

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY

Jointly with the

PLANNING & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

August 1, 2022, 8:30 a.m.

Due to the current state of emergency related to the spread of COVID-19 and pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e), MWDOC will be holding this Board and Committee meeting by Zoom Webinar and will be available by either computer or telephone audio as follows:

Computer Audio: You can join the Zoom meeting by clicking on the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/8828665300>

Telephone Audio: (669) 900 9128 fees may apply
(877) 853 5247 Toll-free

Webinar ID: 882 866 5300#

P&O Committee:

Director Tamaribuchi, Chair
Director McVicker
Director Nederhood

Staff: R. Hunter, J. Berg, V. Osborn,
H. De La Torre, T. Dubuque,
D. Micalizzi, H. Baez, T. Baca

Ex Officio Member: Director Yoo Schneider

MWDOC Committee meetings are noticed and held as joint meetings of the Committee and the entire Board of Directors and all members of the Board of Directors may attend and participate in the discussion. Each Committee has designated Committee members, and other members of the Board are designated alternate committee members. If less than a quorum of the full Board is in attendance, the Board meeting will be adjourned for lack of a quorum and the meeting will proceed as a meeting of the Committee with those Committee members and alternate members in attendance acting as the Committee.

ROLL CALL

PUBLIC COMMENTS - Public comments on agenda items and items under the jurisdiction of the Committee should be made at this time.

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED - Determine there is a need to take immediate action on item(s) and that the need for action came to the attention of the District subsequent to the posting of the Agenda. (Requires a unanimous vote of the Committee)

ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO THE BOARD LESS THAN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO MEETING -- Pursuant to Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Board less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection in the lobby of the District's business office located at 18700 Ward Street, Fountain Valley, California 92708, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the District's Internet Web site, accessible at <http://www.mwdoc.com>.

PRESENTATION ITEM

1. PRESENTATION BY SUSAN KENNEDY (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CADIZ)
REGARDING THE CADIZ PROJECT

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. UPDATE ON COVID-19 (ORAL REPORT)

INFORMATION ITEMS (The following items are for informational purposes only – background information is included in the packet. Discussion is not necessary unless requested by a Director.)

3. UPDATE REGARDING MWDOC MEMBER AGENCY FACILITATED DISCUSSIONS

4. 2022 OC WATER SUMMIT UPDATE

5. STATUS REPORTS

- a. Ongoing MWDOC Reliability and Engineering/Planning Projects
- b. WEROC
- c. Water Use Efficiency Projects
- d. Public and Government Affairs

6. REVIEW OF ISSUES RELATED TO PLANNING OR ENGINEERING PROJECTS, WEROC, WATER USE EFFICIENCY, FACILITY AND EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE, WATER STORAGE, WATER QUALITY, CONJUNCTIVE USE PROGRAMS, EDUCATION, PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMS AND EVENTS, PUBLIC INFORMATION PROJECTS, PUBLIC INFORMATION CONSULTANTS, DISTRICT FACILITIES, and MEMBER-AGENCY RELATIONS

ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: At the discretion of the Committee, all items appearing on this agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated, and may be subject to action by the Committee. On those items designated for Board action, the Committee reviews the items and makes a recommendation for final action to the full Board of Directors; final action will be taken by the Board of Directors. Agendas for Committee and Board meetings may be obtained from the District Secretary. Members of the public are advised that the Board consideration process includes consideration of each agenda item by one or more Committees indicated on the Board Action Sheet. Attendance at Committee meetings and the Board meeting considering an item consequently is advised.

Accommodations for the Disabled. Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary, at (714) 963-3058, or writing to Municipal Water District of Orange County at P.O. Box 20895, Fountain Valley, CA 92728. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that District staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodation should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the District to provide the requested accommodation.



COMMITTEE PRESENTATION ITEM

August 1, 2022

TO: Planning & Operations Committee
(Directors Tamaribuchi, McVicker, Nederhood)

FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager

Staff Contact: Harvey De La Torre, Assistant General Manager

**SUBJECT: PRESENTATION BY SUSAN KENNEDY (EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CADIZ)
REGARDING THE CADIZ PROJECT**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Planning & Operations Committee receive presentation and review and discuss the information presented.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

SUMMARY

At a recent meeting, Director Sandra Jacobs (SMWD) asked that the MWDOC Board consider agendizing a presentation regarding the Cadiz Project. As a result, the Executive Committee asked that staff arrange the presentation and as such, Ms. Susan Kennedy (Executive Director of Cadiz), will provide information regarding the Cadiz Project and its progress.

Budgeted (Y/N):	Budgeted amount: n/a	Core	
Action item amount: n/a	Line item:		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			



INFORMATION ITEM

August 1, 2022

TO: Planning & Operations Committee
(Directors Tamaribuchi, McVicker, Nederhood)

FROM: Robert Hunter, General Manager

Staff Contact: Harvey De La Torre, Assistant General Manager

SUBJECT: UPDATE REGARDING MWDOC MEMBER AGENCY FACILITATED DISCUSSIONS

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Planning & Operations Committee receive and file this report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

Committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

REPORT

Thus far, MWDOC held two member agency facilitated discussion workgroup meetings (June 30 and July 25) as part of Phase II. Mr. Paul Brown, of Paul Redvers Brown Inc. is facilitating the workgroup meeting discussions to encourage a productive dialogue among all the member agencies throughout the process to ensure all of the issues and concerns are incorporated.

Workgroup Meeting #1

The first workgroup meeting kicked off the process by seeking to build off the input received from the interviews and discussions with the member agencies from Phase I. In addition, there was a robust discussion on the approach and scope for better defining MWDOC's role and responsibility in Orange County as well as MWDOC's relationship among its member agencies.

Budgeted (Y/N): N/A	Budgeted amount: None	Core __	Choice __
Action item amount: N/A	Line item:		
Fiscal Impact (explain if unbudgeted):			

Mr. Brown sought feedback from the group regarding the participation of two MWDOC board members in these discussions resulting in member agencies managers' concerns, ideas, and suggestions be heard directly by board members.

Lastly, the workgroup discussed and identified topics and preliminary hierarchy of issues to engage. The consensus was to start with high level issues such as MWDOC's relationship with the member agencies.

