



• Board of Directors

2/11/2025 Board Meeting

6B

Subject

Approve Chairs and Vice Chairs for the term commencing on February 11, 2025, governance changes to Committees and Committee formation, and direct staff to bring back the required changes to the Administrative Code for Board approval; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Executive Summary

This document 1) provides information and recommendations from the Chair; 2) outlines various Committee appointments and proposed board organizational changes for the Metropolitan Board Chair's second term for approval by the Board; and 3) provides the Chair's recommendations for the creation of Subcommittees.

Information:

- **Committee Membership Requests:** Board members are asked to rank their preferred Committee memberships by March 5, 2025, and send via email to the Chair with cc: jrubin@mwdh2o.com.
 - **At-Large Executive Committee Nominations and Election:** The election for four at-large, non-officer positions on the Executive Committee will take place at the March Board meeting. The Board Executive Secretary will accept nominations from board members and nominations can be made from the floor at the time of the election as well. The Chair nominates for at-large positions on the Executive Committee: Cynthia Kurtz, Fred Jung, Carl Douglas, and Karl Seckel.

Proposals for approval by the Board:

- **Standing Committee Appointments:** Recommendations for standing Committee Chairs and vice chairs include re-appointments and new appointments, with changes highlighted in bold.
- **Planning Committees (Non-standing):** Long-term Planning Committee to continue under Finance, Affordability, Asset Management and Efficiency, and Sub-Committee on Imported Water Proposed under One Water and Adaptation Committee.
- **Ad Hoc Committees:** Leadership proposed for several Ad Hoc Committees, including the Ad Hoc Committee on EEO Investigations, Executive Performance, and Communications and Facilities Naming. Ad Hoc Ag and Tribal Partnerships Committee proposed.
- **External Appointments:** Reporting to the Board appointments to external organizations including Colorado River Board and others.
- **Explanation of board officer roles and revised focus of some Committees**
- **List of eliminated Committees**

Recommendations:

Recommendations for the creation of subcommittees are set forth below.

Background and Details

In meeting second term objectives of stabilizing Metropolitan internally, redoubling our commitment to climate action, long-term supply sustainability, stewardship and financial stability, I submit for the Board's consideration the following modifications and leadership appointments to our Committees. I am also notifying the board of appointments I am making as authorized in the administrative code, for representation of Metropolitan to external organizations.

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP APPOINTMENTS: Board Chairs are required by the Administrative Code to appoint each director to at least one standing Committee. Board Chairs traditionally will consider director's requests to join additional standing, and other Committees.

I request all members of the Board to provide me a ranked list of your preferred standing Committee and other planning and Ad Hoc Committee memberships you wish to belong to by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 5, 2025 send via email with a copy to jrubin@mw2o.com. Please note that Ad Hoc Committees cannot exceed a majority of the board's weighted vote so membership has to be limited.

Following are my proposal for changes to the Standing Committees changes to Ad Hoc Committees (creation of new ones and elimination of some existing) and officers of Standing Committees for approval by the Board as well my recommendations for Subcommittees to be formed by the Standing Committees. I am also including, for your information, my nominations for the at-large (non-officer) positions on the Executive Committee. I have included my appointments to Ad Hoc Committees, including new Committees approved by the Board. The members of the Ad Hoc Committees do not require Board Approval. (Changes are denoted in bold font):

Standing Committees (Chairs are Members of the Executive Committee, Vice Chairs Alternates)

