

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

April 29, 2023

At 8:30 a.m. President Yoo Schneider called to order the Special Meeting of the Municipal Water District of Orange County in Conference Room 101 at the District facilities located in Fountain Valley, California. District Secretary Maribeth Goldsby led the Pledge of Allegiance and called the roll.

**MWDOC DIRECTORS**

Al Nederhood  
Larry Dick  
Karl W. Seckel  
Bob McVicker  
Randall Crane  
Jeffery M. Thomas  
Megan Yoo Schneider

**STAFF**

Harvey De La Torre, Interim General Mgr.  
Joe Byrne, Legal Counsel (absent)  
Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary  
Joe Berg, Director of Water Use Efficiency  
Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs  
Melissa Baum-Haley, Int. Dir. of MET Issues/Policy  
Charles Busslinger, Director of Engineering

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Paul Brown  
Peer Swan  
Mike Markus  
Dan Ferons  
Chip Monaco  
Lisa Ohlund

Paul Redvers Brown, Inc.  
Irvine Ranch Water District  
Orange County Water District  
Santa Margarita Water District  
Santa Margarita Water District  
Ohlund Management & Technical Services

**TELECONFERENCE SITE**

Director Crane attended the meeting via telephone from Irvine, California. All agenda requirements pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act were complied with.

**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.

Following introductions and exercises focusing on “appreciative listening,” the Board commenced the strategic planning discussions.

**STRATEGIC PLANNING DISCUSSIONS ON MWDOC’S KEY ISSUES, DIRECTION,  
AND MISSION (SECOND SESSION)**

The Strategic Planning session was facilitated by Paul Brown. Mr. Brown provided a summary of the first workshop (held in March) and presented his findings as a result of the Post-It note exercise from that meeting. As a result of exercise, he developed a list summarizing the top

ten questions raised during the first workshop and suggested the meeting participants review the booklet/document that was prepared by staff which answers the questions. The questions included:

- What has MWDOC's role been in project development and how has that changed over the years?
- What benefits can MWDOC add to local project development that cannot be obtained by other means?
- How do Metropolitan Directors from MWDOC reach agreement on critical votes? Are Member Agencies consulted? Do the MWDOC Directors consult with the Directors from the three cities?
- What is the history of the Local Resources Program (LRP) and how has it helped Orange County? What is the present status of the LRP?
- What are the key findings of the current Reliability Study, including expected demands and future supply?
- What are the worst-case implications of volatility and hydrologic extremes on the SWP and Colorado River water? What can be done about it?
- What were the key take-aways from the facilitated discussions with the Member Agencies process? What are we doing in response?
- What are the future opportunities for increased Water Use Efficiency (WUE)? Where can MWDOC have the most impact?
- How does WEROC support MWDOC's mission? What is its greatest value?
- What is MWDOC doing/planning to maximize the impact of public outreach and education campaigns? How do we measure success?

The session then covered developing and prioritizing District goals under each topic area developed in Workshop 1 (mission/role, outreach/education and advocacy, Member Agency relationships, and Metropolitan representation).

The session concluded with a discussion on developing a process for establishing specific objectives and outcomes needed to achieve high-priority goals. The following additional goals were identified: develop new water sources creating less dependency on the SWP and Colorado River, create more storage (both groundwater and surface water), increase desalination opportunities, address climate driven water issues, increased recycled water, provide more focused outreach on reducing outdoor water use, and empower management to implement workforce development and succession planning.

Considerable discussion ensued following the presentation, with emphasis on outreach to the business community (specific messaging), targeted marketing, the importance of not overreaching into Member Agency responsibility ("developing" new supplies, etc.), whether MWDOC should venture into owning infrastructure, and the importance of the facilitated discussions (collaborating and partnering with the Member Agencies).

Mr. Dan Ferons (SMWD General Manager) and Mr. Mike Markus (OCWD General Manager) commented on the importance of creating a specific goal to encourage water supply development by the Member Agencies.

Following this discussion, Mr. Brown advised that he would synthesize and suggest language per the Board discussion on these goals and bring them back for the Board's review. He

emphasized the need to solicit the Member Agencies for input/feedback (consistent with the Member Agency facilitated process).

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

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Maribeth Goldsby  
District Secretary