Workgroup Meeting #2

The second workgroup meeting included MWDOC Board members Seckel and McVicker. The workgroup meeting commenced with the Board members stating their role as participants that seek to listen and understand the member agencies concerns and issues.

The dialogue started with how best to clarify MWDOC's role and involvement in programs and projects in Orange County. It was suggested that the workgroup may not want to limit MWDOC's role but rather define a "process" or set of expectations from MWDOC to ensure an open and transparent dialogue with the member agencies occur before any decisions are made.

There was also a healthy discussion regarding how to ensure the member agencies concerns are heard; and that the expectations are clearly understood on how MWDOC deliberates on such decisions. It was also noted that there is a distinction between MWDOC's role with regional projects conducted by MET and local projects conducted by member agencies.

Workgroup Meeting #3

The third workgroup meeting is expected to be held towards the end of August or beginning of September. Staff is working on finalizing the date and time.

Attachment: ***MWDOC Member Agencies Facilitated Discussion #1*** Presentation, June 30, 2022
MWDOC Member Agencies Facilitated Discussion #2 Presentation, July 25, 2022

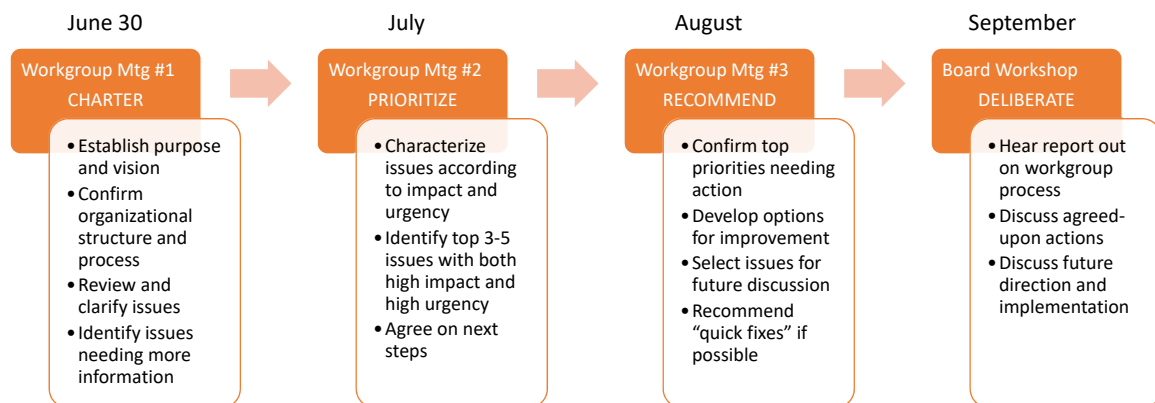
Facilitated Discussions with MWDOC Member Agencies

PHASE 2: WORKGROUP MTG #1 Identifying Priorities

PAUL R. BROWN, AICP



Phase 2 Proposed Workgroup Meetings



Objectives of Workgroup Meeting #1

- Review of Phase 2 Purpose and Vision
- Develop organizational and process guidelines
- Discussion of simplified hierarchy of issues
- Identify next steps

Purpose and Vision

- Build on input received in Phase 1 Survey (both positive and negative)
- Understand the sources and reasons behind conflicts and challenges
- Minimize contributing factors where improvements are possible
- Collaborate on integrated solutions to bridge competing interests
- Avoid **debate** (intramural winners and losers)
- Encourage **dialogue** (one OC team with each agency playing different positions)

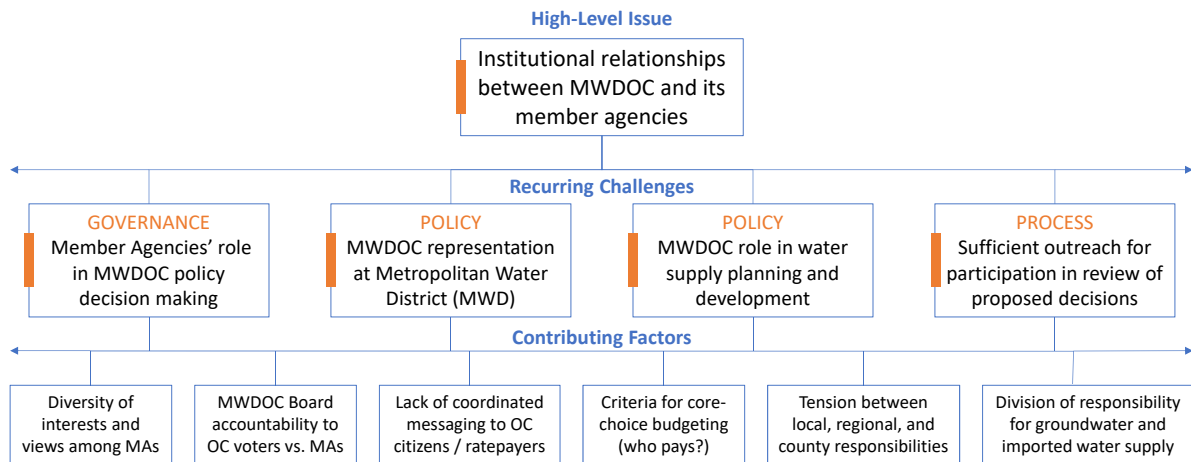
Organizational Structure

1. Request Ad-Hoc Committee of Board (2) and all Member Agency Managers invited
2. Designate (4-6) Member Agency Managers that are representative of service area
 - Large / Small
 - North / South
 - City / District

Possible Issue Topics

- Governance
 - Institutional relationships between MWDOC and its member agencies
- Policies
 - Criteria for making core-choice decisions
 - Assurance that beneficiaries pay for local investments
- Process
 - Involvement of member agencies in board decision making process
- Roles and Responsibilities
 - MWDOC's role and scope in local supply planning and development

Preliminary Hierarchy of Issues



Conflicts and Factors Matrix

	Recurring Challenges	Contributing Factors					
		Diversity of interests and views among MAs	MWDOC Board accountability to OC voters v MAs	Lack of coordinated messaging to OC citizens / ratepayers	Criteria for core-choice budgeting (who pays?)	Tension between local, regional, and county responsibilities	Division of responsibility for groundwater and imported water
3	Member Agencies' role in MWDOC policy decision making	X	X		X	X	
2	MWDOC representation at Metropolitan Water District (MWD)	X	X	X		X	X
1	MWDOC role in water supply planning and development	X	X	X	X	X	X
4	Sufficient outreach for participation in review of proposed decisions	X					

Next Steps

- Finalize framework of challenges and contributing factors
- Identify highest priority issue(s)
- Develop long-list of options for addressing priorities
- Develop criteria for short listing options
 - Complexity
 - Time Needed to Implement
 - Cost to Implement
 - Expected Benefits and Outcomes
 - Other Criteria

Questions and Discussion

Thank you!

