

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

July 23, 2024

Chair Ortega called the meeting to order at 12:03 p.m.

Chair Ortega called on Director Armstrong, who stated he was participating via teleconference using AB 2449 “just cause” due to contagious illness.

Members present: Directors Abdo, Armstrong (AB2449 Just Cause), Camacho, De Jesus, Fong-Sakai, Garza, Goldberg, Gray (teleconference posted location), Jung (teleconference posted location - entered after roll call), Luna, McCoy, Ortega, Quinn, and Sutley.

Director Armstrong stated that he was alone in the room and appeared on camera.

Members absent: Directors Cordero, Erdman, Pressman, and Smith.

Other Board members present: Directors Ackerman, Dennstedt, Fellow, Lefevre, Lewitt, McMillan, Miller, and Seckel.

Committee staff present: Atkins, Bednarski, Chapman, Salinas, Suzuki, Torres, Upadhyay, Wheeler, and Zinke.

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

	Name	Affiliation	Comment
1.	Caty Wagner	Sierra Club California	Employee Investigation
2.	Margit Chiriaco Rusche	Neighbor of Hinds Plant	Employee Investigation

Director Jung entered the meeting.

2. OTHER MATTERS AND REPORTS

a. Subject: Chair's Report

Presented by: Chair Ortega

Chair Ortega stated that the report on International Travel – Second Quarter 2024, April - June 2024 was posted; a reminded the Board to complete and submit the department head evaluations before July 29, 2024. The department head evaluations will be discussed at the regular board meeting on August 20, 2024.

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

Presented by: Interim General Manager Deven Upadhyay

Interim General Manager Upadhyay reported on the following:

- Impact of the wildfires near Metropolitan facilities
- Security improvements at the Metropolitan headquarters
- Employee appreciation picnic
- General Business Plan for the fiscal year 2024-2025

Senior Board Specialist Atkins announced that during roll call, Director Erdman was marked as present; he is absent for today's meeting.

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

Presented by: Assistant General Counsel Henry Torres

Assistant General Counsel Torres stated he had nothing to add to the report.

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

Presented by: General Auditor Suzuki

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

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

Presented by: Ethics Officer Abel Salinas

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

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION**3. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION**

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting for June 25, 2024.

Chair Ortega asked the Directors if there were any additions, corrections, or omissions on the minutes of the June 25, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting. None were made.

B. Approve the draft of the Committee and Board meeting agendas and schedule for August 2024.

Chair Ortega asked if there were any additions or deletions to the August 2024 draft packet.

Chair Ortega reported that at the Ethics, Organization & Personnel Committee, the following items subject has been revised:

- Refresher of Equal Employment Opportunity Investigative procedures for the Board and its direct reports.

Committee Chair Quinn reported that at the One Water and Stewardship Committee, the following items subject has been revised:

- Update on Chino Basin Program Development with Metropolitan and Inland Empire Utilities Agency.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

NONE

Chair Ortega called for the vote on Items 3A and 3B.

Director Camacho made a motion, seconded by Director Sutley, to approve the consent calendar Items 3A and 3B as listed and revised.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Abdo, Armstrong, Camacho, De Jesus, Fong-Sakai, Garza, Goldberg, Gray, Jung, Luna, McCoy, Ortega, Quinn, and Sutley.

Abstention: None

Recusal: None

Absent: Cordero, Erdman, Pressman, and Smith.

The motion for Item 3A and 3B passed by a vote of 14 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstention; and 4 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

5. COMMITTEE INFORMATION ITEMS

- a. Subject: Spotlight on Metropolitan Employee(s) Retiring with over Twenty Years of Service.

NONE

- b. Subject: Report on the Colorado River Board Meeting.
Presented by: Director Cordero

NONE

- c. Subject: Colorado River Activities
Presented by: Bill Hasencamp

Mr. Hasencamp reported on Colorado River activities.

The following Director provided comments or asked questions:

Director(s)

1. Sutley

Staff responded to the Directors' comments and questions.

6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

Committee Vice Chair Fong-Sakai announced the committee discussed the following:

- Global internal audit standard 7.1: Organizational Independence
- General Auditor's Quarterly report
- Discussion on ransomware readiness assessment
- Advisory services: introduction to fraud

The next Audit Subcommittee of the Executive Committee will be in November.

7. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

NONE

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:43 p.m.

Adán Ortega, Jr.
Chair of the Board