

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**MINUTES**

**EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND AFFORDABILITY COMMITTEE**

**January 8, 2024**

Chair McCoy called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

Members present: Directors Cordero, De Jesus (teleconference location posted), Dennstedt, Dick, Fellow, Fong-Sakai, Garza, Gray (teleconference location posted), Luna, and McCoy.

Members absent: Director Sutley.

Other Members present: Abdo, Ackerman, Bryant, Erdman, Faessel, Goldberg, Kurtz, Miller, Morris, Ortega, Peterson, Pressman (teleconference location posted), Seckel, and Smith.

Committee Staff present: Crosson, Hagekhalil, Kasaine, Redin, Ros, and Thomas.

**1. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE’S JURISDICTION**

None

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS — ACTION**

**2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION**

- A. Subject: Approval of the Minutes of the Equity, Inclusion, and Affordability Committee for November 13, 2023 (Copies have been submitted to each Director, Any additions, corrections, or omissions)

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION**

None

Director Fong-Sakai made a motion, seconded by Director Garza, to approve the consent calendar consisting of item 2A.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Cordero, De Jesus, Dennstedt, Dick, Fellow, Fong-Sakai, Garza, Gray, and McCoy.  
Noes: None  
Abstentions: Director Luna  
Absent: Director Sutley

The motion for item 2A passed by a vote of 9 ayes, 0 noes, 1 abstain, and 1 absent.

### **END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS**

#### **4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION**

None

#### **5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

None

#### **6. COMMITTEE ITEMS**

- a. Subject: Equity, Inclusion, and Affordability Panel on Cost Containment and Offsets

Panelist:

Janet Clements, President One Water Econ

Erin Corvinova, Financial Planning Director at San Francisco Public Utilities Commission

Greg Pierce, Director, UCLA Human Right to Water Lab; Water Resources Group

Presented by: Adrian Hightower, Special Projects Manager  
Erin Corvinova, Financial Planning Director at San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
Janet Clements, President One Water Econ  
Greg Pierce, Director, UCLA Human Right to Water Lab; Water Resources Group

Ms. Crosson introduced the item and Mr. Hightower provided an overview of the panels on affordability to date and introduced the panelists. Ms. Corvinova continued the presentation with an overview of San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) Affordability Policy. Her presentation also included the SFPUC affordability evaluation process and key considerations in developing policy.

Ms. Clements continued the presentation with an overview of findings from the CrVI MCL, State's assessment of financial need, independent affordability assessment, and identifying strategies.

Next, Mr. Pierce presented the committee with perspectives on Metropolitan's cost containment and water affordability challenges. His presentation included research done by the University of California, Los Angeles Human Right to Water solutions lab, relevant statewide work, relevant local work, and suggestions on what Metropolitan can/should do.

Lastly, Mr. Hightower summarized reoccurring themes discussed at previous panels that will influence next steps.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Smith
2. Dick
3. Dennstedt
4. Fong-Sakai
5. Ortega
6. Garza
7. Cordero
8. Seckel
9. Abdo
10. Luna
11. Fellow

Staff responded to the Directors' comments and questions.

## **7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS**

- a. Subject: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion activities

No report was given.

**8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

None

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:51 p.m.

Tana McCoy  
Chair