Facilitated Discussions with MWDOC Member Agencies

PHASE 2: WORKGROUP MTG #2 Identifying Priorities

PAUL R. BROWN, AICP



Phase 2 Proposed Workgroup Meetings



Agenda of Workgroup Meeting #2

- Share expectations and goals
- Prioritize today's topics
- Initiate dialogue on selected topic(s)
- Identify next steps

Organizational Structure

1. **Ad-Hoc Committee Membership**
 - Two MWDOC Board Members (Director McVicker and Director Seckel appointed by Board President)
 - All Member Agency Managers
2. **Request Member Agency Manager Volunteers to stay engaged throughout the process**

Debate Versus Dialogue

Debate	Dialogue
Assuming that there is a right answer and you have it	Assuming that many people have pieces of the answer and that together they can craft a solution
Combative: participants attempt to prove the other side wrong	Collaborative: participants work together toward common understanding
About winning	About exploring common ground
Listening to find flaws and make counterarguments	Listening to understand, find meaning and agreement
Defending assumptions as truth	Revealing assumptions for reevaluation
Critiquing the other side's position	Reexamining all positions
Defending one's own views against those of others	Admitting that others' thinking can help improve on one's own

Source: Daniel Yankelovich, *The Magic of Dialogue: Transforming Conflict into Cooperation*, 1999

Basic Question

- What do you want accomplish in this process?
- Last meeting ended with a discussion of “softer” outcomes than a list of “options” and “recommendations”
- Suggested that changes in people’s viewpoints and understanding may be sufficient

Strategies

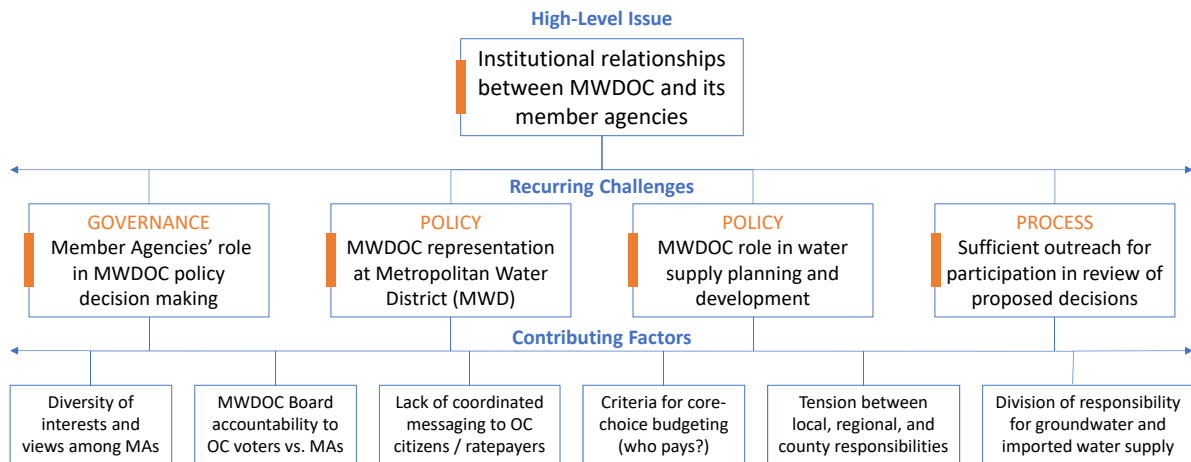
- “Where applicable, identify mistrust as the real source of misunderstanding.”
- “Err on the side of including people who disagree.”
- “Expose old scripts to a reality check.”
- “Use specific cases to raise general issues.”

Source: Daniel Yankelovich, *The Magic of Dialogue: Transforming Conflict into Cooperation*, 1999

Possible Issue Topics

- Governance
 - Institutional relationships between MWDOC and its member agencies
- Policies
 - Criteria for making core-choice decisions
 - Assurance that beneficiaries pay for local investments
- Process
 - Involvement of member agencies in board decision making process
- Roles and Responsibilities
 - MWDOC's role and scope in local supply planning and development

Preliminary Hierarchy of Issues



Questions and Discussion

Thank you!



INFORMATION ITEM

August 1, 2022

TO: **Planning & Operations Committee**
(Directors Tamaribuchi, Nederhood, McVicker)

FROM: **Robert Hunter, General Manager**

Staff Contact: Damon Micalizzi

SUBJECT: **2022 OC Water Summit Update**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Public Affairs & Legislation Committee: Receive and file the report.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

The committee recommends (To be determined at Committee Meeting)

DETAILED REPORT

We are just six weeks away from the 2022 OC Water Summit. The event '**California Dreamin' – Western Water Projects and How to Build Them**', will be held at Disney's Grand Californian Hotel on Friday, September 16, 2022.

All presenters are confirmed for the program which includes sessions on drought, the Colorado River, the Delta, legislation, water propositions or initiatives that may be on future ballots, and water infrastructure projects needed to improve reliability for generations to come. The program is attached.

The next meeting of the OC Water Summit Planning Committee will be held on Monday, August 15th.



PROGRAM*

7:30 a.m. Registration and Continental Breakfast

7:50 am to 8:00 am Welcome and Pledge of Allegiance

- Jeffery M. Thomas, Board Member, Municipal Water District of Orange County
- Stephen R. Sheldon, President, Orange County Water District
- Fritz Coleman, Master of Ceremonies

8:00 am – 8:30 am Megadrought: Is There Any Doubt?

- Brenda Burman, Central Arizona Project, Former Secretary of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

8:30 am- 9:15 am Proposition Proposal: Dam the Legislature

- Dr. Jerry Meral, Director of the California Water Program, National Heritage Institute and Author, 2014 Water Bond
- Edward Ring, Senior Fellow, California Policy Center

9:15 am – 10:00 am Water Infrastructure Funding Act: Grow Me the Money

- The Honorable Devon Mathis, Assemblyman, California State Assembly
- William Bourdeau, Chairman, California Water Alliance and Vice Chair, San Luis and Delta-Mendota Water Authority

10:00 am – 10:20 am Networking Break

10:20 am – 11:00 am Water Prospecting: Water Projects We Need Now

- Moderator: Craig Miller, General Manager, Western Municipal Water District
- JP Robinette, Construction Manager, Sites Reservoir
- Graham Bradner, Executive Officer, Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Joint Powers Authority
- Deven Upadhyay, Chief Operating Officer, Pure Water Southern California, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (*Invited*)

11:00 am – 12:00 pm To Pump or Not to Pump: Re-examining Conventional Wisdom About the Delta

- Moderator: Michael George, Delta Watermaster
- Karla Nemeth, Director, California Department of Water Resources
- Dr. Laurel Larsen, Lead Scientist, Delta Stewardship Council
- Melinda Terry, General Manager, North Delta Water Agency

12:00 pm – 12:10 pm Closing Remarks

- Jeffery M. Thomas, Board Member, Municipal Water District of Orange County
- Stephen R. Sheldon, President, Orange County Water District
- Fritz Coleman, Master of Ceremonies

12:10 pm – 1:30 pm Buffet Lunch and Networking

ENGINEERING & PLANNING	
Reliability Study Update	<p>Staff are working with CDM Smith on an update to the reliability study. The update will look at a total of 5 scenarios that include recent information including; demand forecasts from the 2020 Urban Water Management Plans, information from MET's 2020 IRP process, increased uncertainty with the Delta Conveyance Project, improved climate change impact information, and updated project cost information where available.</p> <p>A presentation on the scope and status of the Reliability Study update was given at the May 2022 MWDOC Member Agencies Managers meeting. Several of the agencies provided their input which will be incorporated into the study. The presentation was also presented to the Board at the P&O Committee on June 6, 2022.</p> <p>A draft report of the demand-supply gap analysis portion of the study is expected by the end of August 2022.</p>
Water Use Efficiency Standards Analysis	<p>On May 2, 2022, the Board approved entering into an agreement with Water Systems Consulting (WSC) and sub-consultant M. Cubed to complete an economic analysis of proposed State water use efficiency standards. MWDOC has partnered with SMWD in funding this project. There are four main components of the scope of work:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A customized version of the recently completed Urban Water Use Objective Analyzer (Model) developed by M. Cubed for the Department of Water Resources (DWR). M. Cubed will customize the Model to allow individual retail agencies to evaluate the impacts of the proposed standards on their operations and customers. 2. Evaluate the relative impact of the proposed standards on Disadvantaged Communities (DACs). 3. Evaluate compliance cost estimates for MWDOC retail water agencies with information on water service affordability. 4. Develop a web interface of the Model using a visual analytics platform (i.e. dashboard). <p>An updated version of the Model and initial report are currently under review. A revised draft report of the analysis is expected in August 2022.</p>
Doheny Ocean Desalination Project	<p>South Coast Water District (SCWD) continues to develop the Doheny Ocean Desalination Project. SCWD is currently working through multiple due diligence items to move the project forward including; permitting, plant sizing and siting, financing, and project delivery method. SCWD anticipates having all necessary permits by end of Summer 2022 and estimates an on-line date of 2026, if approved by the SCWD Board.</p> <p>SCWD held a Special Board Meeting on September 2, 2021 to discuss the financial implications of the project. Clean Energy Capital (CEC) presented a water cost analysis for the project where CEC presented cost projections for a 2 MGD project with an estimated 1st year water cost of \$1,928/AF in</p>

	<p>2021\$, and a 5 MGD project with an estimated 1st year water cost of \$1,479/AF in 2021\$ (later updated to \$1,807/AF in 2027\$ vs \$1,545/AF MET Rate in 2027\$).</p> <p>On March 9, 2022 the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board approved the Tentative Orders related to the NPDES permits for discharge associated with operation of the Doheny Desalination Project. This is an important step forward toward realization of this project.</p> <p>On April 14, 2022, Dudek presented information to the SCWD Board on a conceptual study of Ocean Water Augmentation for the Doheny Desalination Project. The study considered utilizing Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) source water by two alternative methods from the JB Latham Wastewater Treatment Plant to augment raw ocean water supplies to the proposed Doheny Desalination Project. The proposed conceptual raw water augmentation could potentially become a future phase of the ocean desalination project, and was identified by the name: Doheny Ocean Pure Water Augmentation (DOPWA). This concept was based on the proposition that the challenges of ocean desalination and DPR could be offset by each other's advantages. The conceptual project proposes 5 MGD of product water from each source (recycled and ocean source water) to produce a combined total of 10 MGD of potable water. The report indicated that the gross cost of water in 2021 dollars for the DOPWA concept is similar in price to the cost of desalinated water from the Doheny Desalination Project as shown below.</p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-right: 100px;"> Gross Water Cost (without MET LRP incentive) </div> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 MGD Doheny Ocean Desalination Project \$2,081/AF • DOPWA Raw Water Augmentation \$2,227/AF • DOPWA Treated Water Augmentation \$1,954/AF <p>Further study is also needed to determine the impacts on ocean desalination brine mixing in the San Juan Creek Ocean Outfall from reduced wastewater discharges.</p> <p>SCWD anticipates Coastal Commission consideration of a Coastal Development Permit in October 2022.</p>
East Orange County Feeder No. 2 (EOCF#2) Emergency Pilot Program	<p>Staff and Means Consulting are working with Metropolitan (MET) on defining and phasing a scope of work for emergency pump-in of local water supplies into EOCF #2 under MET Admin Code 4519: Emergency Deliveries of Member Agency Water Supplies in Metropolitan's System. The program is intended to enhance water supply reliability in the event of a prolonged emergency. This is a multi-year effort. The intended outcome of this effort is the establishment of an emergency pump-in program for EOCF#2 as provided by MET Admin Code 4519 as well as a set of guidelines for MET member agencies to use to establish their own emergency pump-in programs. Hazen & Sawyer is also providing technical assistance for this effort.</p>

	<p>Staff have also been working with MET staff on a potential cost share for the project.</p> <p>Staff met with the Orange County EOCF #2 Joint Power Agreement members and capacity right holders to discuss the pilot project on March 31, 2022. Background information and key points/questions were presented to the group. A follow up meeting will be scheduled in late June once JPA members have had a chance to review the information, to discuss clarifications of key points and to determine how best to move forward with the Pilot Project.</p> <p>Staff met with Moulton Niguel WD and Orange County WD on May 16, 2022 to discuss the scope of work developed with MET. MNWD is currently reviewing the scope to see how their design efforts with the City Santa Ana will fit into the scope.</p>
San Juan Basin Authority	<p>The San Juan Basin Authority (SJBA) has been conducting a hydrogeology study of the San Juan Basin to better understand how groundwater flows through the lower portions of San Juan Basin under various conditions. How groundwater flows in the vicinity of Stonehill Drive is important due to potential impacts on pumping within the basin, and also may potentially influence pumping for the Doheny Desalination project.</p> <p>A technical review panel, consisting of three teams of hydrogeologists, have presented their preliminary findings at a special meeting on May 12, 2022. The presentation is available from the SJBA website: https://www.sjbauthority.com/meetings/meetings-2022.html (2022-05-12 SJBA Board Meeting TRP).</p> <p>The preliminary findings are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Basin behaves like two separate areas or ‘buckets’ that are connected by bedrock ledge area in the vicinity of Stonehill Drive. The bedrock ledge operates similar to a spillway; which although not a boundary, does somewhat restrict flows under normal groundwater conditions. 2. Groundwater flows through the bedrock ledge area (spillway) are greatly restricted between the upper and lower portions of the basin when groundwater levels are low. This occurs during dry or excessive pumping periods. 3. Pumping on either side of the spillway (north or south) influences portions of the basin on the other side of the spillway. Without recharge and with continued pumping, groundwater levels at the divide could decline precipitously. 4. Saline intrusion in the basin result from seasonal or longer-term declines in freshwater recharge coupled with pumping. Pumping south of the spillway exacerbates saline intrusion more than pumping to the north. Pumping to the north contributes by restricting the flow of freshwater across the spillway.

	<p>The Technical Review Panel is recommending additional geologic and geophysical assessment of the spillway area. They area also recommending additional monitoring of groundwater levels and flow across the spillway. The July SJBA meeting has been cancelled and the next meeting is August 24, 2022.</p>
Shutdowns	<p>Upper Feeder</p> <p>MET has sent notification of a pending emergency repair to the Upper Feeder at the Santa Ana River (which feeds the MET Weymouth Water Treatment Plant in La Verne). An expansion joint installed at the Santa Ana Bridge in 2018 developed a leak before Easter weekend in April 2022. Temporary repairs were made to keep the Upper Feeder in operation at reduced flows. After inspection in early June 2022, the leak had expanded and MET declared an emergency on June 8, 2022.</p> <p>A replacement joint will be installed during a 14-day shutdown of the Upper Feeder from September 6-20, 2022. Weymouth will switch to 100% State Project Water during the shutdown. MET media messaging for the shutdown will be asking residents to voluntarily go to no outdoor watering to reduce demands on the system during the shutdown. Since OC is in a shared media market with LA, residents will also be directed to seek more information from their water provider. OC agencies are supportive of demand curtailment efforts and have been asked to ‘do what they can’ to help. Information was past along at the MWDOC Member agencies meeting and a meeting has been scheduled for July 27, 2022 to explore ways OC agencies can reduce demands on the MET system.</p> <p>Orange County Feeder</p> <p>MET has delayed the relining project by one year and has proposed new shutdown dates. MET has approved the construction contract for the relining and replacement of valves in a section of the Orange County Feeder from the Willits Pressure Control Structure (north of South Coast Plaza) to Irvine Cross Feeder (south of UC Irvine).</p> <p>This 9-month shutdown is scheduled to begin September 18, 2022 through June 16, 2023. MWDOC staff have been working with the affected agencies in preparation for this shutdown.</p> <p>Orange County Feeder Extension</p> <p>MET is planning to reline the final 300-linear feet of the OC Feeder extension from the Irvine Cross Feeder to the terminus affecting the City of Newport Beach, IRWD and LBCWD following completion of the up gradient portion of the OC Feeder.</p> <p>MET has proposed new shutdown dates of June 18, 2023 through July 14, 2023. LBCWD has raised concerns about the shutdown timing given recent fire events. MWDOC staff is currently working with LBCWD and MET to find a shutdown date that works for everyone.</p>

Lake Mathews Facility Shutdown

Shutdown of the Lake Mathews Facility has been rescheduled for March 13-14, 2023. The following agencies will be affected during the shutdown: OCWD, YLWD, Serrano WD, IRWD, TCWD, ETWD, SMWD, MNWD, and the City of San Clemente.

Orange County Reservoir

The decommissioning of the Orange County Reservoir has been rescheduled to March 20, 2023 through March 25, 2023. This work will affect the cities of Brea and La Habra.

Diemer Water Treatment Plant

MET is planning to repair a chlorine diffuser pipe at the Diemer WTP which will require a seven-day full-plant shutdown. A meeting was held on February 3, 2022 to inform MET of the agencies' local supply conditions for this calendar year. MET reported that the diffuser pipe was not an imminent failure issue. Shutdown dates for repair of the Diemer chlorine diffuser pipe are being reevaluated by MET staff at this time.

Diemer also recently experienced a backwash valve failure in the filter backwash system. Two of 48 filters will remain out of service through the summer; slightly limiting Diemer's maximum flow capacity by 4% to 498 MGD.

Allen-McColloch Pipeline

MET has completed 50% of the preliminary design of the AMP Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe (PCCP) rehabilitation and is expected to complete the design by 2023. Preliminary design work currently underway includes identifying priority reaches, developing access locations, conducting geotechnical assessments, modeling a surge analysis, conducting real property assessments, identify permitting requirements and development of a feeder isolation plan. A draft project schedule will be developed at the completion of preliminary design. Rehabilitation of individual reaches will be based on the ongoing condition assessments, priorities, and shutdown scheduling.

MET plans to inspect additional PCCP sections of the AMP in FY 2023-24.

MWDOC staff continue to lead working group meetings with the impacted AMP agencies to discuss options to reduce the number of shutdowns needed for the AMP PCCP rehabilitation project while also helping to increase reliability toward future MET shutdowns. Two potential sites have been identified for construction of a possible pump station to enhance the ability to accommodate longer shutdown durations for the rehabilitation project and provide continuing future long term reliability benefits for future MET shutdowns.

MWDOC has formally proposed to MET staff a conceptual cost share savings incentive approach following well established public works contractor cost

	share incentive programs that would allow for a sharing of realized cost savings. Staff looks forward to MET's response.
Meetings	
	Charles Busslinger, Joe Berg, Chris Lingad, and SMWD staff met with WSC/M.Cubed on June 29, 2022 to discuss the economic analysis of proposed State Water Use Efficiency standards. Preliminary results of the revised Urban Objective Analyzer (model) were discussed, and revisions were requested. A draft report of the analysis is pending in early August 2022.
	Charles Busslinger attended The CalDesal Regulatory Committee meeting on July 28, 2022.

General Manager Report

WEROC Status Report

Item No. 5b

July 2022

COVID-19 (CORONA VIRUS) COORDINATION

As of the time of this report on 7/27, Orange remains in a **High Level** rate of community spread.

Orange County, California

[State Health Department](#) [↗](#)

COVID-19 Community Level

● High

Recommended actions based on current level

Wear a mask indoors in public and on [public transportation](#). Stay [up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines. [Get tested](#) if you have symptoms. If you are at [high risk for severe illness](#), consider taking [additional precautions](#).

As of July 26th

Weekly Metrics Used to Determine the COVID-19 Community Level

Case Rate per 100,000 population	319.05
New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population	15.7
% Staffed inpatient beds in use by patients with confirmed COVID-19	5.8%

Orange County, California

[State Health Department](#) [↗](#)

COVID-19 Community Level

● High

Recommended actions based on current level

Wear a mask indoors in public and on [public transportation](#). Stay [up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines. [Get tested](#) if you have symptoms. If you are at [high risk for severe illness](#), consider taking [additional precautions](#).

As of July 12th

Weekly Metrics Used to Determine the COVID-19 Community Level


Case Rate per 100,000 population	299.21
New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population	15.2
% Staffed inpatient beds in use by patients with confirmed COVID-19	5.6%

Orange County, California

[State Health Department](#) 

As of July 2nd

COVID-19 Community Level

 Medium

Recommended actions based on current level

Stay [up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines. [Get tested](#) if you have symptoms. Wear a mask if you have symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19. Wear a mask on [public transportation](#). You may choose to wear a mask at any time as an additional precaution to protect yourself and others. If you are at [high risk for severe illness](#), consider wearing a mask indoors in public and taking [additional precautions](#).

Weekly Metrics Used to Determine the COVID-19 Community Level

Case Rate per 100,000 population	280.44
New COVID-19 admissions per 100,000 population	8.3
% Staffed inpatient beds in use by patients with confirmed COVID-19	4.2%

- ** Note with many people continuing to use the at home testing kits, unless people are seeing their physician or self-reporting it is hard to say exactly how accurate these numbers are.
- The key statistic to track continues to be the impact on our medical system and agencies reporting if they are having operational impacts due to employees out ill. The medical system on 7/21 reported 351 people hospitalized, and 35 ICU patients compared to 7/14 reported 277 people hospitalized, and 35 were in the ICU compared to June reported 179 people hospitalized, and 25 were in the ICU compared to May where hospitalizations were at 140 people and 18 who required intensive care. Overall, the Orange County healthcare system remains stable.
- Overall, this statement was in last month's report and has not changed. While the severity of the current Omicron Strains (BA1, BA2, BA4, and the latest BA5) are not as severe for **MOST** people, this is creating a business continuity issue for many agencies with a recent increase in COVID cases and people being out sick for days. With high levels of population immunity from both vaccination and infections, the risk of medically significant disease, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19 is greatly reduced for most people. [Some people and communities](#), such as our oldest citizens, people who are immunocompromised, and people with disabilities, are at higher risk for serious illness and face challenging decisions navigating a world with COVID-19.
- People are getting COVID multiple times regardless of vaccination status from the current Omicron variants. I know of people who have had COVID 2/3 times, fully vaccinated, boosted and have had COVID prior (including myself)
- An article on July 27th, speaks to a recent study posted to the [bioRxiv](#)* preprint server, researchers assessed the sensitivity of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) Omicron BA.2.75 variant to [neutralizing](#)

[antibodies](#) (nAbs). BA.2.75 is an emerging sub-lineage of the Omicron variant and has been reported in multiple countries.

BA.2.75 harbors nine additional mutations compared to BA.2. One amino acid substitution, G446S, has been implicated as a potential site for escape from vaccine-elicited nAbs and the monoclonal antibody (mAb), bebtelovimab (LY-CoV1404). This is concerning given that bebtelovimab is one of the few first-generation antibodies with cross-neutralizing activity against BA.2 and BA.4/5 variants. The study observed that SARS-CoV-2 Omicron BA.2.75 was less immune-evasive than the currently predominant BA.5 variant in the tested serum samples. WEROC will continue to track new variants as they are released so agencies can make changes as required.

- There are no changes to Orange County Health Officer orders.
- WEROC continues to host monthly coordination calls with member agencies to provide updates regarding COVID and other items occurring in the OA.
- CalOSHA Emergency Temporary Standards Update - On June 9, 2022, the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) posted the proposed non-emergency COVID-19 Prevention standards on its Cal/OSHA – Proposed Regulations webpage. The dates for the public hearing have not yet been set. WEROC will continue to track and report out on the progression of the new standards. In reviewing the proposed language, the currently actions being administered by employers currently would be adopted for 2 years at a time. WEROC will provide more information as this changes.
- Remaining in effect is the California's State of Emergency for COVID-19, therefore the end date will be dependent on when the state feels the emergency is over. WEROC will continue to track this information
- AB 361 - Open meetings: state and local agencies: teleconferences.
For those agencies continuing to protect employees safety with the provisions of use of teleconference for Board Meetings the following is still effect for the requirements of AB 361
 - California State of Emergency is still active
 - Vulnerable Populations and social distancing is still referenced in the Orange County Health Officer Order
 - **For Vulnerable Populations.** *In general, the older a person is, the more health conditions a person has, and the more severe the conditions, the more important it is to take preventive measures for COVID-19 such as getting vaccinated, including boosters, social distancing and wearing a mask when around people*

who don't live in the same household, and practicing hand hygiene. For more information see <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-with-medical-conditions.html>.

