

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

April 28, 2026

Chair Ortega called the meeting to order at 1:18 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance: Director Lois Fong-Sakai, San Diego County Water Authority.

Members present: Bryant (alternate), Crane (alternate), Erdman (entered after roll and teleconference posted location), Fong-Sakai, Garza, Kurtz, Lewitt, McCoy, McMillan (alternate), Miller (entered after roll call), Ortega, Pressman, Quinn, Seckel, and Sutley.

Members absent: Directors Camacho, Douglas, Gray, Jung, Kassakhian, Katz, and Ramos.

Other Board members present: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Dennstedt, Faessel (entered after roll call and teleconference posted location), Fellow (teleconference posted location), Paule, and Shepherd Romey.

Committee staff present: Chapman, Deshmukh, Maravilla, Rubin, Salinas, Scully, Suzuki, and Zinke.

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

Brett R. Barbre, Director of Yorba Linda Water District, commented on the heli-hydrant at the Robert B. Diemer Water Treatment Plant in Yorba Linda, California.

2. OTHER MATTERS AND REPORTS

a. Subject: Chair's Report

Presented by: Chair Ortega

Chair Ortega announced the Report on International Travel was posted with the agenda.

He encouraged Directors to attend the May 11, 2026 Special Board of Directors meeting to receive a 100-day report from General Manager Shivaji Deshmukh.

Director Erdman entered the meeting.

- b. Subject: General Manager's Report of Metropolitan activities

Presented by: General Manager Deshmukh

General Manager Deshmukh thanked Yorba Linda Water District Director Barbre for attending the meeting, his advocacy and partnership in developing the heli-hydrant and for exchanging real-time updates about the brushfire.

- c. Subject: General Counsel's report of Metropolitan activities

General Counsel Scully stated she had nothing to add to the report.

- e. Subject: Ethics Officer's report of Metropolitan activities

Ethics Officer Salinas stated he had nothing to add to the report.

- d. Subject: General Auditor's report of Metropolitan activities

General Auditor Suzuki stated he had nothing to add to the report.

CONSENT CALENDAR

3. CONSENT ACTION (ONLY)

- A. Approval of the minutes of the Executive Committee of March 24, 2026.
- B. Approval of the draft Committee and Board meeting agendas and schedule for May 2026.

Chair Ortega asked if there were any additions or deletions to the May 2026 draft packet.

Committee Vice Chair Alvarez stated that for the Finance, Affordability, Asset Management, and Efficiency Committee, the following was deferred:

- Adopt CEQA determination that the proposed action was previously addressed in the 2024 Mitigated Negative Declaration adopted by the City of Fontana for the Fontana Fire Station No. 80 and Training Center Project, and authorize the General Manager to execute a new 30-year license agreement with four options to extend the term in five-year increments for a maximum term of 50 years with the City of Fontana for supplemental parking for a Fire Station and Training Facility on Metropolitan fee-owned property in the City of Fontana, identified as San Bernardino County Assessor Parcel No. 0228-021-26.

Committee Chair Quinn stated that for the One Water and Adaptation Committee, the following item was revised:

- Amend the Administrative Code to incorporate Board direction on climate action and adaptation.

Chair Ortega stated that the Engineering, Operations, and Technology Committee, the following item was revised:

- Adopt a resolution in support of the application for Proposition 4 funding under the State Water Resources Control Board Water Recycling Funding Program for the direct potable reuse testing facility improvements at the Napolitano Innovation Center; authorize the General Manager to accept the grant if awarded.

Director Sutley made a motion, seconded by Director Garza, to approve consent calendar items 3A and 3B as presented, listed, and revised.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Bryant (alternate), Crane (alternate), Erdman, Fong-Sakai, Garza, Kurtz, Lewitt, McCoy, McMillan (alternate), Miller, Ortega, Pressman, Quinn, Seckel, and Sutley.

Abstention: None

Recusal: None

Absent: Directors Camacho, Douglas, Gray, Jung, Kassakhian, Katz, and Ramos.

The motion for Items 3A and 3B passed by a vote of 15 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstentions; and 7 absent.

Director Camacho was absent and incorrectly displayed as an Aye vote.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

4. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL)

- a. Subject: Guest Speakers: Roger Cornwell, Chair of the Board, and Bryce Lundberg, Board Member and Past Chair of the Board, Northern California Water Association.

Introduced by: Chair Ortega

Chair Ortega introduced Northern California Water Association (NCWA) Chair Roger Cornwell, Board President of the Sacramento River Settlement Contractors, and Board President of the Reclamation District 108.

NCWA Chair Cornwell introduced the following Sacramento Valley representatives:

- Bryce Lundberg, Board Member of the Western Canal Water District, Vice President of Lundberg Family Farms, and Past Chair of NCWA Board
- Jenny Scheer, General Manager of the Western Canal Water District
- Fritz Durst, Member of Reclamation District 108 and Sacramento Valley farmer
- David J. Guy, NCWA President

NCWA Chair Cornwell provided a verbal presentation highlighting the Sacramento Valley strategies and priorities for water resilience throughout California.

Bryce Lundberg provided information about the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program and various other projects affecting the Sacramento Valley.

Fritz Durst thanked the Metropolitan Water District for their partnership and provided comments about projects affecting the Sacramento Valley.

The NCWA delegation provided the Executive Committee with handouts about the Floodplain Forward 2026 plan.

Chair Ortega provided comments and thanked the Northern California delegation for attending and their presentation.

Director Faessel entered the meeting.

Assistant Board Administrator Myra Maravilla clarified for the record that Director Crawford was incorrectly called on the roll call as a member of the Executive Committee.

5. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

NONE

6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

7. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Ortega adjourned the meeting at 2:12 p.m. in memory of Sal Vazquez, Armando Acuna, and Linda Elliott. Chair Ortega delivered a eulogy in memory of Sal Vazquez.

Adán Ortega
Chair of the Board