# MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY June 15, 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)). Following a moment of silence in memory of OCWD Director Cathy Green's late husband, Peter Green, Director Dick led the Pledge of Allegiance and Secretary Goldsby called the roll.

#### **MWDOC DIRECTORS**

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

#### **STAFF**

Robert Hunter, General Manager Harvey De La Torre, Assist. GM Joe Byrne, Legal Counsel

Maribeth Goldsby, Board Secretary

Melissa Baum-Haley, Prin. Water Resources Analyst

Heather Baez, Governmental Affairs Manager

Alex Heide, Water Resource Analyst Cathy Harris, Dir. of HR & Administration Kevin Hostert, Water Resources Analyst Charles Busslinger, Principal Engineer Hilary Chumpitazi, Accounting Manager Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs

Vicki Osborn, Director of Emergency Management

Chris Lingad, Associate Engineer

Steve Hedges, WUE Programs Supervisor

#### **ALSO PRESENT**

Christine Carson Dennis Erdman Linda Ackerman Kathryn Freshley Mike Gaskins Kay Havens Jose Vergara Peer Swan Doug Reinhart Paul Weghorst Stacy Taylor Dick Fiore Diane Rifkin **Sherry Wanninger** Kelly Rowe John Kennedy Chuck Gibson Saundra Jacobs Justin McCusker Frank Ury Jim Leach Chip Monaco

Aleshire & Wynder
MWDOC/MET Director
MWDOC/MET Director
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 Moulton Niguel Water District Orange County Water District Orange County Water District Santa Margarita Water District

Rick Shintaku

Glen Acosta

Fernando Paludi

Brooke Jones

Tom Lindsey

Wayne Miller

Dick Ackerman

South Coast Water District

Trabuco Canyon Water District

Yorba Linda Water District

Yorba Linda Water District

Yorba Linda Water District

Ackerman Consulting

Paul Jones Dopudia & Wells Consulting

Lisa Ohlund Management & Technical Services

Kristy Khachigian KK Consulting

Charles Luas

#### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC COMMENT

President Yoo Schneider announced that members of the public wishing to comment on agenda items could do so after the item has been discussed by the Board and requested members of the public identify themselves when called on. Ms. Yoo Schneider asked whether any member of the public had any comments on items that are not on the agenda.

No public comments were received.

#### ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED

No items were received.

#### 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 distributed.

#### **EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARD**

Director of Water Use Efficiency Joe Berg presented an award to Steve Hedges (Water Use Efficiency Programs Supervisor) for twenty-five years of service to the District.

#### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

President Yoo Schneider stated all matters under the Consent Calendar would be approved by one MOTION unless a Director wished to consider an item separately.

Upon MOTION by Director Thomas, seconded by Director Seckel, and carried (7-0) the Board approved the Consent Calendar items, by the following roll call vote:

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

Yoo Schneider

NOES: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

#### **MINUTES**

The following minutes were approved.

May 4, 2022 Adjourned Workshop Board Meeting May 18, 2022 Regular Board Meeting

#### **COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**

The following Committee Meeting reports were received and filed as presented.

Planning & Operations Committee Meeting: May 2, 2022
Administration & Finance Committee Meeting: May 11, 2022
Executive Committee Meeting: May 19, 2022

#### TREASURER'S REPORTS

The following items were ratified and approved as presented.

MWDOC Revenue/Cash Receipt Register as of May 31, 2022 MWDOC Disbursement Registers (May/June)

The following items were received and filed as presented.

MWDOC Summary of Cash and Investment and Portfolio Master Summary Report (Cash and Investment report) as of April 30, 2022

PARS Monthly Statement (OPEB Trust)

#### **FINANCIAL REPORT**

The following item was received and filed as presented.

Combined Financial Statements and Budget Comparative for the Period ending April 30, 2022

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

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.

#### **EXTENSION OF CONSULTING CONTRACT WITH ACKERMAN CONSULTING**

The Board authorized the extension of the contract for one-year with Ackerman Consulting for specialized services.

### APPROVE CONTRACT FOR CONSULTING SERVICES ON METROPOLITAN STRATEGIC ISSUES AND PRIORITIES

The Board approved a contract with Paul Jones of Dopudja & Wells Consulting, for consulting services on Metropolitan Strategic issues and priorities.

#### PARTICIPATION IN SOLVE THE WATER CRISIS COALITION

The Board authorized the General Manager to have MWDOC become a participating member in the Solve the Water Crisis Coalition.

#### - END CONSENT CALENDAR -

#### **ACTION CALENDAR**

## HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE - WEROC EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER - APPROVAL OF 25% LOCAL NON-FEDERAL MATCH FUNDING

President Yoo Schneider advised that the Administration & Finance Committee recommended this item be presented to the Board for action (approving MWDOC underwriting the remaining 25% local cost share requirement for non-federal funds to pay for the WEROC Emergency Operations Center) for consideration. She advised that the proposed action provides the opportunity to pursue federal grant funding, but does not bind the District to payment until funds are received.

