

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
May 13, 2025

54056 The Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California met on Tuesday, May 13, 2025.

Chair Ortega called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m.

54057 The Meeting was opened with an invocation by Director James Crawford, Central Basin Municipal Water District

54058 The Pledge of Allegiance was given by Director Cynthia Kurtz, City of Pasadena

54059 Board Executive Secretary Hudson administered the roll call. Those responding present were: Directors Ackerman (teleconference posted location available for the public), Alvarez (teleconference posted location available for the public), Armstrong (AB 2449 "Just Cause"), Bryant, Camacho, Cordero, Crawford, De Jesus (teleconference posted location available for the public), Dennstedt (teleconference posted location available for the public), Douglas, Faessel, Fellow, Garza (teleconference posted location available for the public), Gold, Goldberg, Katz, Kurtz, Lewitt (teleconference posted location available for the public), Luna (AB 2449 "Just Cause"), McCoy, McMillan (teleconference posted location available for the public), Miller, Ortega, Phan, Quinn, Seckel (teleconference posted location available for the public), Shepherd Romey, and Sutley.

Those not responding were: Directors Dick, Erdman, Fong-Sakai, Gray Kassakhian, Lefevre, Petersen, and Ramos

Board Executive Secretary Hudson declared a quorum present.

Director(s) entered after roll call: Jung (teleconference posted location available for the public), and Pressman(teleconference posted location available for the public)

Director Armstrong participated using AB2449 "Just Cause" due to contagious illness.

Director Luna participated using AB2449 "Just Cause" due to contagious illness.

Director Pressman entered the meeting.

54060 Chair Ortega opened the Public Hearing to receive staff and recognized employee organizations presentations on the status of job vacancies and recruitment/retention efforts, as required by Government Code § 3502.3 (Assembly Bill 2561), and to receive public comment presentations. Chair Ortega also invited members of the public to address the Board on matters within the Board's jurisdiction (in-person and via teleconference).

Regular public comment was called, no one in the room and no one on the line.

	Name	Affiliation	Presentation
1.	Olivia Sanchez	ACE	Public Hearing
2.	Alan Shanahan	AFSCME	Public Hearing
3.	Laura Garcia	AFSCME	Public Hearing
4.	Amparo Muñoz	AFSCME	Public Hearing

Public hearing was closed.

Chair Ortega deferred Other Matters and Reports in the interest of time.

Director Cordero left the meeting.

Director Jung entered the meeting.

Chair Ortega called for a vote to approve the Consent Calendar Items 6A, 7-1 through 7-6

54061 Chair Ortega asked the Directors if there were any comments or discussions on the Approval of the Minutes Board of Directors Meetings for April 8, 2025 (Agenda Item 6A). None were made.

Chair Ortega announced no committee assignments.

Chair Ortega called on Directors who are requesting that any items be pulled from the Consent Calendar Action Items and to state any recusals, abstentions, and disclosures.

Director Phan recused on Item 7-3 because Mott MacDonald Group Inc. and Trestle Technology are clients of her employer.

Director Katz disclosed on Item 7-6 that he receives per diem reimbursements and other benefits from the San Diego County Water Authority for his service on the Board. Based on MWD Act Section 56, he will not vote, including abstaining on the item, which is an agreement between Metropolitan and San Diego County Water Authority.

Director Miller disclosed on Item 7-6 that he receives per diem reimbursements and other benefits from the San Diego County Water Authority for his service on the Board. Based on MWD Act Section 56, he will not vote, including abstaining on the item, which is an agreement between Metropolitan and San Diego County Water Authority.

Director Goldberg disclosed on Item 7-6 that she receives per diem reimbursements and other benefits from the San Diego County Water Authority for his service on the Board. Based on 1090 disclosure she is allowed to vote on the Item which is an agreement between Metropolitan and San Diego County Water Authority.

Consent Calendar Items- Action

54062 Approve amending the list of Metropolitan officials required to take AB 1234 state ethics training to include all Form 700 filers, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-1 board letter.

54063 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, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-2 board letter.

54064 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 services, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-3 board letter.

54065 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, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-4 board letter.

54066 Approve the draft of Appendix A (Attachment 1) attached to the board letter; Authorize the General Manager, or other designee of the Ad Hoc Committee, to finalize, with changes approved by the General Manager and General Counsel, Appendix A; Authorize distribution of Appendix A, finalized by the General Manager or other designee of the Ad Hoc Committee, in connection with the sale and/or remarketing of bonds, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-5 board letter.

54067 Authorize an amendment to LRP Agreement to extend the start of operation deadline for San Diego Pure Water North City Project Phase 1; adopted CEQA determination that the proposed action was previously addressed in the City of San Diego's adopted 2018 Final EIR/EIS and that no further CEQA review is required, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-6 board letter.

Director Gold left the meeting.

Director Sutley left the meeting.

Director Camacho moved, seconded by Director Sutley, that the Board approve the Consent Calendar Items 6A, 7-1 through 7-6.

Chair Ortega called for a vote to approve the Consent Calendar Items 6A, 7-1 through 7-6.

