

**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 4, 2024

At 8:30 a.m., As President McVicker was participating via a teleconference location, Vice President Thomas 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 Nederhood 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, General Manager
Katrina Wright, Legal Counsel
Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary
Melissa Baum-Haley, Assistant General Mgr.
Vicki Osborn, Director of Emergency Management
Heather Baez, Director of Governmental Affairs
Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs
Sarina Sriboonlue, Principal Engineer
Joe Berg, Director of WUE
Rachel Davis, Water Loss Control Prog. Supervisor
Rachel Waite, WUE Program Supervisor

*Also MWDOC-MET Directors

OTHER MWDOC-MET DIRECTORS

Linda Ackerman
Dennis Erdman

OTHERS PRESENT

Sara Tucker (absent)
Garrett Durst
Syrus Devers
Dick Ackerman
Peter Whittingham
Paul Jones
Jerry Brown
Nina Hawk
Doug Davert
Dave Youngblood
Kathryn Freshley
Mike Gaskins
Kay Havens
Mark Monin
Dennis Cafferty
Vu Chu
Ken Vecchiarelli
Peer Swan

NRR
NRR
Syrus Devers Advocacy
Ackerman Consulting
Whittingham Public Affairs Advisors
Dopudja & Wells Consulting
Sites Project Authority
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
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
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
Golden State Water Company
Irvine Ranch Water District

Keith Van Der Maaten	Laguna Beach County Water District
Jim Fisler	Mesa Water
Stacy Taylor	Mesa Water
Dick Fiore	Moulton Niguel Water District
Don Froelich	Moulton Niguel Water District
Sherry Wanninger	Moulton Niguel Water District
Laura Rocha	Moulton Niguel Water District
John Kennedy	Orange County Water District
Chris Olsen	Orange County Water District
Saundra Jacobs	Santa Margarita Water District
Rick Shintaku	South Coast Water District
Jennifer Lopez	South Coast Water District
Fernando Paludi	Trabuco Canyon Water District
Brett Barbre	Yorba Linda Water District
Gene Hernandez	Yorba Linda Water District
Tom Lindsey	Yorba Linda Water District
Emily Novak	San Diego County Water Authority
Steven Faessel	City of Anaheim MET Director
Cesar Barrera	City of Santa Ana

TELECONFERENCE SITES

Director McVicker participated via teleconference location (all agenda requirements pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act requirements were complied with).

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vice President Thomas 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 Thomas 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**UPDATE ON THE SITES RESERVOIR PROJECT**

Mr. Jerry Brown, Executive Director of the Sites Project Authority (Authority), provided an overview and update regarding the Sites Reservoir Project (Project). His presentation included information on Project facilities, projected operations, current allocations of Sites Reservoir Project storage space, interested Project participants (as well as the proposed priority system for the participants), Project funding sources, a cost comparison (Sites to alternative water supply systems), environmental planning/permitting, and the Governor's certification of the Project (via SB 149).

The Board and audience held considerable discussion with Mr. Brown, specifically on governance of the Project (and whether a JPA could turn into a Special District), possible water exchanges and transfers, the proposed "priority system" for Participants, operations (how the system will work and how much water will it yield), the overall storage capacity of the Project, what regulations/permitting still needs to be done (and how active the Authority has been with these issues), the proposed annual operational expenses, and how the Project would add to MET's portfolio. The Board also discussed how well the Project would work either with or without the Delta Conveyance Project, the financing challenges facing the Authority, the Project's hydropower component, and the overall need for additional storage.

Following discussion, the Board thanked Mr. Brown and received and filed the information.

LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES**a. Federal Legislative Report**

Mr. Garrett Durst of NRR reviewed his written report, and he highlighted the appropriations process and how it would affect the Sites Reservoir Project.

The Board received and filed the report.

b. State Legislative Report

Mr. Syrus Devers of SDA reviewed his report, highlighting bills on the Governor's desk for signature (or veto) that were advocated for by CCEEB, including SB 366 (Caballero re the California Water Plan, Long-Term Supply Targets), and AB 2257 (Wilson re Local Government). He also noted that SB 1390 (Caballero re Groundwater Recharge, Flow Diversions) did not receive enough votes to pass off the Assembly floor; proponents plan to work with stakeholders in the fall interim and reintroduce a similar measure next session.

The Board received and filed the report.

c. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)

Mr. Dick Ackerman referenced his report, and the Board received and filed the report.

d. County Legislative Report (Whittingham)

As Mr. Whittingham was not present, the Board received and filed the report.

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 highlighted the following issues discussed at MET: (1) MET’s Business Model; MET/SDCWA litigation settlement discussions; (3) Pure Water Southern California and Sites Reservoir; (4) CAMP4W; and (5) integration of capital distribution projects.

Director Erdman highlighted his participation in the Engineering, Operations, and Technology Committee’s activities (desert housing upgrades, Pure Water, seismic/emergency preparedness).

Director Dick advised that MET Director DeJesus was replaced by MET Director Camacho on the Colorado River Board.

ACTION ITEM

ISDOC CALL FOR NOMINATIONS (ADOPT RESOLUTION)

Secretary Goldsby reported that the Planning & Operations Committee (Committee) recommended the Board adopt a Resolution nominating Director Robert McVicker to the office of President of ISDOC. She also noted that the Committee suggested any other MWDOC Directors interested in running for ISDOC 2nd Vice President advise the Board of such interest; no Directors expressed interest.

Upon MOTION by Director Seckel, seconded by Director Thomas, and carried (6-0), the Board adopted RESOLUTION NO. 2149 nominating Director Robert McVicker to the office of President of the Independent Special Districts of Orange County (ISDOC), by the following roll call vote:

- AYES: Director Nderhood, Dick, McVicker, Seckel, Crane and Thomas
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Director 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 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 10:32 a.m.

Maribeth Goldsby
District Secretary