1. Re-Appointment of Gail Goldberg, Michael Camacho, and Nancy Sutley as Board Vice Chairs (Without Portfolios but retain ex-officio status if the Chair is absent in designated Committees by the Board Chair)
2. **Appointment of Juan Garza as Board Vice Chair**
3. Re-appointment of Tracy Quinn, Chair of One Water & Adaptation Committee (OWA) **Appointment Mel Katz, Vice Chair**
4. Re-appointment of Dennis Erdman, Chair of Engineering, Operations and Technology Committee (EOT), **Appointment of Steve Faessel, Vice Chair**
5. Re-appointment of Miguel Luna, Chair of Legal and Claims Committee, **Appointment of Jacque McMillan, Vice Chair**
6. Re-appointment of Jeff Armstrong, Chair of Audit Committee, **Appointment of Marsha Ramos, Vice Chair**
7. Re-appointment of Barry Pressman, Chair of Organization, Personnel and Effectiveness Committee (OPE), **appointment of Garry Bryant, Vice Chair** (OPE will focus on personnel matters, bargaining unit negotiations, oversight of training programs, talent recruitment)
8. Re-appointment of Tana McCoy, Chair of **Ethics, EEO, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee**, re-appointment of Gloria Cordero, Vice Chair (The EDEI Committee will focus on EEO compliance, Ethics compliance programs, review of workplace climate surveys by Ethics/EEO, reports on employee resources group activities, review effectiveness of workforce and regional vendor recruitment programs and policies for achieving equal opportunity for all)

9. **Appointment of Marty Miller, Chair of Finance, Affordability, Asset Management, and Efficiency Committee, Appointment of Desi Alvarez, Vice Chair Budget** (FAAME will assume oversight of affordability and efficiency in addition to those previously assigned financial activities, including budget)
10. **Appointment of Jay Lewitt, Chair of Legislation and Communications Committee, Appointment of Ardy Kassakhian, Vice Chair Legislation; Tony Fellow Vice Chair-Communications** (Committee Vice Chairs will be charged with special assignments in their designated fields)

Recommendations for Actions by Committees

Recommendations for Subcommittees Planning Committees to be taken by the Standing Committee

Subcommittee on Long-Term Planning Processes and Business Modeling under Finance, Affordability, Asset Management and Efficiency Committee Re-appointment of Matt Petersen, Chair, and Karl Seckel, Vice Chair

Recommend formation of Subcommittee on Imported Water under One Water and Adaptation Committee Committee Leadership to be appointed by the Committee Chair. Subcommittee membership to be comprised of Metropolitan representatives to the Colorado River Board, Colorado River Water Users Association, Bay-Delta Construction and Finance Authorities, Palo Verde Proxy Voting Representative, and other members of the One Water Committee wishing to participate as selected by the Committee Chair.

Creation of and Appointments to Ad Hoc Committees

(Board Approval required to create Ad Hoc Committees

(Board Approval is not required for members - serve at the pleasure of the Chair)

Creation of Ad Hoc Committee on Ag and Tribal Partnerships, Appointment of Cynthia Kurtz, Chair, and Larry Dick, Vice Chair (This Ad Hoc Committee is comprised of Metropolitan's representatives to Palo Verde matters, potential interstate conservation/storage initiatives, as well as Directors focused on partnerships in the Central Valley and Yolo County to better manage state water project supplies through increased ground-storage, transfers, and conservation).

Creation of Ad Hoc Committee on Executive Performance, Appointment of Barry Pressman, Chair, Lois Fong Sakai, Vice Chair, Members Garry Bryant, Jeff Armstrong, Brenda Densteadt, Mark Gold

Creation of Ad Hoc Committee on Communications and Facilities Naming, Appointment of Anthony Fellow, Chair, Linda Ackerman, Vice Chair, Members Michael Camacho, Gloria Cordero, Tana McCoy

Appointment of Karl Seckel, Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity Investigations, Appointment of Marty Miller Vice Chair, Member Tana McCoy, Alternate Fred Jung

Appointments to Outside Entities

Gloria Cordero, Member, Colorado River Board, Alternate Michael Camacho – Continuing Appointments already approved by Governor Newsom

Michael Camacho, Vote Proxy, Palo Verde Annual Elections

Appointment of Gloria Cordero, Metropolitan Representative Colorado River Water Users Association (CRWUA)

Cynthia Kurtz, Desi Alvarez, David De Jesus, Metropolitan Representatives Palo Verde Land Management Committee & Community Fund