Upon MOTION by Director Seckel, seconded by Director Dick, and carried (7-0), the Board approved MWDOC underwriting the remaining 25% local cost share requirement for non-federal funds (Option 1) to pay for the WEROC Emergency Operations Center, by the following roll call vote:

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

Yoo Schneider

NOES: None ABSENT: None ABSTAIN: None

#### **INFORMATION CALENDAR**

#### **GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT, JUNE 2022**

Assistant General Manager De La Torre advised that the General Manager's report was included in the Board packet.

Board received and filed the report as presented.

#### **MWDOC GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### a. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board members each reported on their attendance at the regular (and special) MWDOC Board and Committee meetings. In addition to these meetings, the following reports were made on conferences and meetings attended on behalf of the District.

Director Nederhood advised that he attended all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), the YLWD dedication of the PFAS treatment plant, the California Coastal Commission hearing regarding the Poseidon Project, the WACO and WACO planning meetings, two YLWD meetings, and the ACWA Spring Conference.

Director Dick reported on attending all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Regular Board meeting) the regularly scheduled MET Board and Committee meetings, four MET ad hoc committee meetings (regarding legal issues), MWDOC/MET Director meeting(s), the WACO meeting, the ISDOC Executive Committee, a meeting with Scott Maloni regarding the Poseidon Project, and the MET Caucus.

Director McVicker reported that he attended all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop Board meeting and Regular Board meetings), the OC Water Summit planning meetings (2), the WACO meeting, the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting, the MET Committee meetings, and the OCBC Infrastructure Committee meeting.

Director Seckel advised that he attended the most of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings for April and May (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop Board meeting). He stated he attended the following meetings in April: MET Board and Committee meetings, a meeting with the City of Huntington Beach staff, participated in the Wyland Foundation's Stella unveiling at the Huntington Beach pier, the WACO and WACO Planning meetings, OC Water Summit planning meeting(s), the MET Special Board meeting, the PPIC event, and a meeting with Natural Resource Results re salinity issues. In May he attended: the MET Board and Committee meetings, the OC Water Summit planning meeting, the ACWA Spring Conference, and the Mesa Water Board meeting.

Director Tamaribuchi reported on attending the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), the regularly scheduled MET Board and Committee meetings, the MET State Water Project inspection trip, MET's Environmental Listening session, the WACO meeting, the MWDOC/MET Director meetings, the MET Caucus, the OCBC Infrastructure Committee meeting, and a meeting with MET and MWDOC public affairs staff regarding the Delta activities.

Director Thomas stated that he attended most of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (the Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), the WACO meeting, and two OC Water Summit planning meetings.

Director Yoo Schneider advised that she attended all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), the Water Environment Federation (WEF) Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Board Committee meeting, the LBCWD Board and Commission meetings, the AWWA Safe Drinking Water Act Processes Technical Advisory Group meeting, the ACWA Diversity, Equity & Inclusion meeting, the South Orange County Watershed Management Area Executive Committee meeting, a meeting with the President of SCWD, and the San Juan Capistrano Coffee Chat event.

#### a. REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

It was noted that a presentation regarding Colorado River conditions would be made at the July 6, 2022 Workshop Board meeting.

#### **CLOSED SESSION ITEMS**

At 9:11 a.m., Legal Counsel Byrne announced that the Board would adjourn to closed session to discuss the following items with Legal Counsel Carson:

#### **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION**

Pursuant to Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9. One Case: San Diego County Water Authority v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; all persons interested in the validity of the rates adopted by the Metropolitan Water of Southern California on April 8, 2014, et al., former Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BC547139, transferred on December 2, 2014, to San Francisco Superior Court, now Case No. CPF-14-514004.

#### **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION**

Pursuant to Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9. One Case: San Diego County Water Authority v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; all persons interested in the validity of the rates adopted by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California on April 12, 2016, effective January 1, 2017 and January 1, 2018, et al., former Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BS161729, transferred to San Francisco Superior Court, now Case CPF-16-515282.

#### **CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL - EXISTING LITIGATION**

Pursuant to Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9. One Case: San Diego County Water Authority v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California; all persons interested in the validity of the rates adopted by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California on April 10, 2018 to be effective January 1, 2019, and Jan. 1, 2020, et al., Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BS 173868, Transferred to San Francisco Superior Court, now Case CPF-18-516389.

(Director Dick left the meeting at 9:13 a.m.)

(President Yoo Schneider left the meeting at 9:34 a.m., and Vice President McVicker assumed the Chair position).

#### **RECONVENE**

The Board reconvened at 9:51 a.m., and Legal Counsel Carson announced that the Board approved an amendment to the Aleshire & Wynder Professional Services Contract. She advised that said action was moved by Director Thomas, seconded by Director Seckel, and carried (6-0) by the following roll call vote:

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

Schneider

NOES: None

ABSENT: Director Dick

ABSTAIN: None

Ms. Carson explained the Board voted in closed session to approve an amendment to the contract with Aleshire & Wynder for litigation services for the San Diego v. Metropolitan cases which would increase the hourly rate which had not been increased for several years. However, it would also allow a 6-way cost-split among Aleshire & Wynder clients in the case for work done for all 6 clients; for any work done for all 6 clients, MWDOC would only be charged for one-sixth of the time.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Yoo Schneider adjourned the meeting at 9:54 a.m.

| Respectfully submitted,     |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
|                             |  |
| Maribeth Goldsby, Secretary |  |