The following is a record of the vote:

Record of Vote on Consent Item(s):	6A, 7-1 through 7-6								
Member Agency	Total Votes	Director	Present	Yes	Yes Vote	No	No Vote	Abstain	Abstain Vote
Anaheim	6306	Faessel	x	x	6306				
Beverly Hills	4677	Pressman	x	x	4677				
Burbank	3330	Ramos							
Calleguas Municipal Water District	13627	McMillan	x	x	13627				
Central Basin Municipal Water District	20265	Garza	x	x	10133				
		Crawford	x	x	10133				
			Subtotal:		20265				
Compton	678	McCoy	x	x	678				
Eastern Municipal Water District	13623	Armstrong	x	x	13623				
Foothill Municipal Water District	2543	Bryant	x	x	2543				
Fullerton	2766	Jung	x	x	2766				
Glendale	4165	Kassakhian							
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	17103	Camacho	x	x	17103				
Las Virgenes	3224	Lewitt	x	x	3224				
Long Beach	6805	Cordero							
Los Angeles	83835	Sutley							
		Petersen							
		Quinn	x	x	27945				
		Luna	x	x	27945				
		Douglas	x	x	27945				
			Subtotal:		83835				
Municipal Water Dist. of Orange County	68102	Ackerman	x	x	34051				
		Seckel	x	x	34051				
		Dick							
		Erdman							
			Subtotal:		68102				
Pasadena	4042	Kurtz	x	x	4042				
San Diego County Water Authority	70158	Fong-Sakai							
		Goldberg	x	x	23386				
		Miller	x	x	23386				
		Katz	x	x	23386				
			Subtotal:		70158				
San Fernando	274	Ortega	x	x	274				
San Marino	836	Shepherd Ro	x	x	836				
Santa Ana	3569	Phan	x	x	3569				
Santa Monica	5055	Gold							
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	9019	De Jesus	x	x	9019				
Torrance	3781	Lefevre							
Upper San Gabriel Valley Mun. Wat. Dist.	14079	Fellow	x	x	14079				
West Basin Municipal Water District	28764	Alvarez	x	x	28764				
		Gray							
			Subtotal:		28764				
Western Municipal Water District	15689	Dennstedt	x	x	15689				
Total	406315				383179				
Present and not voting									
Absent	23136								

The motion to approve the Consent Calendar Items 6A, 7-1 through 7-6* (**M.I. No. 54061 through 54067***) passed by a vote of 383,179 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 0 not voting; and 23,136 absent.

*Director Phan recused on Item 7-3, **(M.I. 54064)** passed by a vote of 379,610 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 3,569 not voting; and 23,136 absent.

*Directors Katz, and Miller did not vote on Item 7-6, **(M.I. 54067)** passed by a vote of 383,179 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 0 not voting; and 23,136 absent.

54068 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; 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. (Board Item 8-1).

54069 Adopt CEQA determination that the proposed action was previously addressed in the adopted 2017 Mitigated Negative Declaration, Addenda Nos. 1, 2 and 3 and related CEQA actions; and adopted a resolution that: (1) authorizes the execution and delivery of an amended and restated agreement between Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency and Metropolitan for the High Desert Water Bank Program, (2) approves the project financing, and (3) authorizes the General Manager and the Assistant General Manager/Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer to negotiate, execute, and deliver various related agreements and documents. (Board Item 8-2).

54070 Adopt a resolution authorizing a Master Equipment Lease-Purchase Program of up to \$35 million outstanding balance from time to time and providing for related documents and actions and set up an ad hoc committee to direct communications with the California Air Resources Board regarding Electric Vehicle regulations and Metropolitan's role as an emergency responder as amended at committee. (Board Item 8-3).

54071 Adopt resolution to continue Metropolitan's Water Standby Charge for fiscal year 2025/26. (Board Item 8-4).

54072 Authorize the General Manager to amend the Delivery and Exchange Agreement between Metropolitan and Coachella Valley Water District for 35,000 acre-feet. (Board Item 8-5).

Director Faessel disclosed on Item 8-3 that he currently owns Bank of America stock, he will not vote, including abstaining on the item.

Director Katz disclosed on Item 8-3 that he currently owns Bank of America stock, he will not vote, including abstaining on the item.

Director Quinn moved, seconded by Director Sheperd Romey, that the Board approve Board Items 8-1 through 8-5.

Director Pressman left the meeting.

Chair Ortega called for a vote to approve Board Items 8-1, 8-2, 8.3, 8-4, and 8-5.

