

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

September 6, 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. Director Dick 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 (absent)  
Megan Yoo Schneider

**STAFF**

Harvey De La Torre, Interim General Mgr.  
Joe Byrne, Legal Counsel  
Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary  
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  
Vicki Osborn, Director of Emergency Management  
Sarina Sriboonlue, Principal Engineer  
Kevin Hostert, Sr. Water Resource Analyst  
Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs

\*Also MWDOC-MET Directors

**OTHER MWDOC-MET DIRECTORS**

Linda Ackerman  
Dennis Erdman

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Kitano Kasaine  
Arnout Van Den Berg  
Sam Smalls  
Jacqueline McMillan  
Sara Tucker (absent)  
Garrett Durst  
Syrus Devers  
Dick Ackerman  
Ed Means (absent)  
Paul Jones  
Peter Whittingham  
Doug Davert  
Dave Youngblood  
Kathryn Freshley  
Mike Gaskins  
Kay Havens  
Mark Monin

Metropolitan Water District of So. Calif.  
Metropolitan Water District of So. Calif.  
Metropolitan Water District of So. Calif.  
Metropolitan Water District of So. Calif.  
NRR  
NRR  
Syrus Devers Advocacy  
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

Vu Chu	El Toro Water District
Ken Vecchiarelli	Golden State Water Company
Doug Reinhart	Irvine Ranch Water District
Peer Swan	Irvine Ranch Water District
Keith Van Der Maaten	Laguna Beach County Water District
Jim Atkinson	Mesa Water
Paul Shoenberger	Mesa Water
Dick Fiore	Moulton Niguel Water District
Don Froelich	Moulton Niguel Water District
Bill Moorhead	Moulton Niguel Water District
Sherry Wanninger	Moulton Niguel Water District
Laura Rocha	Moulton Niguel Water District
Kelly Rowe	Orange County Water District
Mike Markus	Orange County Water District
John Kennedy	Orange County Water District
Adam Hutchinson	Orange County Water District
Lisa Haney	Orange County Water District
Brad Reese	Serrano Water District
Saundra Jacobs	Santa Margarita Water District
Dan Ferons	Santa Margarita Water District
Chip Monaco	Santa Margarita Water District
Rick Shintaku	South Coast Water District
Fernando Paludi	Trabuco Canyon Water District
Brett Barbre	Yorba Linda Water District
Mark Toy	Yorba Linda Water District
Yvette Hanna	City of Fullerton
Lisa Ohlund	Ohlund Management & Technical Services
Daniel Dugan	Calleguas Municipal Water District
Charlotte Holifield	Calleguas Municipal Water District
Tony Goff	Calleguas Municipal Water District
Henry Graumlich	Calleguas Municipal Water District
Dan Smith	Calleguas Municipal Water District
Ian Prichard	Calleguas Municipal Water District
John Adams	Eastern Municipal Water District
Jolene Walsh	Eastern Municipal Water District
Tom Love	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD
Evelyn Rodriguez	Upper San Gabriel Valley MWD
Emily Novak	San Diego County Water Authority
Liz Mendelson-Goossens	San Diego County Water Authority
Kristy Khachigian	KK Consulting
Betty Yo	
Tim Smith	

**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.

### **PRESENTATION / DISCUSSION ITEMS**

#### **PRESENTATION BY METROPOLITAN STAFF ON THE DRAFT LONG RANGE FINANCIAL PLAN**

Ms. Katano Kasaine (MET) provided an overview of the Long Range Finance Plan (LRFP) Needs Assessment process and next steps (as part of the integrated planning process). She advised that the LRFP Needs Assessment would provide overall rate impacts through the various scenarios identified in the 2020 Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) Needs Assessment process, as well as a detailed financial analysis of the selected resource development portfolio.

Mr. Arnout Van Den Berg (MET) then provided a detailed report regarding the 2020 IRP Needs Assessment process, scenarios, projected water demands (under the scenarios), overall rate impacts of the developing resource portfolios for the IRP scenarios with differing core, flex, and storage options, the effects of adding addition storage for the IRP "Scenario D," the sensitivity impact for lower demands, and estimated capital investment costs. He also reported on the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) process (including examples of projects to consider), current conservation initiatives, conservation price elasticity (how much conservation is available and at what cost), nature of conservation investment (front-loaded expenditures), a look at a mandatory conservation scenario, and projected 2032 overall rates (cumulative overall rate increases from the 2024 adopted rate).

Mr. Sam Smalls (MET) reported on the capital financing considerations, the primary means of funding capital improvement projects, an overview of debt financing, the next steps for the CAMP4W process, and an updated timeline for the LRFP Needs Assessment.

Considerable discussion ensued with specific emphasis on Scenario D, the key assumptions in the LRFP Needs Assessment and whether costs for current projects were considered (e.g., Pure Water, Delta Conveyance, etc.), MET's existing debt portfolio, the need to demonstrate the ability to finance future projects, the need for estimates for conservation elasticity (scenario analysis), projection of future water use/demands, potential rate increases, the importance of leveraging science data tools, the need to focus on abundance rather than shortage (and ways to achieve abundance, e.g., purchasing land and leasing said land to farmers), and the overall process and its effectiveness.

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 that the appropriations process will be priority when Congress returns from recess, leadership changes, the potential for a government shutdown, the Bureau of Reclamation 24-month study, Colorado River activities, and the WOTUS Conforming Rule.

The Board received and filed the report.

**b. State Legislative Report**

Mr. Syrus Devers, of SDA, reviewed his report, noting nothing additional to report. Following discussion, the Board received and filed the report.

**c. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)**

Mr. Dick Ackerman referenced his report, highlighting Water and Space, and Lake Powell/Lake Mead discussions.

The Board received and filed the report.

**d. County Legislative Report (Whittingham)**

Mr. Whittingham reported that Supervisors Foley and Sarmiento held a Climate Resiliency Summit, noting he will forward his notes from the Summit.

**e. MWDOC Legislative Matrix**

The Board received and filed the report.

**f. Metropolitan Legislative Matrix**

The Board received and filed the report.

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

Director Seckel advised that most of the immediate concerns/issues at MET were addressed earlier in the meeting. He highlighted Director Dick receiving his 20-year service pin.

President Yoo Schneider congratulated Director Seckel on 40 years with MWDOC (as employee and Director).

Interim General Manager Harvey De La Torre provided a status update on Consultant Ed Means's health condition, noting he is doing well.

President Yoo Schneider announced that it was Ovarian Cancer Month, and she highlighted that she reached the one-year mark of her ovarian cancer treatment.

No further MET reports were given.

## **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 August MET Board Meeting
- b. 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 10:04 a.m.

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Maribeth Goldsby  
Board Secretary