

**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 2, 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 Nederhood 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
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
Chris Lingad, Associate Engineer
Kevin Hostert, Water Resources Analyst
Joe Berg, Director of Water Use Efficiency
Charles Busslinger, Dir. of Engineering/Dist. Eng.
Heather Baez, Governmental Affairs Manager
Vicki Osborn, Director of Emergency Management
Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs
Rachel Waite, Sr. WUE Analyst

*Also MWDOC MET Directors

OTHER MWDOC MET DIRECTORS

Linda Ackerman
Dennis Erdman

OTHERS PRESENT

Christine Compton
Brad Coffey
Sara Tucker
Garrett Durst
Syrus Devers
Dick Ackerman
Ed Means
Doug Davert
Kathryn Freshley
Kay Havens
Mike Gaskins
Mark Monin
Jose Vergara
Doug Reinhart
Paul Weghorst
Frank Prewoznik

Aleshire & Wynder
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
El Toro Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District

Dick Fiore	Moulton Niguel Water District
Bill Moorhead	Moulton Niguel Water District
Sherry Wanninger	Moulton Niguel Water District
Drew Atwater	Moulton Niguel Water District
Laura Rocha	Moulton Niguel Water District
Kelly Rowe	Orange County Water District
Greg Mills	Serrano Water District
Brad Reese	Serrano Water District
Chuck Gibson	Santa Margarita Water District
Sandra Jacobs	Santa Margarita Water District
Betty Olson	Santa Margarita Water District
Dan Ferons	Santa Margarita Water District
Don Bunts	Santa Margarita Water District
Jim Leach	Santa Margarita Water District
Chip Monaco	Santa Margarita Water District
Bill Green	South Coast Water District
Rick Shintaku	South Coast Water District
Brooke Jones	Yorba Linda Water District
Lisa Ohlund	Ohlund Management & Technical Services
Kristy Khachigian	KK Consulting
Megan Couch	San Diego County Water Authority
Paul Jones	Dopudja & Wells Consulting

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC COMMENTS

President Yoo Schneider 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 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.

ACTION ITEMS

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

General Manager Hunter advised that the provisions outlined in AB 361 authorizing remote meetings do not expire until January 2024, assuming a state of emergency is in effect.

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

AB 1845 (CALDERON) – METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA: ALTERNATIVE PROJECT DELIVERY METHODS

Upon MOTION by Director Dick, seconded by Director Seckel, and carried (7-0), the Board adopted a Support position on AB 1845 (Calderon) and authorized joining Metropolitan's coalition letter, by the following roll call vote:

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

AB 2142 (GABRIEL) – INCOME TAXES: TURF REPLACEMENT, WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Upon MOTION by Director Seckel, seconded by Director Nederhood, and carried (7-0), the Board adopted a Support position on AB 2142 (Gabriel) and authorized joining ACWA, the bill sponsor's coalition, and authorized sending a letter to the 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

SB 1157 (HERTZBERG) – URBAN WATER USE OBJECTIVES: INDOOR RESIDENTIAL WATER USE

President Yoo Schneider advised that the proposal to adopt an Oppose Unless Amended position on SB 1157 (Hertzberg) was before the Board for consideration.

Discussion ensued regarding the reasons why an Oppose Unless Amended position is recommended, as well as concerns with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) water use studies report.

Upon MOTION by Director Seckel, seconded by Director Thomas, and carried (7-0), the Board adopted an Oppose Unless Amended position on SB 1157 (Hertzberg), by the following roll call vote:

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

CONSIDERATION OF A SUPPORT POSITION FOR THE DOHENY OCEAN DESALINATION PROJECT

Upon MOTION by Director Dick, seconded by Director McVicker, and carried (7-0), the Board adopted a support position for the Doheny Ocean Desalination Project by the following roll call vote:

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

Discussion ensued regarding MET's position/stance on this project, with MET Directors noting it would be considered under the Local Resources Program (LRP) project proposals.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

a. Federal Legislative Report (NRR)

Ms. Sara Tucker (NRR) provided an overview of her report included in the packet, highlighting the appropriations process, the President's budget, infrastructure activities, PFAS drinking water regulations, and Colorado River/salinity control activities, noting that although the Paradox injection well is still not in operation, Reclamation is moving toward initiating a new six-month injection test with the goal of testing late spring or early summer which could lead to the well being turned on (at reduced flow) in the summer of 2022.

The Board received and filed the report.

b. State Legislative Report

Mr. Syrus Devers of BBK, reviewed his report, highlighting drought issues and the Assembly Water Policy Committee activities.

The Board received and filed the report.

c. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)

Mr. Dick Ackerman reviewed his report, highlighting the research surrounding the Mega Drought 2022 BC, the Skolkovo Institute of Science in Russia (MIT satellite campus) research regarding the origin of water on earth, and a recent article in the *San Diego Tribune* on why San Diego ratepayers pay more for water (than anywhere else in Southern California). It was noted the article would be sent to the Board.

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

No new issues were presented.

PRESENTATION BY STAFF REGARDING MET'S INTEGRATED RESOURCES PLAN (IRP) NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Principal Water Resource Analyst, Dr. Melissa Baum-Haley, updated the Board on MET's IRP process, noting that it has been a two-year process broken down into two phases – (1) the Needs Assessment and (2) the Implementation Process.

Dr. Baum-Haley then provided an overview of the Needs Assessment Phase. The information she presented included overviews of the IRP scenarios, supply/demand forecasting modeling components, demand forecasting, portfolio planning building blocks, the reliability assessment process, and initial findings and observations, as well as areas still under review (State Water Project dependent areas, storage, demand management, imported supplies and local supplies). Dr. Baum-Haley concluded her report with an overview of the next steps, noting MET Board approval is anticipated in April 2022 after which Metropolitan will begin a collaborative IRP implementation phase and adaptive management plan to identify specific actions informed by the needs assessment findings.

Discussion ensued regarding the Adaptive Management Plan and sign posts (Phase 2), concerns with how MET handled the process (complex issues, complicated process, unclear assumptions), affordability issues and financial consequences, and connections between the IRP and the General Manager's strategic goals.

Following discussion, the Board received and filed the report.

INFORMATION ITEMS

WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS UPDATE

Following a brief discussion on the reduced Table "A" allocations (from 10% to 5%), the Board received and filed the report as presented.

MWD ITEMS CRITICAL TO ORANGE COUNTY

- a. MET Finance and Rate Issues
- b. MET Integrated Resources Plan Update
- c. MET 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. Summary regarding the February 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 10:24 a.m.

Maribeth Goldsby
Board Secretary