- *County justification for above also referenced in the County Health Officer Order According to the CDC and CDPH, older adults, individuals with medical conditions, and pregnant and recently pregnant persons are at higher risk of severe illness when they contract COVID-19. See <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html>*
- WEROC completed a 3rd round procurement of testing kits logistics for agencies who chose to participate. Janie is talking the logistics lead. Seven agencies participated and we were able to procure testing kits at a respectable cost point. Delivery is taking place the week of July 18th.

MonkeyPox Update

Current Situation in Orange County
(as of 7/26/2022)

No. of Confirmed and Probable Cases

3

Orange County Health Care Agency (OCHCA) continues to investigate and conduct contact tracing on all confirmed and probable cases and continues to monitor and coordinate post-exposure prophylaxis for high-risk close contacts to known cases. The risk of monkeypox in the general population and community remains very low based on current information available. For national updates, including counts of cases by state, see the [CDC U.S. Monkeypox 2022: Situation Summary](#).

JULY EVENT INCIDENTS/EVENTS (NON-COVID)

****THE FOLLOWING EVENTS IN WHICH WEROC PROVIDED INFORMATION AND/OR COORDINATION OR RESPONSE TO THE EOC/CP.**

- Cyber Event - 1 Agency - Email Intrusion
- Suspicious Activity (Intruder, Site Break In and Theft) (3 agencies)

Vicki can provide an additional oral update to WEROC activities specific to the event as required/requested.

COORDINATION/PARTICIPATION WITH MEMBER AGENCIES AND OUTSIDE AGENCIES MEETINGS OUTSIDE OF PROGRAMS AREAS AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE

- On 7/5, Vicki attended the ISDOC meeting and provided an update on current OA Events and planning efforts.
 - On 7/5, Vicki participated in the California Emergency Services Association (CESA) Emergency Management Certification Project coordination meeting.
 - On 7/7, Vicki and Janine attended the Orange County Emergency Management Organization (OCEMO) meeting. A presentation was made by CISA focused on communication platforms including the GETS program.
 - On 7/7, Vicki participated in the OCEMO Exercise Design Planning Meeting. This group is focused on planning the countywide functional exercise in FY23. This was the kickoff meeting and nothing was finalized to report on.
 - On 7/18, Vicki had a meeting with the MNWD team to outline requested training need of their agency focused on EOC training.
 - On 7/19, Vicki had a CalWarn Board meeting.
 - On 7/20, Vicki attended the County Disease Outbreak Response Annex revision meeting.
 - On 7/21, Vicki attended the MWDOC Manager meeting.
 - On 7/28, Vicki attended the quarterly MARAC meeting.
 - On 7/28, Vicki attended the ISDOC Quarterly meeting.
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PLANNING AND PROGRAM EFFORTS

AlertOC

Janine continues to work with of special district members agencies participating in the AlertOC program. At this time, approximately 82% of the staff who will have access to the system to send messages have received training.

Cyber Security

WEROC continues to send out important information to the Cyber Security Distribution Group as received from DHS or the OCIAC.

Logistics Planning

Vicki is finalizing the After Action Report from the June Logistics Workshop/Tabletop Exercise. This AAR will aide in the development of the Logistics Annex including identification of the Planning Team, Conducting the Assessment, solutions to the gap analysis and then begin the plan development with the agencies.

Mutual Aid

Working with MET, Vicki and Damon offered support to MET if needed in regards to requesting use of the Changeable Message Signs (CMS) on the freeways and the Toll Roads. Vicki will assist with the request for use in the OC and LA Areas as required.

Training

Vicki finalized the WEROC 2023-25 Integrated Preparedness Plan. This will encompass future planning and align the planning with both training and exercises. This document was submitted to the Operational Area for inclusion in the state report. Vicki is finalizing the fall training schedule.

Vicki is finalizing the Agency Representative Training (AREP) as requested by the agencies. This course will assist agencies when they send a person to interact at an Incident Command post (ex wildland fire).

In partnership with MNWD, Vicki has scheduled a meeting with OCFA to discuss a training series for incoming fire candidates and OCFA engineers regarding water systems and how they work and information they need to understand. This was an outcome of the Coastal Hotwash and OCFA was very receptive. The first planning meeting for the concept with OCFA is scheduled for 8/2.

WEROC Emergency Operations Center Project/Funding

Both Senator Feinstein and Senator Padilla submitted the project for the FY23 appropriates directed funding

We are now waiting to see if the project continues to move forward in the process and will update as we learn new information.

WEROC Personnel Update

The vacant WEROC Specialist Position recruitment closed on 7/22. Interviews will be conducted in August.

Operational Area and Member Agency Plan Review/Working Groups

Vicki has reviewed and provided written changes or feedback to the following Annexes/Plans. These are currently being reviewed in working group meetings focusing on 1-2 chapters at a time:

- Orange County Operational Area – Disease Outbreak Annex
- Orange County Operational Area – Recovery Annex
- Operational Area Alert & Warning Seminar After Action Report

**Status of Water Use Efficiency Projects
July 2022**

Description	Lead Agency	Status % Complete	Scheduled Completion or Renewal Date	Comments
SoCal WaterSmart Residential Indoor Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In June 2022, 69 high efficiency clothes washers and 2 premium high efficiency toilets were installed in Orange County. To date, 126,454 high efficiency clothes washers and 60,851 high efficiency toilets have been installed through this program.
SoCal WaterSmart Commercial Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In June 2022, 307 commercial premium high efficiency toilets were installed in Orange County. To date, 111,797 commercial devices have been installed through this program.
Industrial Process/ Water Savings Incentive Program (WSIP)	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	This program is designed to improve water efficiency for commercial customers through upgraded equipment or services that do not qualify for standard rebates. Incentives are based on the amount of water customers save and allow customers to implement custom water-saving projects. Total water savings to date for the entire program is 1,291 AFY and 6,353 AF cumulatively.
Flow-Monitoring Device Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In June 2022, 5 flow-monitoring devices were installed in Orange County. To date, 36 flow-monitoring devices have been installed through this program.
Smart Timer Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In June 2022, 147 residential and 22 commercial smart timers were installed in Orange County. To date, 33,160 smart timers have been installed through this program.

