

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**MINUTES**

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

**May 28, 2024**

Chair Ortega called the meeting to order at 11:30 p.m.

Members present: Directors Abdo, Camacho, Cordero (teleconference posted location), De Jesus (teleconference posted location), Garza, Goldberg, Gray (teleconference posted location), Luna, McCoy, Ortega, Quinn, and Sutley.

Members absent: Director Armstrong, Erdman, Fong-Sakai, Jung, Pressman, and Smith.

Other Board members present: Directors Bryant, Dennstedt, Dick, McMillan, Miller (teleconference posted location), and Morris.

Committee staff present: Hagekhalil, Hudson, Salinas, Scully, Suzuki, Wheeler, and Upadhyay.

Chair Ortega called Director McCoy to introduce Metropolitan Guest, Mayor Emma Sharif, City of Compton. Director McCoy and Mayor Sharif made remarks.

Chair Ortega welcomed and thanked Mayor Sharif for joining the committee and encouraged her to comment on matters important to the City of Compton.

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

NONE

**2. OTHER MATTERS AND REPORTS**

a. Subject: Chair's Report

Presented by: Chair Ortega

Chair Ortega stated there is no written report; today, there is a celebration with other dignitaries to accept a Federal Government Grant in Carson; please let the staff know if they would like to join the group.

- b. Subject: General Manager's Report of Metropolitan activities  
Presented by: General Manager Adel Hagekhalil

General Manager Hagekhalil reported on the following:

- Testimony U.S. