

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

July 5, 2023

At 8:30 a.m., Vice President McVicker 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. Director Thomas led the Pledge of Allegiance and Secretary Goldsby called the roll.

MWDOC DIRECTORS

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

STAFF

Harvey De La Torre, Interim General Mgr.
Joe Byrne, Legal Counsel
Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary
Melissa Baum-Haley, Int. Dir. of MET Issues/Policy
Alex Heide, Water Resources Analyst (absent)
Charles Busslinger, Dir. of Engineering/Dist. Eng.
Heather Baez, Governmental Affairs Manager
Hilary Chumpitazi, Accounting Manager
Joe Berg, Director of Water Use Efficiency
Vicki Osborn, Director of Emergency Management
Sarina Sriboonlue, Principal Engineer

*Also MWDOC-MET Directors

OTHER MWDOC-MET DIRECTORS

Linda Ackerman (absent)
Dennis Erdman (absent)

OTHERS PRESENT

Sara Tucker
Garrett Durst (absent)
Syrus Devers
Dick Ackerman
Ed Means (absent)
Paul Jones (absent)
Peter Whittingham
Doug Davert
Dave Youngblood
Kathryn Freshley
Kay Havens
Mark Monin
Jose Vergara
Mike Dunbar
Steve LaMar
Doug Reinhart
Peer Swan
Paul Weghorst

NRR
NRR
Best, Best & Krieger
Ackerman Consulting
Means Consulting
Dopudja & Wells Consulting
Whittingham Public Affairs Advisors
East Orange County Water District
East Orange County Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
Emerald Bay Service District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District

Frank Prewoznik	Irvine Ranch Water District
Jim Atkinson	Mesa Water
Don Froelich	Moulton Niguel Water District
Sherry Wanninger	Moulton Niguel Water District
Kaden Young	Moulton Niguel Water District
Kelly Rowe	Orange County Water District
Mike Markus	Orange County Water District
John Kennedy	Orange County Water District
Alicia Dunkin	Orange County Water District
Sandra Jacobs	Santa Margarita Water District
Frank Ury	Santa Margarita Water District
Dan Ferons	Santa Margarita Water District
Jim Leach	Santa Margarita Water District
Chip Monaco	Santa Margarita Water District
Greg Mills	Serrano Water District
Brad Reese	Serrano Water District
Fernando Paludi	Trabuco Canyon Water District
Brett Barbre	Yorba Linda Water District
Emily Novak	San Diego County Water Authority
Kristy Khachigian	KK Consulting
Richard Bell	
Brooke Jones	

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vice President McVicker 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

Vice President McVicker 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.

PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**PRESENTATION BY MWDOC STAFF ON MET'S CLIMATE ADAPTATION MASTER PLAN: RECAP OF THE JUNE 27 WORKSHOP**

Director of Metropolitan Issues & Policy, Melissa Baum-Haley, presented an update on MET's Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) including an overview of the MET CAMP4W workshop held on June 27, 2023.

Dr. Baum-Haley stated that MET held its second workshop to discuss the CAMP4W, which focused on MET member agency alignment and the Gap analysis, as well as including information on: the timeframe and process framework (integrating the Board's planning, policy, and technical input, member agency manager involvement, and public engagement); how to best utilize the IRP Needs Assessment to define the range of water supply needs for potential climate change scenarios and as a tool for evaluating water supply and storage solutions; and how to increase the alignment of member agencies through the Needs Assessment and the CAMP4W Themes. She also reviewed the overarching themes in the process (MET's role in comparison to its member agencies), an overview of the four planning scenarios (for the purpose of defining potential problems), as well as the addition of Equity as a new term (to the ones previously discussed (reliability, resilience, affordability, and financial sustainability)).

Considerable discussion ensued, with emphasis on the four planning scenarios (with MET staff looking at Scenario C -- low demand with reduced imports) and the importance of erring on the conservative side; financial stability and cost recovery (and efficient revenue collection); the lack of a solid definition for Equity (at this point in the process); whether it is prudent to address the Business Model at the end of the process; the theme of collaboration and interconnectivity through a regional approach to deal with an uncertain water future; and the complexity of this process.

Dr. Baum-Haley advised that staff would be inviting MET finance staff to a future meeting to address the affordability and financial stability questions raised.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES**a. Federal Legislative Report (NRR)**

Ms. Sara Tucker (NRR) reviewed NRR's written report in the packet, highlighting the appropriations process and the fact that the earmark funding for WEROC's mobile EOC was not included in the Department of Homeland Security bill; she noted that no other emergency operations funding was granted. Board members expressed disappointment regarding the earmark funding and considerable discussion ensued regarding various options (sharing an EOC site, partnering with another agency, submitting another application next year, etc.). As staff advised that the South County EOC was in the process of dismantling, the Board asked staff to research a site for a temporary EOC and report findings at a future date.

Ms. Tucker also advised that Senator Feinstein introduced her comprehensive water bill, the STREAM Act (S. 2162) which authorizes funding for surface and groundwater storage, water recycling, desalination, and ecosystem restoration. Governmental Affairs Manager Heather Baez asked whether the Board had any comments on the STREAM Act, noting that because the legislation aligns with the District's Legislative Policy Principles (which were approved by

the Board), she would be sending a letter of support. Upon general concurrence, the Board concurred that staff submit a letter in support of the STREAM Act.

The Board received and filed the report.

b. State Legislative Report

Mr. Syrus Devers, of BBK, reviewed his report, highlighting various pieces of legislation including AB 460, SB 389, and the budget bills (AB 147 and SB 149). He also advised that Assembly Member Robert Rivas was sworn in as the Speaker of the Assembly.

Following discussion, the Board received and filed the report.

c. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)

Although Mr. Ackerman was not in attendance, the Board discussed various aspects of his report, including the issue of two North San Diego County water districts' request to detach from the SDCWA (to join Eastern Municipal Water District) to save money on imported water costs.

Following discussion, the Board received and filed the report.

d. County Legislative Report (Whittingham)

Mr. Peter Whittingham referenced his written report, highlighting the OC Grand Jury report "Historic Rain, Yet Drought Remains." Considerable discussion ensued regarding the need to educate the Grand Jury on water issues. It was noted that staff was in the process of preparing a response to the report and would present to the Board in August.

e. MWDOC Legislative Matrix

The Board received and filed the report.

f. Metropolitan Legislative Matrix

The Board received and filed the report.

INPUT OR QUESTIONS ON MET ISSUES FROM THE MEMBER AGENCIES/MET DIRECTOR REPORTS REGARDING MET COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

Director Seckel referenced the CAMP4W process, as well as noting that an update on the costs for the Pure Water project will be given to the MET Board in August. He also advised that he attended a MET tour of the desert housing, which was organized in an effort to determine what is needed to improve the deteriorating conditions with the housing

Director Dick also referenced the desert housing issues, noting efforts are underway to improve the housing. Director Dick then referenced an upcoming reception celebrating the Pure Water project, as well as providing an update on the Solar Cup activities.

ACTION ITEMS

CALIFORNIA SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION (CSDA) 2023 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION – SOUTHERN NETWORK REGION, SEAT C

Upon MOTION by Director Thomas, seconded by Director Dick, and carried (6-0), the Board authorized staff to cast the District’s ballot by the designated deadline, in support of Director Al Nederhood for the CSDA Board of Directors, Southern Network, Seat C, by the following roll call vote:

Upon MOTION by Director Seckel, seconded by Director Thomas, and carried (5-0), the Board adopted a support position on AB 334 (B. Rubio) and authorized a letter be sent to the author and the Orange County delegation, by the following roll call vote:

- AYES: Directors Nederhood, Crane, McVicker, Seckel, and Thomas
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Directors Dick and Yoo Schneider
- ABSTAIN: None

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 June MET Board Meeting
- b. MET 4-Month Outlook on Upcoming Issues (not available)
- c. Review items of significance for the upcoming MET Board and Committee Agendas

The report was received and filed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Maribeth Goldsby
Board Secretary