

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

LEGAL AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE

November 17, 2025

Chair Kassakhian called the meeting to order at 1:18 p.m.

Members present: Directors Crawford, De Jesus (teleconference posted location), Dick, Douglas (teleconference posted location), Kassakhian, Katz, Kurtz, McMillan, Miller, Ramos (entered after roll call, teleconference posted location), and Shepherd Romey.

Members absent: Director Camacho.

Other Board Members present: Directors Armstrong, Bryant, Erdman, Faessel, Garza, Jay, Lewitt (teleconference posted location), Ortega, Seckel (AB 2449 “Just Cause”), and Sutley.

Director Seckel indicated he is participating under AB 2449 “just cause” regarding contagious illness. Director Seckel appeared by audio and on camera.

Committee Staff present: Boucher, Deshmukh, Hudson, Rubin, Scully, and Upadhyay.

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

None

2. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

A. Subject: General Counsel’s report of monthly activities

General Counsel Scully welcomed Chair Kassakhian and reported on settlement of the Oswalt v. MWD matter.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

3. COMMITTEE ACTION

A. Subject: Approval of the Minutes of the Legal and Claims Committee for October 14, 2025.

Director Lewitt entered the meeting.

4. COMMITTEE ITEMS (FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

7-5 Subject Authorize an increase in the maximum amount payable under contract with Best Best & Krieger LLP for legal advice on environmental review and permitting matters related to Pure Water Southern California by \$100,000 to a maximum amount payable of \$350,000; the General Manager has determined that this proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: John Schlotterbeck, Senior Deputy General Counsel

Motion Authorize an increase in the maximum amount payable under contract with Best Best & Krieger LLP for legal advice on environmental review and permitting matters related to Pure Water Southern California by \$100,000 to a maximum amount payable of \$350,000

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Dick
2. Kassakhian
3. Miller

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

Director Ramos entered the meeting.

Director Dick made a motion, seconded by Director Katz, to approve items 3A and 7-5.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Crawford, De Jesus, Dick, Douglas, Katz, Kassakhian, Kurtz, McMillan, Miller, Ramos, and Shepherd Romey
Noes: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: Director Camacho

The motion for Items 3A and 7-5 passed by a vote of 11 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 1 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

5. COMMITTEE ITEMS (ACTION FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

None

7. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL)

None

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Meeting adjourned at 1:29 p.m.

Ardy Kassakhian
Chair