

# **THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

## **MINUTES**

### **ONE WATER AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

**August 14, 2023**

Chair Quinn called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Members present: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, Chacon, Cordero, De Jesus (teleconference posted location), Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Peterson (teleconference posted location), Pressman (entered after roll call, teleconference posted location), Quinn and Sutley.

Members Absent: Directors Petersen.

Other Board Members present: Abdo, Bryant, Dennstedt, Fellow, Garza, Luna, McCoy, McMillan, Morris, Ortega, Seckel, and Smith.

Committee staff present: Coffey, Crosson, Hasencamp, Hawk, 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. Maura Monagan, Los Angeles Waterkeeper spoke in support of item 7-4.

#### **2. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

None

Director Pressman entered the meeting.

Director Quinn announced that Agenda item 3a would be conducted with the rest of the Consent Calendar Items following staff presentations.

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION**

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

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the One Water and Stewardship Committee for July 10, 2023.

Director Miller requested a vote separately on Agenda item 7-3.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION**

- 7-3**      Subject:                      Authorize amendments to the Cyclic Cost-Offset Program terms; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by:                      Anna Garcia, Associate Engineer, Water Resource Management

Motion:                              Authorize amendments to the Cyclic Cost-Offset Program terms

Amended Motion:                      Authorize amendments to the Cyclic Cost-Offset Program terms and authorize the general manager to execute other agreements, including surface storage, that achieve the same benefits under the same financial terms and conditions.

Mr. Coffey provided brief background information and introduced Ms. Garcia.

Ms. Garcia gave a presentation that explained the proposed modifications to the Cyclic Cost-Offset Program terms.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

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

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments.

After completion of the presentation and a committee discussion, Director Miller made a motion, seconded by Director Lefevre, to approve option #1 as amended, *Authorize amendments to the Cyclic Cost-Offset Program terms and authorize the general manager to execute other agreements, including surface storage, that achieve the same benefits under the same financial terms and conditions.*

Committee members actively discussed the amended motion introduced by Director Miller. Because of uncertainty around the inclusion of surface water, this amendment clarifies that surface-water storage within the service area is included in the Cyclic Cost-Offset Program.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, Chacon, Cordero, De Jesus, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Pressman, Quinn and Sutley.

Noes: Director Peterson

Abstentions: None

Absent: Director Petersen

The motion for item 7-3 passed by a vote of 16 ayes, 1 no, 0 abstentions, and 1 absent.

**7-4** Subject: Authorize implementation of a tree rebate modification to the Turf Replacement Program; the General Manager has determined that these actions are exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: None.

Motion: Authorize implementation of the tree rebate option for the Turf Replacement Program

The committee elected to not hear this presentation.

Director Alvarez made a motion, seconded by Director Peterson to approve the remaining Consent Calendar items 3a and 7-4.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, Chacon, Cordero, De Jesus, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Peterson, Pressman, Quinn and Sutley.

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Director Petersen.

The motion for items 3a and 7-4 passed by a vote of 17 ayes, 0 no, 0 abstentions, and 1 absent

**\*\*END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS\*\***

**5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION**

None

**6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

None

**7. COMMITTEE ITEMS**

- a. Subject: Introduction of New Delta Stewardship Council Member: Maria Mehranian

Presented by: Maria Mehranian, Delta Stewardship Council Member

Chair Quinn provided background information and introductory comments on Ms. Mehranian.

Ms. Mehranian discussed Delta Stewardship Council activities.

- b. Subject: State Water Contractors: Purpose and Benefits (Jennifer Pierre, General Manager)

Presented by: Jennifer Pierre, General Manager, State Water Contractors

Ms. Pierre gave a talk that explained the State Water Contractors' (SWC) role, accomplishments, and current projects. She also provided details about the SWC's fiscal year 2023/24 objectives.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Fellow
2. Smith
3. Ortega

- c. Subject: Update on Conservation

Presented by: Karina Sandique, Associate Resource Specialist, Water Resource Management

Ms. Sandique provided an update on Conservation Program expenditures and activity. She also reported that Metropolitan received the 2023 Water Utility Member of the Year Award from the Alliance for Water Efficiency.

## **8. MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

a. Subject: Colorado River Manager's Report

Presented by: Bill Hasencamp, Manager, Colorado River Resources

Mr. Hasencamp's report included an update on Lake Mead; Colorado River shortages and activity as related to Bard Water District, Quechan Pilot Programs, and Palo Verde Irrigation District maximum fallowing call.

d. Subject: Chief Sustainability Resiliency and Innovation Officer's Report

Presented by: Liz Crosson, Chief, Sustainability Resiliency & Innovation Officer

Mr. Crosson's report included an explanation of the Group's mission statement, key initiatives, and its role at Metropolitan.

b. Subject: Bay-Delta Manager's Report

Presented by: Nina Hawk, Manager, Bay-Delta Initiatives

Ms. Hawk reported on Sites Reservoir and a Bay Delta tour.

c. Subject: Water Resource Management Manager's Report

Presented by: Brad Coffey, Manager, Water Resource Management

Ms. Coffey reported on current water supplies and Bucket 2 proposal.

1. Smith

## **9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

Director Peterson requested an update on potential water storage in the Freeman Diversion Area with United Water District and an update on unbalanced exchanges.

## **10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting will be held on September 11, 2023

The meeting adjourned at 4:21 p.m.

Tracy Quinn  
Chair