

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
November 20, 2024**

At 8:30 a.m., Vice President Thomas 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 Dick 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, Assistant General Manager
Heather Baez, Director of Governmental Affairs
Alex Heide, Sr. Water Resources Analyst
Sarina Sriboonlue, Principal Engineer
Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs
Hilary Chumpitazi, Director of Finance/IT
Cathy Harris, Director of Administration/HR
Joe Berg, Director of Water Use Efficiency

ALSO PRESENT

Linda Ackerman
Dennis Erdman (absent)
Kathryn Freshley
Mike Gaskins
Kay Havens
Mark Monin
Vu Chu
Doug Reinhart
Peer Swan
Paul Weghorst
Keith Van Der Maaten
Jim Fisler
Stacy Taylor
Don Froelich
Diane Rifkin
Sherry Wanninger
John Kennedy
Chris Olsen
Laura Freese
Saundra Jacobs
Greg Mills
Brad Reese
Glen Acosta
Fernando Paludi
Michael Chandler
Jason Churchill

MWDOC/MET Director
MWDOC/MET Director
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
Irvine Ranch Water District
Laguna Beach County Water District
Mesa Water
Mesa Water
Moulton Niguel Water District
Moulton Niguel Water District
Moulton Niguel Water District
Orange County Water District
Orange County Water District
Santa Margarita Water District
Santa Margarita Water District
Serrano Water District
Serrano Water District
Trabuco Canyon Water District
Trabuco Canyon Water District
City of Tustin
City of Tustin

Mike Grisso
Gene Hernandez
Tom Lindsey
Charles Luas
Lisa Ohlund
Mike Markus
Isabel Rios

City of Tustin
Yorba Linda Water District
Yorba Linda Water District
Orchard Dale Water District
Ohlund Management & Technical Services

REMOTE/TELECONFERENCE SITES

Directors Yoo Schneider and McVicker were participating via teleconference location (all agenda requirements pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act requirements were complied with). Director Seckel was participating remotely pursuant to the AB 2449 just cause exemption.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice President Thomas 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. Vice President Thomas asked whether any member of the public had any comments on items that were 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

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 less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

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

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

MINUTES

The following minutes were approved.

October 2, 2024	Workshop Board Meeting
October 16, 2024	Regular Board Meeting

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

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

Planning & Operations Committee Meeting:	October 14, 2024
Administration & Finance Committee Meeting:	October 9, 2024
Executive Committee Meeting:	October 17, 2024
MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning Committee:	October 23, 2024

TREASURER'S REPORTS

The following items were ratified and approved as presented.

MWDOC Revenue/Cash Receipt Register as of October 31, 2024
Disbursement Registers (October/November)

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 September 30, 2024

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 September 30, 2024

Quarterly Budget Review

AUTHORIZATION TO VOTE ON BEHALF OF MWDOC ON CALIFORNIA SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION (CSDA) 2024 BYLAWS VOTE

The Board (1) reviewed the proposed updates to CSDA's Bylaws; (2) authorized staff to cast the District's ballot in support of the updates; and (3) authorized staff to submit the District's ballot electronically no later than Wednesday, November 20.

AUTHORIZATION TO VOTE ON BEHALF OF MWDOC ON THE ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES (ACWA) PROPOSED AMENDED AND RESTATED BYLAWS

The Board (1) reviewed ACWA’s proposed bylaw amendments; (2) authorized staff to submit a Voter Designation and Information Form to ACWA as required no later than Monday, November 25; and (3) authorized Director Jeff Thomas, with Director Randy Crane as his alternate, to cast the District’s ballot at ACWA’s Fall Conference on December 4, 2024.

- END CONSENT CALENDAR -

ACTION ITEMS

ADOPT RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MEMBERSHIP IN PUBLIC RISK INNOVATION, SOLUTIONS, AND MANAGEMENT (PRISM) AND DELEGATE AUTHORITY TO THE GENERAL MANAGER AND DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND ADMINISTRATION TO ACT ON BEHALF OF THE DISTRICT

Upon MOTION by Director Crane, seconded by Director Dick, and carried (7-0), the Board adopted RESOLUTION NO. 2150 authorizing District membership in the Public Risk Innovation, Solutions, and Management (PRISM); and (2) delegated authority to the General Manager and Director of Human Resources and Administration to act on behalf of the District and enter into agreements with PRISM for participation in its life and long-term disability insurance policies as well as the Employee Assistance Program (EAP).