Re-Appointment of Miguel Luna, Metropolitan Representative, Bay-Delta Construction Authority, and appointment to Bay-Delta Finance Authority, Jacque McMillan Alternate to both

Appointment of Dennis Erdman, as Metropolitan Representative to the National Water Research Institute

Appointment of Ardy Kassakhian as alternate Metropolitan Representative to the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce**Explanation of Titles, Roles, Duties and Responsibilities**

Board Vice Chairs will no longer “oversee” fixed portfolios of Committees. They will act as proxies for the Board Chair at Committees as assigned by the Board Chair. In the Board Chair’s absence, the proxy can be used to vote to break a tie in a Committee, maintain a quorum, and preside over the meeting if the Committee Chair and Vice Chair are not present in person.

Committee Vice Chairs serve as alternates as presiding officers of Committee meetings and for voting when the Committee Chair is absent at the Executive Committee.

Ad Hoc Committees will provide reports to the Executive Committee as stipulated by the Administrative Code, as well as Committees where the subjects are relevant.

Audit Committee will be a full standing Committee of the board, not a subcommittee of the Executive Committee.

Organization, Personnel, and Effectiveness Committee will focus on personnel matters, bargaining unit negotiations, oversight of training programs, executive recruitment programs.

Ethics, EEO, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee will focus on EEO compliance, ethics programs, review of workplace climate surveys by ethics, reports on employee resources group activities, review effectiveness of workforce and regional vendor recruitment programs and related policies for meeting goals and achieving equal opportunity for all.

Finance, Affordability, Asset Management, and Efficiency Committee will assume oversight of affordability and efficiency in addition to oversight in previously assigned financial activities including budget.

Request of Approval of Elimination of the following Subcommittees

Subcommittee on Pure Water Southern California and Regional Conveyance (Chair of EOT will schedule special focused meetings and board workshops on upcoming critical milestones.)

Subcommittee on Demand Management and Conservation Programs and Priorities (Only one meeting was held during 1st term. To be treated as a higher priority at One Water and Stewardship Committee).

Request of Approval of Elimination of the following Ad Hoc Committees

Ad Hoc Committee on Bay-Delta Negotiation (Transferred to Subcommittee on Imported Water)

Ad Hoc Committee on Colorado River (Transferred to Subcommittee on Imported Water)

Ad Hoc Committee on San Diego Litigation (Task Completed)

Ad Hoc Committee on Policy Impacts of Third Party Changes to Member Agency Boundaries (Task Completed)

Proposed Action(s)/Recommendation(s) and Options

Staff Recommendation: Option #1**Option #1**

Approve Chairs and Vice Chairs for the term commencing on February 11, 2025, governance changes to Committees and Committee formation including the modification of Standing Committees and the creation and elimination of Ad Hoc Committees as set forth above, and direct staff to bring back the required changes to the Administrative Code for Board approval.

Fiscal Impact: None

Business Analysis: The appointments and changes to the scope of some Committees intended to align with the Chair’s, Board, and Metropolitan priorities.

Option #2

Do not approve

Fiscal Impact: None

Business Analysis: Existing Board governance structure will be unchanged and the Chair's proposals for Board leadership will not be approved.

Alternatives Considered

Not applicable.

Applicable Policy

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 2310: Ad Hoc Committees

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 2311: Subcommittees

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 2401: Officers and Members of Standing Committees

Related Board Action(s)/Future Action(s)

Not applicable.

Summary of Outreach Completed

Not applicable.

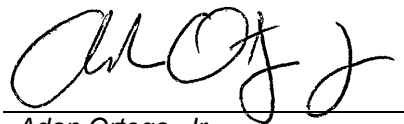
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

CEQA determination for Option #1:

The proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA because it will not result in either a direct physical change in the environment or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment. (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(a).)

CEQA determination for Option #2:

None Required.



Adan Ortega, Jr.
Chair of the Board

2/8/2025

Date