

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

September 26, 2023

Chair Ortega called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

Chair Ortega announced at this time that we do not have any Directors participating in the meeting using AB 2449. There are no committee members participating on Zoom. There are non-committee members participating on Zoom, Directors De Jesus and Lefevre.

Chair Ortega announced that the guest Member Agency Manager, Matt Litchfield from Three Valleys Municipal Water District is invited to return to the next Board Meeting in November.

Mr. Litchfield made brief remarks.

Members present: Directors Abdo, Cordero, Erdman, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Luna, McCoy, Ortega, Pressman, Quinn, Ramos, and Smith.

Members absent: Directors Camacho, Gray, Jung, and Sutley.

Other Board members present: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Bryant, De Jesus (teleconference posted location), Dennstedt, Dick, Fellow, Garza, Kurtz, Lefevre (teleconference posted location), McMillan, Miler, Petersen, Peterson, and Seckel

Committee staff present: Hagekhalil, Hudson, Kuo Brinton, Salinas, Scully, Suzuki, Upadhyay, Wheeler, Zinke.

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

No members responded.

2. VOICES OF MET (SPOTLIGHT ON ADVANCING DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION – EMPLOYEE PERSPECTIVES)

Chair Ortega called on Roni Santos, Senior System Operations Tech in the Water System Operations Group, to present the item.

3. OTHER MATTERS AND REPORTS

a. Subject: Chair's Report

Presented by: Chair Ortega

Chair Ortega reported on the results of the Palo Verde Irrigation District Election.

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

Presented by: General Manager Adel Hagekhalil

General Manager Hagekhalil reported on the following:

- Meeting in Washington D.C. to talk about the water industry
- Introduction of special guests David L. Gadis, CEO and Wayne Griffith, CAO of DC Water, visiting regarding water reuse and climate change

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

Presented by: General Counsel Marcia Scully

General Counsel Scully stated she had nothing to add to her report but thanked the Board for the support and action taken at the Special Board meeting.

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

Presented by: General Auditor Scott 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 but thanked the Board for the action taken at the Special Board meeting.

Chair Ortega announced there will be no Legislation, Regulatory Affairs, and Communication Committee in October.

Chair Ortega announced that in the interest of time, the Committee will not hear the reports from Committee Chairs and that at Item 4B, he would call for a motion to approve the draft agenda packet and October schedule as posted for Item 4B.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

4. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting for August 22, 2023.

Chair Ortega asked Directors if there were any additions, corrections, or omissions on the minutes of the August 22, 2023, Executive Committee Meeting. None were made.

- B. Approve draft Committee and board meeting agendas, and schedule for October 2023.

Chair Ortega called for the vote on Items 4A and 4B.

Director Pressman made a motion, seconded by Director McCoy to approve the consent calendar Items 4A and 4B as listed.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Abdo, Cordero, Erdman, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Luna, McCoy, Ortega, Pressman, Quinn, Ramos, and Smith

Abstention: None

Recusal:

Absent: Camacho, Gray, Jung, and Sutley

The motion for Items 4A and 4B passed by a vote of 12 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstention; and 4 absent.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

- 7-7** Review and consider action for an ethics policy violation by a Director; the General Manager has determined that this proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Chair Ortega called upon Ethics Officer Salinas to introduce item 7-7.

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

Director(s)

- | |
|-------------|
| 1. Fellow |
| 2. Ramos |
| 3. Luna |
| 4. Peterson |
| 5. Cordero |
| 6. Pressman |
| 7. Ortega |

Ethics Officer Salinas responded to the Director(s)' comments or questions.

Director Ramos made a motion, seconded by Director Luna, to approve the motion that the matter be acknowledged and dismissed on the basis that it was minor infraction, and that the Director realizes what happened on Item 7-7 as listed.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Abdo, Cordero, Erdman, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Luna, McCoy, Ortega, Pressman, Quinn, Ramos, and Smith

Abstention: None

Recusal:

Absent: Camacho, Gray, Jung, and Sutley

The motion for Item 7-7 passed by a vote of 12 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstention; and 4 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- . Subject: Labor Negotiations Update [Conference with labor negotiators; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54957.6. Metropolitan representative(s): Katano Kasaine, Chief Financial Officer; Gifty Beets, Human Resources Section Manager; Adam Benson, Finance Group Manager; Employee Organization(s): The Employees Association of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California/AFSCME Local 1902; the Management and Professional Employees Associations MAPA/AFSCME Chapter 1001; and the Supervisors Association.)]

Presented by: Katano Kasaine, Chief Financial Officer

Chair Ortega reported that item 6b is a conference with the district's representatives in labor negotiations with the employees association of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California/AFSCME Local 1902, the Management and Professional Employees Association MAPA/AFSCME Chapter 1001 and the Supervisors Association.

Directors Fellow, Pressman, and Cordero left the meeting.

In closed session the committee discussed the item. No action was taken.

7. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:23 p.m.

Adán Ortega, Jr.
Chair of the Board

EXECUTIVE
COMMITTEE MEETING
September 26, 2023 – 1:00 p.m.
MWD Headquarters Building/Teleconference Meeting

NON-INTEREST DISCLOSURE NOTICE
COMMITTEE ITEM 6.b.

COMMITTEE ITEM 6.b. – Labor Negotiations Update [Conference with labor negotiators; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54957.6. Metropolitan representative(s): Katano Kasaine, Chief Financial Officer; Gifty Beets, Human Resources Section Manager; Adam Benson, Finance Group Manager; Employee organization(s): The Employees Association of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California/AFSCME Local 1902; the Management and Professional Employees Associations MAPA/AFSCME Chapter 1001; and the Supervisors Association.]

This Non-Interest Disclosure Notice is being provided under the California Government Code: Pursuant to Government Code Section 1091.5(a)(9), a District officer or employee does not have a financial interest in a District contract if these conditions are satisfied: (i) his or her interest is that of a person receiving a salary, per diem or reimbursement for expenses from a government entity; (ii) the contract does not directly involve the department of the government entity that employs him or her; and (iii) the interest is disclosed to his or her body or board at the time the contract is considered and is noted in its official record. In accordance with this statute, the following District officers or employees have been, or may be, involved in the bargaining unit negotiations on behalf of management: Adel Hagekhalil, Marcia Scully, Katano Kasaine, Heather Beatty, Shane Chapman, Deven Upadhyay, Gifty Beets, Henry Torres, Tony Zepeda, Gonzalo Barriga Jr., Arnout Van den Berg, Adam Benson, Carmondy Breaux-Burns, and Isamar Munoz Marroquin.

Heather Beatty, Carmondy Breaux-Burns, Isamar Munoz Marroquin are members of the Association of Confidential Employees (“ACE”), and Arnout Van den Berg is a member of Management And Professional Association (“MAPA”), which both have a salary provision in its Memorandum of Understanding that allows ACE and MAPA to select an annual salary adjustment from any one of the Memoranda of Understanding for the other bargaining units. Each of the remaining individuals is unrepresented. Under Administrative Code Section 6500(d), unless the Board directs otherwise, the pay rate range for each unrepresented individual except Adel Hagekhalil and Marcia Scully, will be adjusted annually to correspond with the annual across-the-board salary adjustment provided to the District’s management employees under the Memoranda of Understanding; although actual pay rates for these unrepresented individuals will be determined by their management. The other compensation and benefits for which the unrepresented individuals are eligible are set forth in the Administrative Code.