

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY  
January 17, 2024**

At 8:30 a.m., President McVicker called to order the Regular Meeting of the Municipal Water District of Orange County, in the Board Room at the District facilities located in Fountain Valley, as well as via the Zoom Webinar application. Following a moment of silence, Director Seckel led the Pledge of Allegiance and Secretary Goldsby called the roll.

**MWDOC DIRECTORS**

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

**STAFF**

Harvey De La Torre, General Manager  
Katrina Wraight, Legal Counsel  
Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary  
Melissa Baum-Haley, Director of MET Issues/Policy  
Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs  
Alex Heide, Sr. Water Resources Analyst  
Cathy Harris, Director of HR/Administration  
Joe Berg, Director of Water Use Efficiency  
Charles Busslinger, Dir. of Engineering/Dist. Eng.  
Heather Baez, Director of Governmental Affairs  
Sarina Sriboonlue, Principal Engineer  
Hilary Chumpitazi, Director of Finance/IT  
Kevin Hostert, Sr. Water Resource Analyst

**ALSO PRESENT**

Linda Ackerman  
Dennis Erdman  
Doug Davert  
Kathryn Freshley  
Mike Gaskins  
Kay Havens  
Dennis Cafferty  
Vu Chu  
Doug Reinhart  
Peer Swan  
Jim Atkinson  
Jim Fidler  
Sherry Wanninger  
Mike Markus  
John Kennedy  
Saundra Jacobs  
Frank Ury  
Jim Leach  
Chip Monaco  
Rick Shintaku  
Jennifer Lopez  
Glen Acosta  
Fernando Paludi  
Dick Ackerman  
Charles Luas

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  
El Toro Water District  
Irvine Ranch Water District  
Irvine Ranch Water District  
Mesa Water  
Mesa Water  
Moulton Niguel Water District  
Orange County Water District  
Orange County Water District  
Santa Margarita Water District  
Santa Margarita Water District  
Santa Margarita Water District  
Santa Margarita Water District  
Santa Margarita Water District  
South Coast Water District  
South Coast Water District  
Trabuco Canyon Water District  
Trabuco Canyon Water District  
Ackerman Consulting  
Orchard Dale Water District

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC COMMENT**

President McVicker announced that members of the public wishing to comment on agenda items could do so after the item has been discussed by the Board and requested members of the public identify themselves when called on. President McVicker asked whether any member of the public had any comments on items that are not on the agenda.

No public comments were received.

**ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED**

No items were received.

**ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO THE BOARD LESS THAN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO MEETING**

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 less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF OCWD GENERAL MANAGER MIKE MARKUS ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT**

President McVicker, along with General Manager De La Torre, acknowledged and presented a gift to OCWD General Manager Markus on the occasion of his retirement.

**EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARD**

General Manager De La Torre presented an award to Maribeth Goldsby for 30 years of service to the District.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

President McVicker stated all matters under the Consent Calendar would be approved by one MOTION unless a Director wished to consider an item separately.

Director Seckel asked that the Committee reports be corrected to include Mr. Vu Chu's correct District (ETWD).

Upon MOTION by Director Yoo Schneider, seconded by Director Thomas, and carried (7-0) the Board approved the Consent Calendar items, by the following roll call vote:

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

**MINUTES**

The following minutes were approved.

December 6, 2023 Workshop Board Meeting  
December 20, 2023 Regular Board Meeting

**COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS**

The following Committee Meeting reports were received and filed as presented.

Planning & Operations Committee Meeting: December 4, 2023  
Administration & Finance Committee Meeting: December 13, 2023  
Executive Committee Meeting: December 20, 2023

**TREASURER'S REPORTS**

The following items were ratified and approved as presented.

MWDOC Revenue/Cash Receipt Register as of December 31, 2023  
Disbursement Registers (December/January)

The following items were received and filed as presented.

Summary of Cash and Investment and Portfolio Master Summary Report (Cash and Investment Report) as of November 30, 2023

PARS Monthly Statement (OPEB Trust)

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

The following items were received and filed as presented.

