

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON IMPORTED WATER

April 28, 2026

Committee Vice Chair Ackerman called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

Members present: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Camacho (entered after roll call), Crane, De Jesus, Denham (teleconference posted location), Garza, Gold (teleconference posted location), Kurtz, Lewitt, McMillan, and Miller (teleconference posted location).

Member absent: Director Cordero.

Other Board Members present: Directors, Dennstedt, Erdman (teleconference posted location), Faessel (teleconference posted location), Fong-Sakai, Gray (teleconference posted location) Jay, McCoy, Ortega, Paule, Quinn, Seckel, Shepherd Romey, and Sutley.

Committee Staff present: Crosson, Deshmukh, Goshi, Hasencamp, Hawk, Horton, Maravilla, Rubin, and Winn.

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

None

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS -- ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Subcommittee on Imported Water Meeting for March 24, 2026

Director De Jesus made a motion, seconded by Director Crane, to approve the consent calendar consisting of item 2A

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Crane, De Jesus, Denham, Garza, Gold, Kurtz, Lewitt, McMillan, and Miller.
Noes: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: Directors Cordero and Camacho.

The motion for item 2A passed by a vote of 11 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 2 absent.

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

3. SUBCOMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Delta Smelt Propagation and Research Update
- Presented by: Shawn Acuña, Ph.D., Principal Resource Specialist, Bay-Delta Initiatives

Dr. Acuña reported on the following:

- The latest results from Delta smelt cultivation experiments
- Delta smelt nexus to Metropolitan
- Metropolitan's coordinated activities and partnerships
- Studies in progress
- Next steps

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. De Jesus
2. Sutley
3. Miller
4. Jay
5. Gold
6. Fong-Sakai
7. Seckel
8. Ortega

Staff responded to the Directors questions and comments.

Director Camacho entered the meeting.

- b. Subject: Report on the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority Meeting and Delta Conveyance Finance Authority Meeting

Presented by: Director Jacque McMillan

Director McMillan reported on the meeting of the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority that was held on Thursday, April 16, 2026, and the Delta Conveyance Finance Authority that was held on Thursday, February 19, 2026.

- c. Subject: Report on Bureau of Reclamation's Water Year 2026 Drought Response Operations

Presented by: Shanti Rosset, Policy Manager, Colorado River Resources

Ms. Rosset reported on the following:

- Updated the committee on the Bureau of Reclamation's proposed action to increase releases from Flaming Gorge and reduce Lake Powell releases
- Current Colorado River system conditions
- Reclamation's proposed drought response operations plan
- Lower Basin States' comment letter on the subject
- Next steps

The Following directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. De Jesus
2. Gold
3. Fong-Sakai
4. Ortega

Staff responded to the directors' questions and comments.

- d. Subject: Update on Colorado River negotiations and protection of Metropolitan's Colorado River water rights [Conference with legal counsel – anticipated litigation – deciding whether to initiate litigation; unknown number of potential cases; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)]

Presented by: Michael Hughes, Senior Deputy General Counsel
Shanti Rosset, Colorado River Resources Policy Manager

The committee heard the item in closed session. No action was taken.

- e. Subject: Report on Department of Water Resources v. The Metropolitan Water Dist. of Southern California, California Supreme Court Case No. S295147 and Department of Water Resources v. All Persons Interest in the Matter, etc., County of Sacramento Superior Court Case No. 25CV000704 [Conference with legal counsel – existing litigation; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)]

Presented by: Robert Horton, Principal Deputy General Counsel

The committee heard the item in closed session. No action was taken.

4. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

6. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on May 26, 2026

The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Linda Ackerman
Vice Chair