Description	Lead Agency	Status % Complete	Scheduled Completion or Renewal Date	Comments
Rotating Nozzles Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In June 2022, 30 rotating nozzles were installed in Orange County. To date, 574,598 rotating nozzles have been installed through this program.
Rain Barrel Rebate Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In June 2022, 4 rain barrels were installed in Orange County. To date, 8,679 rain barrels have been installed through this program.
Turf Removal Program	MWDOC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In June 2022, 19 rebates were paid, representing \$261,511 in rebates paid this month in Orange County. To date, the Turf Removal Program has removed approximately 24 million square feet of turf.
Spray to Drip Rebate Program	MWDOC	Ongoing	Ongoing	In June 2022, 12 rebates were paid, representing \$108,343.54 in rebates paid this month in Orange County. To date, the Spray to Drip Program has converted approximately 1.9 million square feet of standard spray irrigation to drip irrigation.
Recycled Water Retrofit Program	MWDSC	Ongoing	Ongoing	This program provides incentives to commercial sites for converting dedicated irrigation meters to recycled water. To date, 182 sites, irrigating a total of 1,672 acres of landscape, have been converted. The total potable water savings achieved by these projects is 3,687 AFY and 20,383 AF cumulatively.

Public & Governmental Affairs Activities Report
June 29, 2022 – July 26, 2022

Item No. 5d

Member Agency Relations	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Completed placement of Santa Ana Streams of Hope “Stella” • Developed a lawn sign for the City of Seal Beach • Sent previous design files for door hangers to Moulton Niguel Water District • Added a board member of El Toro Water District to the interest list for inspection trips <p>Government Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with the City of San Clemente to have their infrastructure projects added to our potential grants projects list • Circulated the monthly Grants Tracking and Acquisition report to member agencies
Education	<p>Public Affairs Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in the California Environmental Leadership Initiative Green Careers Innovation Hub meeting • Met with Orange County Department of Education’s Inside the Outdoors to discuss MWDOC Grab and Go Activities opportunities • Met with K-2 Choice School Program contractor, Shows That Teach, to discuss program promotion and offerings • Worked with Choice School Program contractor and participating agencies to provide program information in the City of Santa Ana, Yorba Linda Water District, and City of La Habra service areas • Met with Poseidon Education, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, and OC Pathways to discuss a grant application to bring water and wastewater curricula and careers into Orange County middle and high schools • Met with San Mateo County to discuss a grant application with the Orange County Department of Education to bring water and wastewater curricula and careers into middle schools • Attended a 3-day Department of Water Resources Water Education Committee workshop
Media Relations	<p>Public Affairs Staff</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared and distributed content for social media • Prepared and submitted one article to Association of California Water Agencies News <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ https://www.acwa.com/news/water-and-wastewater-workforce-needs-assessment-survey-underway/ • Distributed weekly news digests to MWDOC managers and board • Began promoting OC Water Summit on social media • Prepared and distributed weekly news blast to MWDOC directors and managers • Responded to various media inquiries

Special Projects	<p>Public Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked with Hashtag Pinpoint to complete #OCisGardenSmart three-part Succulent Series • Participated in several OC Water Summit Planning committee meetings • Coordinated with Orange County Water District in the planning and producing of materials of OC Water Summit • Prepared and sent out first invite for OC Water Summit • Prepared and sent out sponsorship brochure for OC Water Summit • Met with event coordinator at the Grand Californian Hotel and Spa to discuss OC Water Summit event logistics • Responded to MWDOC department requests for website information and published website updates • Worked with MWDOC/Metropolitan Water District of Southern California directors to submit dates for shared inspection trips • Met with Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to discuss current workforce development projects and potential partnerships • Met with Ignited to discuss the potential for a statewide training and recruitment program for water and wastewater agencies • Participated in a Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Public Information Officers working group to discuss the upper feeder shutdown • Joined a California Municipal Utilities Association workforce development working group, attended a meeting, and presented on the Centers of Excellence water and wastewater workforce needs assessment survey project initiated by the Water Energy Education Alliance • Prepared <i>Speakers Bureau Presentation on current water issues</i> for retired State employees <p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staffed the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting • Coordinated with MNWD for them to provide an update on the Coastal Fire to WACO • Staffed the monthly WACO meeting featuring Sites Reservoir • Met with OCCOG Executive Director Marnie Primmer, re: increased yearly dues to ISDOC • Provided background and contact information to the Orange County Farm Bureau on the Doheny Desalination Project • Staffed the WACO Planning Committee meeting • Began reaching out to speakers for the September and October WACO meetings • Along with Tina Dubuque, put together materials for the ISDOC Quarterly Luncheon including invites, speaker coordination, lunch menu, agenda and reports • Along with Tina Dubuque, prepared materials for the upcoming ISDOC Executive Committee election
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Legislative Affairs	<p>Governmental Affairs Staff:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in the ACWA Low Income Rate Assistance (LIRA) working group meeting • Participated in the SB 1157 (Hertzberg) working group meeting • Filed MWDOC's quarterly lobbying report • Attended the ACWA State Legislative Committee meeting • Attended the Governor's Office of Planning and Research webinar on Climate Change Assessment • Participated in the OCBC Governmental Affairs Committee meeting • Joined ACWA's SB 222 (Dodd) Oppose Unless Amended coalition • Attended the ACWA D.C. Conference in Washington D.C. featuring speakers: Senator Alex Padilla, EPA Assistant Administrator Bruno Pigott, Bureau of Reclamation Deputy Commissioner David Palumbo, U.S. Forest Service Associate Deputy Chief John Crockett; plus panels from House staff members, Senate staff members, and lobbyists. • Participated in the Metropolitan Water District legislative meeting • Met with Albert Napoli of Metropolitan to discuss possible legislative outreach on the Upper Feeder shutdown • Contacted all offices in the Orange County delegation to collect letters of support for a MWDOC WaterSmart grant application. As of this report we have received letters from Congress Members Correa & Porter; Senator Min; and Assembly Members Chen, Petrie-Norris and Davies • Attended the Solve the Water Crisis Stakeholder Group meeting