MINUTES

MEETING OF THE

SPECIAL JOINT BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

June 23, 2026

54524 The Special Joint meeting of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California met on Tuesday, June 23, 2026.

Chair Ortega called the teleconference meeting to order at 10:24 a.m.

54525 The Meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

54526 Board Executive Secretary Hudson administered the roll call. Those responding present were: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez (teleconference posted location available for the public), Bryant, Camacho, Crane, Daniels, De Jesus (teleconference posted location available for the public), Denham, Dennstedt (teleconference posted location available for the public), Faessel, Fellow, Fong-Sakai, Garza, Gold (teleconference posted location available for the public), Jay, Jung (teleconference posted location available for the public), Kassakhian, Katz (teleconference posted location available for the public), Kurtz, McCoy, Miller, Ortega, Pakala, Paule, Pressman, Quinn, Seckel, Shepherd Romey, and Sutley.

Those not responding were: Directors Cordero, Crawford, Douglas, Erdman, Gray, Lewitt, Petersen, Phan, and Ramos.

Board Secretary Fong-Sakai declared a quorum present.

54527 Chair Ortega invited members of the public to address the Board on matters within the Board's jurisdiction (in-person and via teleconference). None were made.

The public comment was closed.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ITEMS

CONSENT CALENDAR

5. COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS

A. Approve the draft of the Committee and Board meeting agendas and schedule for July 2026.

Chair Ortega asked if there were any additions or deletions to the July 2026 draft packet. None were made.

Chair Ortega called for the vote on Item 5A.

Director Sutley made a motion, seconded by Director Miller to approve the committee Action Item 5A.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Camacho, Crane (alternate), Faessel (alternate), Fellow (alternate), Fong-Sakai, Garza, Jung, Kassakhian, Katz, Kurtz, McCoy, Miller, Ortega, Pressman, Quinn, Seckel, and Sutley.

Abstention: None

Recusal: None

Absent: Douglas, Erdman*, Gray, Lewitt*, and Ramos*.

The motion for Item 5A passed by a vote of 17 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstention; and 2* absent. *not counted as absent for purpose of quorum given alternate present.

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS (FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

8-8 Subject: Review and approve the Department Head Operations Plan; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: None

Motion: Approve the Department Head Operations Plan

The following Director(s) asked questions or made comments:

Director(s)
1. Seckel
2. Ortega

Staff responded to the Director’s questions and comments.

Chair Ortega called for the vote on Items 8-8.

Director Pressman made a motion, seconded by Director Camacho to approve the committee Action Item 8-8.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Camacho, Crane (alternate), Faessel (alternate), Fellow (alternate), Fong-Sakai, Garza, Jung, Kassakhian, Katz, Kurtz, McCoy, Miller, Ortega, Pressman, Quinn, Seckel, and Sutley.

Abstention: None

Recusal: None

Absent: Douglas, Erdman, Gray, Lewitt, and Ramos.

The motion for Item 8-8 passed by a vote of 17 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstention; and 2* absent.
*not counted as absent for purpose of quorum given alternate present.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS ITEMS

Chair Ortega addressed the following: Other Matters and Reports.

OTHER MATTERS AND REPORTS

54528 Chair Ortega reported that Director Ramos' husband passed away; his service will be on Friday in Burbank. He proposed adjourning the meeting in honor oof David Steven Ramos.

54529 General Manager Deshmukh reported on the Palo Verde Irrigation District trip and monitoring the activity at the Union Station FIFA fan fest.

54530 Assistant General Counsel Beatty stated she had nothing to add to the report.

54531 Ethics Officer Salinas stated he had nothing to add to the report.

54532 General Auditor Suzuki stated he had nothing to add to the report.

54533 Induction of new Director R. Reddy Pakala representing Calleguas Municipal Water District. Board Executive Secretary Hudson confirmed the credentials are in order, as received by General Counsel Scully and posted online. Calleguas, President of the Board of Directors, Raul Levila, and Director Pakala made remarks.

54534 Discuss department head performance and goal setting [Public employee performance evaluation—Ethics Officer, General Auditor, General Counsel, and General Manager; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Government Code Section 54957] (Board Item 8a).

54535 Conference with Labor Negotiators; agency designated representatives: Chair of the Board Ortega, Chair and Vice Chair of Legal and Claims Committee Kassakhian and Shepherd Romey and Board Vice Chair Sutley, Vice Chair of Organization, Personnel, and Effectiveness Committee Bryant, Chair and Vice Chair of Audit Ramos and Crane, Chair and Vice Chair of Ethics Seckel and Cordero; Unrepresented employee(s): Ethics Officer, General Auditor, General Counsel, General Manager; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54957.6 (Board Item 8b).

Chair Ortega called the meeting into closed session to discuss Board Items 8a and 8b at 10:48 a.m.

In open session, Chair Ortega stated no action was taken in closed session.

54536 Chair Ortega asked if there were any Follow-Up or Future Items. No requests were made.

54537 There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned in honor of the late David Steven Ramos at 11:37 a.m.

LOIS FONG-SAKAI
BOARD SECRETARY

ADÁN ORTEGA, JR.
CHAIR OF THE BOARD