHER MWDOC MET DIRECTORS

Linda Ackerman
Dennis Erdman

OTHERS PRESENT

Nina Hawk
George Nishikawa
Sara Tucker
Garrett Durst
Syrus Devers
Dick Ackerman
Ed Means
Dave Youngblood
Kathryn Freshley
Kay Havens
Mark Monin
Dennis Cafferty
Mike Dunbar
Ken Vecchiarelli
Doug Reinhart
Peer Swan
Paul Cook
Paul Weghorst
Frank Prewoznik

Metropolitan Water District of So. Calif.
Metropolitan Water District of So. Calif.
NRR
NRR
Best, Best & Krieger
Ackerman Consulting
Means Consulting
East Orange County 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
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District

Stacy Taylor
 Dick Fiore
 Bill Moorhead
 Sherry Wanninger
 Jose Solorio
 Laura Rocha
 Kelly Rowe
 Mike Markus
 John Kennedy
 Chuck Gibson
 Sandra Jacobs
 Frank Ury
 Jim Leach
 Chip Monaco
 Greg Mills
 Brad Reese
 Rick Erkeneff
 Rick Shintaku
 Fernando Paludi
 Brooke Jones
 Lisa Ohlund
 Paul Jones
 Megan Couch
 Kristy Khachigian

Mesa Water
 Moulton Niguel Water District
 Moulton Niguel Water District
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 Moulton Niguel Water District
 Moulton Niguel 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
 Santa Margarita Water District
 Santa Margarita Water District
 Santa Margarita Water District
 Serrano Water District
 Serrano Water District
 South Coast Water District
 South Coast Water District
 Trabuco Canyon Water District
 Yorba Linda Water District
 Ohlund Management & Technical Services
 Dopudja & Wells Consulting
 San Diego County Water Authority
 KK Consulting

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC COMMENTS

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

OCWD Director Kelly Rowe referenced the relationship between MWDOC and OCWD, highlighting the 1986 Resolution between the two agencies, and the two recent letters OCWD sent to MWDOC (MET priorities and MWDOC Reserves); he noted OCWD’s desire to have more involvement in MET issues.

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

No items were reported.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**PRESENTATION BY MET STAFF REGARDING THE BAY-DELTA POLICY PRINCIPLES**

Ms. Nina Hawk, MET Policy Manager Bay-Delta Initiatives, provided an overview of the Policy Principles regarding the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Bay-Delta, which included an overview of the background (and existing) Bay-Delta policies which consist of four central themes: long term sustainable Delta, promoting statewide integrated resource management actions consistent with MET's IRP, long-term solutions (cost effectiveness and fairly apportioned costs), and continued implementation and protection of drinking water supplies and quality facility improvements. Ms. Hawk also provided background information on MET's research and staff workshops, an overview of the Bay-Delta policy development efforts (and framework) which include six policy areas: statewide water resource management, Bay-Delta science, watershed management and land use, Bay-Delta operational resilience, infrastructure reliability, community investments and partnerships, and statewide resource management supporting MET's "One Water Metropolitan" efforts.

Following her presentation, discussion ensued with emphasis on the need to move at an advanced pace to address the issues and establish a future vision, storage, quantification of water rights, voluntary agreements, flow budgets, salinity control, fisheries improvements, seismic resilience, rate revisions, AND the proposed timeline (and reasons around the timeline). Several audience members commented that the process is complex and somewhat confusing and requires better focus and simplification. It was noted the MET Water Planning & Stewardship Committee would discuss this item on June 13, 2022.

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

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

Ms. Sara Tucker (NRR) provided an overview of her report included in the packet, highlighting the Western Water legislation, legislation/bills included in the STREAM Act, S.4232 (Kelly) regarding Hydropower, S.2693 (Salton Sea Project Improvement Act), S.2334 (Water Recycling & Drought Resiliency), the Colorado River activities, and salinity control.

Mr. Garrett Durst (NRR) highlighted the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), the Western Water legislation, the WEROC earmark funding, and Congressman Levin's desalination research bill. Responding to an inquiry by Director Dick, Mr. Durst advised that the WEROC funding should be appropriated during the first quarter 2023.