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS

MEMBER AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – CITY OF TUSTIN

Following an introduction by General Manager De La Torre, Tustin’s Water Services Manager Mike Chandler provided an overview of Tustin’s water service, as well as an update on Tustin’s supplies and demands (imported, groundwater, etc.), the 17th Street Desalter (and associated improvements), the Main Street Treatment Facility, and the Simon Ranch Reservoir & Booster. He also reviewed the value of partnering with MWDOC (shared services, UWMP, WUE programs, WEROC, and regulatory issues), as well as challenges facing Tustin (aging infrastructure, retaining qualified staff, and water quality regulations), and he reviewed the issue of Artificial Intelligence within the water community.

Following a brief discussion and question/answer period, the Board thanked Mr. Chandler and received and filed the report.

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

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

Mr. De La Torre then announced that the OC LAFCO MSR Focused Study was released, and it outlined information regarding the feasibility of a consolidation between MWDOC and OCWD. He provided a brief presentation and overview of the Study, noting it was limited in that the scope of work was narrowly focused on financial feasibility. He also reviewed the Study findings which offered no conclusions or recommendations, and he reviewed the process timeline. He advised that staff will be scheduling a meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee to review and discuss MWDOC's comment letter, and it is anticipated that MWDOC's comment letter will be presented to the Board on December 18, 2024 for review.

Following discussion regarding the study and scope, as well as the overall process, 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 the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning Committee, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), the MET meetings, the WACO and WACO planning meetings, a CCEEB teleconference meeting, an ACWA webinar regarding the California State Standards (Conservation as a way of Life), OC Water Summit planning meeting(s), the ISDOC quarterly luncheon, and the YLWD Board meeting. He then provided his views on the MET meetings and Reverse Cyclic Storage Program.

Director Dick stated that he attended the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning Committee, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), the regularly scheduled MET Board and Committee meetings, UWI meetings, the OC Taxpayers Association meeting, the ISDOC meeting, the WACO and WACO planning meetings, the EMWD reception honoring MET Director Randy Record, the MWDOC MET Directors meeting(s), a meeting with MET's finance department staff, and the MET Caucus. He then provided his views on the MET meetings and issues.

Director McVicker reported that he attended all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop meeting and Regular Board meetings),

the MET Board and Committee meetings, a meeting with General Manager De La Torre, the WACO meeting, and the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting.

Director Seckel advised that he attended the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), the regularly scheduled MET Board and Committee meetings, the “MET Works” event, the MET Caucus, the SCWD meeting, a meeting with MET Chair Ortega, and MET’s 50th anniversary event for its Water Quality Lab. He noted he would be attending MET’s Long-Term Regional Planning meeting later in the day. Director Seckel also provided comments regarding MET’s financial position and activities.

Director Crane reported that he attended all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), two MET Committee meetings, the ISDOC Executive Committee and quarterly luncheon, the South County Watershed Management Area Executive Committee meeting, two IRWD Board meetings, and the CCEEB conference.

Director Yoo Schneider advised that she attended the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), several CCEEB meetings, including the CCEEB conference, member agency Board and Committee meetings (SMWD and SCWD), a meeting with General Manager De La Torre, a MET meeting, and the Going Native Therapeutic Gardens Board meeting. She noted that she spoke at a recent UCI and UC Riverside events.

Director Thomas stated that he attended the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), as well as the MET meetings, the WACO meeting, the OC Water Summit planning meeting, the ACWA Finance Committee meeting, the OC Chamber of Commerce meeting wherein he was featured speaker.

b. REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

No new items were presented.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Vice President Thomas adjourned the meeting at 9:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maribeth Goldsby, Secretary