Combined Financial Statements and Budget Comparative for the Period Ending November 30, 2023

**- END CONSENT CALENDAR -**

**ACTION CALENDAR**

**APPROVAL OF WEBSITE REFRESH**

Upon MOTION by Director Seckel, seconded by Director Nederhood, and carried (7-0), the Board authorized Option 1 (or A) as follows: Select L.A. Design Studio as the vendor for Phase 1, through a sole source contract (foregoing the RFP process) and begin the process of refreshing basic website components. If Phase 2 is needed and/or urgent, with the vendor in place, they are primed to begin work immediately on additional recommendations from the MWDOC Board following the completion and approval of an updated MWDOC Communications Plan. This contractor is the original architect of mwdoc.com (developed in 2017), has a repository of assets

on hand, and is familiar with the brand, architecture, and codebase of the current website, including customizations, plugins, and integrations. The total project cost quoted is \$32,000, with total yearly maintenance, hosting, and compliance costs “not to exceed” \$6,300. The estimated time for completion is three (3) to six (6) months. Said MOTION was adopted by the following roll call vote:

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

Director Seckel suggested Charles Eckstrom (MET Group Manager-Information Technology) meet with MWDOC staff on this effort.

**STANDING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS AND SUBJECT MATTER ASSIGNMENTS FOR 2024; SCHEDULE OF COMMITTEE MEETING DATES FOR 2024**

Upon MOTION by Director Thomas, seconded by Director Seckel, and carried (7-0), the Board (1) ratified the list of Standing Committee and Subject Matter Assignments as presented by the President of the Board; and (2) ratified Committee meeting dates/times for 2024, by the following roll call vote:

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

Director Seckel noted he is available to travel to Washington, DC regarding advocacy efforts in the event he is needed.

**ASSOCIATION AND COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS FOR 2024**

Upon MOTION by Director Thomas, seconded by Director Seckel, and carried (7-0), the Board (1) ratified the appointment of Representatives and Alternates to Associations as presented by the President of the Board; and (2) adopted RESOLUTION NO. 2145 approving the appointment of Jeff Thomas as Representative and Charles Busslinger as Alternate to the Santiago Aqueduct Commission (SAC), for submission to SAC, by the following roll call vote:

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

**INFORMATION CALENDAR****GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT, JANUARY 2024**

General Manager De La Torre advised that the full General Manager's report was included in the Board packet.

The Board received and filed the report as presented.

**MWDOC GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS****a. BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Board members each reported on their attendance at the regular (and special) MWDOC Board and Committee meetings. In addition to these meetings, the following reports were made on conferences and meetings attended on behalf of the District.

Director Nederhood advised that he attended most of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), the WACO and WACO planning meetings, the MET Committee and Board meetings, and the CRWUA conference. Director Nederhood then expressed his concern with MET's plan for an electric vehicle fleet, noting that although he appreciates owning and using an EV, he is concerned with the limitations and unintended consequences of fleet vehicles.

Director Dick stated that he attended all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings, (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), the regularly scheduled MET Board and Committee meetings, the UWI Board meeting, the MET Caucus, the WACO and WACO planning meetings, a meeting with Paul Jones, a meeting with Carolyn Shaffer (MET), a meeting with Mohsen Mortada (MET), and a meeting with MET Chair Adan Ortega.

Director McVicker reported that he attended all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop meeting and Regular Board meetings), the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting, the WACO and WACO planning meetings, the MET Committee meetings, a meeting with Legal Counsel Byrne and staff regarding the General Manager's evaluation process, as well as conference video calls with CCEEB and AMWA regarding their mission and member services (in preparation of the upcoming budget discussions).

Director Seckel advised that he attended the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), the regularly scheduled MET Board and Committee meetings, the WACO and WACO planning meetings, the Colorado River Water Users Association conference, a meeting with representatives from the Ocean Wells group, a meeting with Director Yoo Schneider, and the MET CAMP4W Task Force meeting.

Director Crane reported that he attended most of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), the MET CAMP4W Task Force meeting, several member agency Board meetings, and the WACO meeting.

Director Thomas stated that he attended most of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), the Colorado River Water Users Association conference, the WACO meeting, OC Water Summit planning meeting(s), and the ACWA Finance Committee meeting. He noted that he would be attending the Water Policy dinner later in the month.

Director Yoo Schneider advised that she attended the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), a meeting with President McVicker, a meeting with SMWD's President Jacobs, a meeting with Director Seckel, the WACO meeting, the LBCWD Commission meetings, the SCWD Board meeting, and the SMWD Board meeting(s).

**a. REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS**

No items for future agenda topics were presented.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, President McVicker adjourned the meeting at 9:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Maribeth Goldsby, Secretary