The following is a record of the vote:

Record of Vote on Item:	8-1 to 8-5								
Member Agency	Total Votes	Director	Present	Yes	Yes Vote	No	No Vote	Abstain	Abstain Vote
Anaheim	6306	Faessel	x	x	6306				
Beverly Hills	4677	Pressman							
Burbank	3330	Ramos							
Calleguas Municipal Water District	13627	McMillan	x	x	13627				
Central Basin Municipal Water District	20265	Garza	x	x	10133				
		Crawford	x	x	10133				
			Subtotal:		20265				
Compton	678	McCoy	x	x	678				
Eastern Municipal Water District	13623	Armstrong	x	x	13623				
Foothill Municipal Water District	2543	Bryant	x	x	2543				
Fullerton	2766	Jung	x	x	2766				
Glendale	4165	Kassakhian							
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	17103	Camacho	x	x	17103				
Las Virgenes	3224	Lewitt	x	x	3224				
Long Beach	6805	Cordero							
Los Angeles	83835	Sutley							
		Petersen							
		Quinn	x	x	27945				
		Luna	x	x	27945				
		Douglas	x	x	27945				
			Subtotal:		83835				
Municipal Water Dist. of Orange County	68102	Ackerman	x	x	34051				
		Seckel	x	x	34051				
		Dick							
		Erdman							
			Subtotal:		68102				
Pasadena	4042	Kurtz	x	x	4042				
San Diego County Water Authority	70158	Fong-Sakai							
		Goldberg	x	x	23386				
		Miller	x	x	23386				
		Katz	x	x	23386				
			Subtotal:		70158				
San Fernando	274	Ortega	x	x	274				
San Marino	836	Shepherd Rom	x	x	836				
Santa Ana	3569	Phan	x	x	3569				
Santa Monica	5055	Gold							
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	9019	De Jesus	x	x	9019				
Torrance	3781	Lefevre							
Upper San Gabriel Valley Mun. Wat. Dist.	14079	Fellow							
West Basin Municipal Water District	28764	Alvarez	x	x	28764				
		Gray							
			Subtotal:		28764				
Western Municipal Water District	15689	Dennstedt	x	x	15689				
Total	406315				364423				
Present and not voting									
Absent	41892								

The motion to approve the Board Items 8-1, 8-2, 8-3*, 8-4, and 8-5 (**M.I. No. 54068 and 54072**) passed by a vote of 364,423 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 0 not voting; and 41,892 absent.

*Directors Faessel and Katz recused on Item 8-3, (**M.I. 54070**) passed by a vote of 358,167 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 6,306 not voting; and 41,892 absent.

54073 Chair Ortega moved to other matters.

54074 Authorized (1) the Ad Hoc Committee to begin vetting recruiting firms, and (2) authorize Organization, Personnel, and Effectiveness Committee to hire the selected firm to participate in a meeting with the Board in June regarding the recruitment of the general manager. (Board Item 10-3).

Directors McMillan, Phan, Quin, and Sheperd Romey left the meeting.

Director Garza moved, seconded by Director Camacho, that the Board approve Board Item 10-3. Chair Ortega called for a vote to approve Board Item 10-3.

The following is a record of the vote:

Record of Vote on Item:	10-3								
Member Agency	Total Votes	Director	Present	Yes	Yes Vote	No	No Vote	Abstain	Abstain Vote
Anaheim	6306	Faessel	x	x	6306				
Beverly Hills	4677	Pressman							
Burbank	3330	Ramos							
Calleguas Municipal Water District	13627	McMillan							
Central Basin Municipal Water District	20265	Garza	x	x	10133				
		Crawford	x	x	10133				
			Subtotal:		20265				
Compton	678	McCoy	x	x	678				
Eastern Municipal Water District	13623	Armstrong	x	x	13623				
Foothill Municipal Water District	2543	Bryant	x	x	2543				
Fullerton	2766	Jung	x	x	2766				
Glendale	4165	Kassakhian							
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	17103	Camacho	x	x	17103				
Las Virgenes	3224	Lewitt	x	x	3224				
Long Beach	6805	Cordero							
Los Angeles	83835	Sutley	x	x	27945				
		Petersen							
		Quinn							
		Luna	x	x	27945				
		Douglas	x	x	27945				
			Subtotal:		83835				
Municipal Water Dist. of Orange County	68102	Ackerman	x	x	34051				
		Seckel	x	x	34051				
		Dick							
		Erdman							
			Subtotal:		68102				
Pasadena	4042	Kurtz	x	x	4042				
San Diego County Water Authority	70158	Fong-Sakai							
		Goldberg	x	x	23386				
		Miller	x	x	23386				
		Katz	x	x	23386				
			Subtotal:		70158				
San Fernando	274	Ortega	x	x	274				
San Marino	836	Shepherd Romo							
Santa Ana	3569	Phan							
Santa Monica	5055	Gold							
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	9019	De Jesus	x	x	9019				
Torrance	3781	Lefevre							
Upper San Gabriel Valley Mun. Wat. Dist.	14079	Fellow	x	x	14079				
West Basin Municipal Water District	28764	Alvarez	x	x	28764				
		Gray							
			Subtotal:		28764				
Western Municipal Water District	15689	Dennstedt	x	x	15689				
Total	406315				360470				
Present and not voting									
Absent	45845								

The motion to approve the Board Item 10-3 (**M.I. No. 54074**) passed by a vote of 360,470 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 0 not voting; and 45,845 absent.

54075 Chair Ortega asked if there were any Follow-Up Items. No requests were made.

54076 Chair Ortega asked if there were any Future Agenda Items. No requests were made.

54077 There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 3:41 p.m.



**ISABEL ALDRETE
INTERIM ASSISTANT BOARD
ADMINISTRATOR**



**ADAN ORTEGA, JR.
CHAIR OF THE BOARD**