The Board received and filed the report.

b. State Legislative Report

Mr. Syrus Devers of BBK, reviewed his report, highlighting AB 2639 (Quirk), and Sites Reservoir activities.

Following discussion, the Board received and filed the report.

c. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)

Mr. Dick Ackerman referenced his report, highlighting UC Berkeley's study to explore the long-term effects of chlorine, and the potential for the Coastal Commission to expand its power. Responding to a question by Director Dick, he advised he would research whether there was any new legislation affecting the use of pesticides.

The Board received and filed the report.

- d. MWDOC Legislative Matrix**
- e. Metropolitan Legislative Matrix**

The Board received and filed the reports.

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

Director Ackerman provided updates on the following issues: MET will be resuming its inspection trips, MET voted to support the Voluntary Agreements, MET's long-time auditor (Gerry Riss) retired, the State Water Project Plan, operational pumping, and MET's response to the State's audit (posted on MET's website).

Director Dick highlighted Delta activities, and the importance of securing additional water supplies. He also noted that the MET Board would streamline the July Board meetings by only holding meetings on one day-July 12).

Director Tamaribuchi highlighted MET's One Water Committee activities, and the IRP Implementation Plan, noting he believes it is the most important document before the MET Board and should take precedence over the Delta Policy Principles. He also noted the importance and need for a long range financial model.

Directors Erdman advised he would be attending MET's tour of the Delta.

ACTION ITEMS

APPROVE CONTINUATION OF REMOTE MEETINGS PURSUANT TO AB 361 AND MAKE REQUIRED FINDINGS

Upon MOTION by Director Seckel, seconded by Director Dick, and carried (7-0), the Board voted to continue virtual meetings pursuant to AB 361 for an additional 30 days based on the findings that (1) it has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency for COVID-19, and (2) state and local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors Nederhood, Dick, McVicker, Seckel, Tamaribuchi, Thomas and Yoo Schneider

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

H.R. 7612 (LEVIN) – DESALINATION RESEARCH ADVANCEMENT ACT

Upon MOTION by Director Tamaribuchi, seconded by Director Thomas, and carried (7-0), the Board adopted a Support position on H.R. 7612 (Levin, D-CA and Mace, R-SC) and authorized a letter be sent to the authors' office and Orange County delegation, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors Nederhood, Dick, McVicker, Seckel, Tamaribuchi, Thomas and Yoo Schneider
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: None
 ABSTAIN: None

S. 4231 (FEINSTEIN) – SUPPORT TO REHYDRATE THE ENVIRONMENT, AGRICULTURE, AND MUNICIPALITIES (STREAM) ACT

Upon MOTION by Director Seckel, seconded by Director Tamaribuchi, and carried (7-0), the Board adopted a Support position on S. 4231 (Feinstein) and authorized a letter be sent to the author's office and Orange County delegation, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Directors Nederhood, Dick, McVicker, Seckel, Tamaribuchi, Thomas and Yoo Schneider
 NOES: None
 ABSENT: None
 ABSTAIN: None

INFORMATION ITEMS

MWD ITEMS CRITICAL TO ORANGE COUNTY

- a. MET Finance and Rate Issues
- b. MET Integrated Resources Plan Update
- c. MET Water Supply Conditions Update
- d. Water Quality Update
- e. Colorado River Issues
- f. 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. Summary regarding the March MET Board Meeting
- b. MET 4-Month Outlook on Upcoming Issues
- c. Review items of significance for the upcoming MET Board and Committee Agendas

Director Seckel commented on the 4-month outlook, noting he did not see any information relative to the IRP or Long-Range Finance Plan.

Mr. Paul Jones also commented on the 4-month outlook, noting that with respect to the Water Use Efficiency activities, the emergency authorization did not allow for modifications relative to Orange County (disproportionate effect on OC).

The report was received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:07 a.m.

Maribeth Goldsby
Board Secretary