

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ONE WATER AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

May 8, 2023

Chair Quinn called the teleconference meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Members present: Chair Quinn, Vice Chair Faessel, Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, Cordero, Erdman, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Peterson, and Sutley.

Members Absent: Directors Chacon, De Jesus, Fong-Sakai, and Petersen.

Other Board Members present: Abdo, Dennstedt, Dick, Garza, Kassakhian, Luna, Ortega, Repenning, Seckel, and Smith.

Committee staff present: Coffey, Crosson, Hasencamp, Munguia, Neudeck, Schlotterbeck, Upadhyay and Wheeler.

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION (As required by Gov. Code Section 54954.3(a))

Public speakers included:

1. Brian Laddusaw, Rubidoux Community Services District, spoke in support of item 8-4.
2. Craig Miller, General Manager, Western Municipal Water District, spoke in support of item 8-4.

Following public speakers, Chair Quinn announced that the Board was in receipt of letters of support for item 8-4 from Western Municipal Water District, Foothill Municipal Water District, and Three Valleys Water District.

2. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Subject: Report from Subcommittee on Bay-Delta

Presented by: Chair Quinn

Chair Quinn reported on four Information items that were discussed at the April 25, 2023, Subcommittee on Bay-Delta meeting:

- Update from the Delta Conveyance Authority Representatives
- Science Update on Delta Smelt Preservation Project
- Update on Delta Island Collaborative Landscape Planning

- Proposed Grant Opportunity for Webb Tract

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION

3. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

- A.** Approval of the Minutes of the One Water and Stewardship Committee for April 10, 2023.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

Director Erdman made a motion, seconded by Director Peterson, to approve the consent calendar consisting of item 3A.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, Cordero, Erdman, Faessel, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Peterson, Quinn, and Sutley.
Noes: None.
Abstentions: None.
Absent: Directors Chacon, De Jesus, Fong-Sakai, and Petersen.

The motion for item 3A passed by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 4 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION

- 8-3** Subject: Adopt a resolution to support an approximately \$20,900,000 grant application to the Sacramento -San Joaquin Delta Conservancy to develop a multi-benefit landscape opportunity on Webb Tract; and authorize the General Manager to accept the grant if awarded; the General Manager has determined that the proposed actions are exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA.

Presented by: Malinda Stalvey, Sr. Environmental Specialist, Bay Delta Initiatives

Motion: Adopt a resolution to support an approximately \$20,900,000 grant application to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy to develop a multi-benefit landscape opportunity on Webb Tract; and authorize the General Manager or designated representative to accept the grant if awarded.

Ms. Nina Hawk, Manager provided background information and introduced Ms. Stalvey.

Ms. Stalvey gave a presentation on the proposed resolution supporting an approximately \$19.7420.9 million grant application that would fund the development of a multi-benefit landscape opportunity.

Ms. Hawk added comments emphasizing the conditions of the grant.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| 1. Miller | 4. Alvarez |
| 2. Dick | 5. Peterson |
| 3. Ortega | 6. Smith |

Staff responded to the Directors questions and comments.

After completion of the presentation, Director Kurtz made a motion, seconded by Director Peterson, to approve item 8-3.

The vote was:

- Ayes: Directors Ackerman, Armstrong, Cordero, Erdman, Faessel, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Peterson, Quinn, and Sutley.
- Noes: None.
- Abstentions: Director Alvarez.
- Absent: Directors Chacon, De Jesus, Fong-Sakai, and Petersen.

The motion for item 8-3 passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 0 noes, 1 abstention, and 4 absent.

8-4 Subject: Authorize the General Manager to enter into an agreement with Western Municipal Water District, Rubidoux Community Services District, West Valley Water District, and San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District to deliver water to Western's service area through facilities not owned by Metropolitan or Western; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: Jessica Arm, Associate Resource Specialist, Water Resource Management

Motion: Authorize the General Manager to enter into an agreement with Western Municipal Water District, Rubidoux Community Services District, West Valley Water District, and San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District to deliver water to Western's service area through facilities not owned by Metropolitan or Western.

Ms. Arm provided a presentation on the proposed agreement to deliver Metropolitan water supplies to Western Municipal Water District's service area through facilities owned and operated by San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District and West Valley Water District.

