# MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP BOARD MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY (MWDOC) WITH THE MWDOC MET DIRECTORS

August 2, 2023

At 8:30 a.m., President Yoo Schneider called to order the Workshop Meeting of the Municipal Water District of Orange County in Conference Room 101 at the District facilities located in Fountain Valley, as well as including attendance via the Zoom Webinar application. Vice President McVicker led the Pledge of Allegiance and Secretary Goldsby called the roll.

#### MWDOC DIRECTORS STAFF

Al Nederhood Harvey De La Torre, Interim General Mgr. Larry Dick\* Joe Byrne, Legal Counsel

Karl W. Seckel\* Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary

Bob McVicker

Randall Crane

Jeffery M. Thomas

Megan Yoo Schneider

Melissa Baum-Haley, Dir. of MET Issues/Policy
Alex Heide, Water Resources Analyst (absent)
Charles Busslinger, Dir. of Engineering/Dist. Eng.
Heather Baez, Director of Government Affairs
Hilary Chumpitazi, Director of Finance/IT
Joe Berg, Director of Water Use Efficiency

Vicki Osborn, Director of Emergency Management

Sarina Sriboonlue, Principal Engineer

#### OTHER MWDOC-MET DIRECTORS

Linda Ackerman (absent)
Dennis Erdman (absent)

#### **OTHERS PRESENT**

Brandon Goshi Metropolitan Water District of So. Calif. Noosha Razavian Metropolitan Water District of So. Calif.

Sara Tucker NRR
Garrett Durst NRR

Syrus Devers Syrus Devers Advocacy
Dick Ackerman Ackerman Consulting
Ed Means (absent) Means Consulting

Paul Jones Dopudja & Wells Consulting

Peter Whittingham (absent) Whittingham Public Affairs Advisors Dave Youngblood East Orange County Water District

Kathryn Freshley
Mike Gaskins
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
Kay Havens
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
Ut Chu
El Toro Water District

Mike Dunbar Emerald Bay Service District
Ken Vecchiarelli Golden State Water Company

<sup>\*</sup>Also MWDOC-MET Directors

Minutes August 2, 2023

Peer Swan Irvine Ranch Water District
Paul Weghorst Irvine Ranch Water District
Christine Compton Irvine Ranch Water District

Keith Van Der Maaten Laguna Beach County Water District

Jim Atkinson Mesa Water
Paul Shoenberger Mesa Water
Stacy Taylor Mesa Water

Dick Fiore Moulton Niguel Water District Don Froelich Moulton Niguel Water District Laura Rocha Moulton Niguel Water District Mike Markus **Orange County Water District** Alicia Dunkin **Orange County Water District** Dan Ferons Santa Margarita Water District Jim Leach Santa Margarita Water District Chip Monaco Santa Margarita Water District

Greg Mills
Brad Reese
Bill Green
South Coast Water District
Fernando Paludi
Brett Barbre
Tom Lindsey
Wayne Miller
Serrano Water District
Serrano Water District
Yorba Linda Water District
Yorba Linda Water District
Yorba Linda Water District

Lisa Ohlund Management & Technical Services

Emily Novak San Diego County Water Authority

Kristy Khachigian KK Consulting

Doug Obegi NRDC

Richard Bell

#### 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 distributed to the Board less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Minutes August 2, 2023

#### PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

# PRESENTATION BY METROPOLITAN STAFF ON THE UTILIZATION OF THE NEEDS ASSESSMENT PLANNING TOOL IN CAMP4W

Mr. Brandon Goshi (MET) outlined key planning questions which came up during the CAMP4W discussions, which included: (1) identifying the range of "Gaps" development in the Needs Assessment; (2) identifying options or portfolios to fill the "Gaps"; (2) analyzing the cost of the options/portfolios; and (4) analyzing the rate impacts under different business models.

Mr. Goshi also provided an overview of the IRP Needs Assessment process and findings (including the scenario planning process), as well as outlining assumptions and shortages identified within each of the four planning scenarios, and key planning questions (or next steps) in the CAMP4W process.

Considerable discussion ensued with specific emphasis on how high demand might affect the various scenarios; the need to develop a better plan for capturing surplus water; system capacity limitations; how future investments would get incorporated into the business model; the reasons MET might lean toward Scenario D (the worst-case scenario); climate change effects on supply; potential regulatory constraints with pumping; potential contaminants (e.g., PFAS); the impacts of the AVEK Program on storage; the importance of a reliable water supply (and the impacts of not being reliable); potential rate increases with fewer water purchases; the idea of planning for Scenario C (then adaptively managing for Scenario D); and MET's financial condition and what the solution will cost.

The Board received and filed the report as presented.

# LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

# a. Federal Legislative Report (NRR)

Mr. Garrett Durst (NRR) reviewed NRR's written report in the packet, highlighting the appropriations process, the STREAM Act, the Delta Conveyance Project, and S. 2514, the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Act (which was introduced by the western Senators).

The Board received and filed the report.

# b. State Legislative Report

Mr. Syrus Devers, of SDA, reviewed his report, noting nothing additional to report. Responding to an inquiry by Director Seckel, he advised that although he was no longer an employee of Best Best & Krieger (BBK), he was now working as an independent contractor through BBK, noting there would be no change in billing, etc.

Following discussion, the Board received and filed the report.

# c. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)

Mr. Dick Ackerman referenced his report, highlighting a recent article in the *Los Angeles Times* (blaming water loss in the Colorado River on Climate Change).

The Board received and filed the report.

Minutes August 2, 2023

# d. County Legislative Report (Whittingham)

Interim General Manager De La Torre referenced Mr. Whittingham's written report, and advised that although Mr. Whittingham was on vacation, staff was available to answer questions regarding his report.

### e. MWDOC Legislative Matrix

The Board received and filed the report.

# f. Metropolitan Legislative Matrix

The Board received and filed the report.

#### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

#### MWD ITEMS CRITICAL TO ORANGE COUNTY

- a. MET Finance and Rate Issues
- b. MET Water Supply Conditions Update
- c. Water Quality Update
- 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 reports regarding the July MET Board Meeting
- b. Review items of significance for the upcoming MET Board and Committee Agendas

The report was received and filed.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

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Maribeth Goldsby Board Secretary