

# THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

## MINUTES

### ENGINEERING, OPERATIONS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

May 12, 2025

Chair Erdman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members present: Chair Erdman, Vice Chair Faessel, Directors Bryant, Crawford, Dennstedt, Lewitt, Luna (AB 2449 just cause) McMillan (teleconference posted location), Miller, and Seckel.

Members absent: Directors Alvarez, Fong-Sakai, and Petersen.

Other board members present: Chair Ortega, Vice Chair Camacho, Directors Armstrong (AB 2449 just cause), Goldberg, Gray (teleconference posted location), Katz, Kurtz, McCoy, and Shepherd Romey.

Committee staff present: Chapman, Eckstrom, Hattar, Lahouti, Parsons, Rhoads, Rubin, and Upadhyay.

#### 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))

None

#### CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

#### 2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Engineering, Operations, and Technology Committee for April 7, 2025.

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

- 7-2 Subject: Amend the Capital Investment Plan for the fiscal years 2024/25 and 2025/26 to include the ozone contactor expansion joint improvements at the F.E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: No presentation requested

Motion: Amend the Capital Investment Plan for fiscal years 2024/25 and 2025/26 to include the ozone contactor expansion joint improvements at the F.E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant.

- 7-3** Subject: Authorize on-call agreements with Hazen and Sawyer, Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., and Mott MacDonald Group Inc. in amounts not to exceed \$1 million each to support engineering planning for water system resiliency and energy planning projects; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: No presentation requested

Motion: Authorize on-call agreements with Hazen and Sawyer, Jacobs Engineering Group Inc., and Mott MacDonald Group Inc. in amounts not to exceed \$1 million each for engineering planning services.

- 7-4** Subject: Award a \$457,498 construction contract to IPI Construction to upgrade the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems in the control rooms at the Joseph Jensen Water Treatment Plant; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is categorically exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: No presentation requested

Motion: Award a \$457,498 construction contract to IPI Construction for upgrades to the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems in the control rooms at the Joseph Jensen Water Treatment Plant.

Director Shepard Romey entered the meeting room.

Vice Chair Camacho entered the meeting room.

The following Director provided comments or asked questions.

1. Miller

Staff responded to the Director's questions and comments.

Director Seckel made a motion, seconded by Director Lewitt, to approve the consent calendar consisting of items 2A, 7-2, 7-3, and 7-4.

The vote was:

Ayes:	Directors Bryant, Crawford, Dennstedt, Erdman, Faessel, Lewitt, Luna, McMillan, Miller, and Seckel.
Noes:	None
Abstentions:	None
Not voting:	None
Absent:	Director Alvarez, Fong-Sakai, and Petersen.

Director Luna stated he was alone in the room for the vote.

The motion for Items 2A, 7-2, 7-3, and 7-4 passed by a vote of 10 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstention, and 3 absent.

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

**4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION**

**8-1** Subject: Award a \$131 million procurement contract to Siemens Energy Inc. to furnish 35 high voltage power transformers; authorize the General Manager to execute change orders for the CRA transformer procurement contract up to an aggregate amount not to exceed \$42.5 million; and authorize an increase of \$6.5 million to an agreement with HDR Engineering Inc. for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$8.2 million for final design services to replace the high-voltage transformers at the five CRA pumping plants; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: Patrizia Hall, Sr Engineer, Engineering Services Group; and  
Suhag Patel, Hydroelectric Team Manager, Integrated Operations Planning and Support Services

Motion:

- a. Award a \$131 million procurement contract to Siemens Energy Inc. to furnish 35 high-voltage power transformers.
- b. Authorize the General Manager to execute change orders for the CRA transformer procurement contract up to an aggregate amount not to exceed \$42.5 million.
- c. Authorize an increase of \$6.5 million to an existing agreement with HDR Engineering Inc. for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$8.2 million for final engineering design services to replace the high-voltage power transformers at all five CRA pumping plants.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions.

1. Miller
2. Dennstedt
3. Bryant
4. Faessel
5. Camacho

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

Director Bryant made a motion, seconded by Director Dennstedt, to approve item 8-1.

The vote was:

Ayes:	Directors Bryant, Crawford, Dennstedt, Erdman, Faessel, Lewitt, Luna, McMillan, Miller, and Seckel.
Noes:	None
Abstentions:	None
Not voting:	None
Absent:	Director Alvarez, Fong-Sakai, and Petersen.

Director Luna stated he was alone in the room for the vote.

The motion for Item 8-1 passed by a vote of 10 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstention, and 3 absent.

## 5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

**9-5**      Subject:              Colorado River Aqueduct High Voltage Transmission System –  
Affected Systems Mitigation Agreements

Presented by:      John Jontry, Interim Section Manager, Power Operations and  
Planning

Mr. Jontry reported on the following:

- Colorado River Aqueduct high voltage transmission system – affected systems mitigation agreements
- Information relevant to the Board for future approval of affected systems mitigation agreements with generation project developers
- Upcoming actions for affected systems mitigation bridge agreements with specific generation project developers for Board review and approval

The following Director provided comments or asked questions.

1. Seckel

Staff responded to the Director's questions and comments.



## **7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS**

- a.           Subject:           Engineering Services, Information Technology, and Water System Operations Activities
- Presented by:   Mai Hattar, Interim Group Manager and Chief Engineer, Engineering Services Group
- Shane Chapman, Assistant General Manager, Operations  
                                  Charlie Eckstrom, Group Manager, Information Technology Group

Ms. Hattar reported on the following:

- Engineering Services Group Mentoring Program
- Perris Valley Pipeline project overview
- Second Lower Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation Reach 3B project overview

Mr. Chapman reported on the following:

- Managing State Water Project supplies
- Department of Water Resources Collaboration – La Verne / CRA Inspection Trip

Mr. Eckstrom reported on the following:

- New fiber service at Gene Camp
- New network racks at Gene Camp Admin Building

## **8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

None

## **9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Director Miller would like to know how Metropolitan is planning to address operation of its treatment plants in the future considering reduced overall demands.
- Director Luna requested that staff provide information on upcoming major infrastructure projects and the health of these projects.
- Chair Erdman would like a feasibility analysis regarding potential partnerships with Member Agencies for cybersecurity information, resource, and cost sharing.

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting will be held on June 9, 2025.

Meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m.

Dennis Erdman  
Chair