Chair Quinn paused the presentation to ask the committee if there were questions, as the presentation has been provided before, and she called for a motion. Director Peterson made a motion, seconded by Director Lefevre.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Sutley
2. Goldberg
3. Repenning
4. Garza
5. Ortega

After a committee discussion, the committee voted to approve item 8-4.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, Cordero, Faessel, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Peterson, Quinn, and Sutley.

Noes: None.

Abstentions: None.

Absent: Directors Chacon, De Jesus, Fong-Sakai, and Petersen.

The motion for item 8-4 passed by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 4 absent.

Chair Quinn announced a reordering of the Agenda items 7d and 8-5.

7. COMMITTEE ITEMS

d. Subject: Update on Water Surplus and Drought Management

Presented by: Noosha Razavian, Associate Resource Specialist

Ms. Razavian provided an abbreviated report that included an update on Metropolitan's water supply demand balance.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Lefevre
2. Sutley

Staff responded to the Directors questions and comments.

5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION

8-5 Subject: Review and maintain the General Manager's implementation of the Cyclic Cost-Offset Program effective April 15, 2023, pursuant to the Program terms approved by the Board on April 9, 2019; the Program previously was determined to be exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA.

Presented by: Anna Garcia, Associate Resource Specialist

Recommendation: Review and maintain the General Manager's implementation of the Cyclic Cost-Offset Program effective April 15, 2023, pursuant to the Program terms approved by the Board on April 9, 2019 (No motion or vote is required for this option; the Report will be received and filed.)

Ms. Garcia provided a presentation on the Cyclic Cost-Offset Program that increases Metropolitan's water management opportunities by helping member agencies offset costs incurred while capturing water they otherwise would not have purchased from Metropolitan. Ms. Garcia reviewed background information and Program terms.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

- | | | |
|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| 1. Sutley | 4. Lefevre | 7. Smith |
| 2. Goldberg | 5. Kurtz | 8. Peterson |
| 3. Armstrong | 6. Repenning | 9. Ortega |

Staff responded to the Directors questions and comments.

6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

NONE

7. COMMITTEE ITEMS (Continued)

Chair Quinn announced that Agenda item 7b would be heard before the remaining Committee Items.

b. Subject: Science update: Salmon update

Presented by: Cory Phillis, Sr. Resource Specialist, Bay Delta
Mr. Phillis gave an oral presentation on the recent planned closures of commercial and recreational fisheries off the California and Oregon coast.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Quinn
2. Peterson

Chair Quinn announced that Agenda Item 7c would be heard next.

c. Subject: Annual Climate Action Plan and Update on Climate Vulnerability and Risk Assessment

Presented by: Malinda Stalvey, Sr. Environmental Specialist, Bay Delta Initiatives
Adrian Hightower, Manager, Special Projects, Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation

Ms. Stalvey and Mr. Hightower co-presented a comprehensive update on staff activities related to addressing climate change.

a. Subject: Review of Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Colorado River Interim Guidelines [Conference with legal counsel - anticipated litigation; based on existing facts and circumstances, including that requiring significant water use reductions in relation to the Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement could lead to litigation among the United States and one or more Colorado River water users;

there is a significant exposure to litigation against Metropolitan: unknown number of potential cases; may be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)].

Presented by: Shanti Rosset, Program Manager III, Office of the General Manager

Ms. Rosset provided a presentation that discussed Metropolitan's review of USBR's Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for Colorado River Interim Guidelines.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Smith
2. Faessel

Staff responded to the Directors questions and comments.

8. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

a. Subject: Colorado River Manager's Report

Presented by: Bill Hasencamp, Manager, Colorado River Resources

Mr. Hasencamp provided an update on Colorado River activity and Colorado River water use for Metropolitan's service-area deliveries, Desert Coachella Program, and Lake Mead storage.

b. Subject: Bay-Delta Manager's Report

Presented by: Randal Neudeck, Manager, Bay Delta Programs

Mr. Neudeck noted that there was no further oral update outside of this month's written Bay-Delta Board Report.

c. Subject: Water Resource Management Manager's Report

Presented by: Brad Coffey, Manager, Water Resource Management

Mr. Coffey gave a brief overview of Metropolitan's participation in the California Water Plan.

9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

Chair Quinn announced the formation of the Demand Management subcommittee and requested for volunteers from this committee's membership.

Review the cyclic cost-offset program, and to continue reporting on how it is used.

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

11. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on June 12, 2023

The meeting adjourned at 4:28 p.m.

Tracy Quinn
Chair