

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY (MWDOC)**

January 11, 2023

At 11:07 a.m., President Yoo Schneider called to order the Special 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)). Secretary Goldsby called the roll.

MWDOC DIRECTORS

Al Nederhood
Larry Dick
Karl W. Seckel
Bob McVicker
Randall Crane
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
Charles Busslinger, Dir. of Engineering/Dist. Eng.
Heather Baez, Governmental Affairs Manager
Melissa Baum-Haley, Prin. Water Res. Analyst
Chris Lingad, Associate Engineer
Alex Heide, Water Resources Analyst
Joe Berg, Director of Water Use Efficiency
Hilary Chumpitazi, Accounting Manager
Kevin Hostert, Water Resources Analyst
Cathy Harris, Director of HR & Administration
Vicki Osborn, Director of Emergency Management
Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs

OTHERS PRESENT

Linda Ackerman
Dennis Erdman
Sat Tamaribuchi
Dave Youngblood
Mike Gaskins
Kay Havens
Mark Monin
Jose Vergara
Dennis Cafferty
Peer Swan
Paul Weghorst
Keith Van Der Maaten
Jim Atkinson
Stacy Taylor
Kaden Young
Johnathan Cruz
Chuck Gibson
Saundra Jacobs
Dan Ferons
Jim Leach
Chip Monaco
Greg Mills
Brad Reese

MWDOC/MET Director
MWDOC/MET Director
MWDOC/MET Director
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
Laguna Beach County Water District
Mesa Water
Mesa Water
Moulton Niguel Water District
Moulton Niguel 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

Jennifer Lopez
Fernando Paludi
Lisa Ohlund
Kristy Khachigian
Brian Thomas
Brooke Jones

South Coast Water District
Trabuco Canyon Water District
Ohlund Management & Technical Services
KK Consulting
Bell, Burnett & Associates

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.

STATUS REPORT AND DISCUSSION REGRDING THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE MWDOC AND OCWD AD HOC COMMITTEES ON THE GRAND JURY REPORT

Assistant General Manager Harvey De La Torre outlined the MWDOC and OCWD Ad Hoc Committees discussions regarding the Grand Jury Report, advising that subsequent to the last Board meeting, the ad hoc committees have recommended holding off on approving any Deal Points at this time. Rather it was suggested that both Board take a “step back” to fully understand the issues, concerns and differences in order to identify the best way to work together in a collaborative manner between the two agencies.

Directors Seckel and Dick each commented that the last meeting between the two ad hoc committees was productive, noting that future discussions will include the issues for consolidation, as well as alternatives to consolidation.

Both Board members and audience members weighed in on the discussions, with the overall sentiment being that the prior mindset and Deal Points were counterproductive and not helpful.

Director Seckel advised that the ad hoc committees suggested a joint-Board retreat to discuss the issues at hand; Director Crane suggested the District secure a professional facilitator to oversee the retreat.

Following a lengthy discussion, the Board generally agreed to continue discussions among the ad hoc committees, as long as the discussions remain productive and collaborative. (Several Board members expressed concern with continuing any further consolidation discussions without any specific reason for doing so that they are aware of that has merit).

The Board suggested this issue be presented to the January 25, 2023 MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning Committee for further discussion and evaluation.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Maribeth Goldsby
Board Secretary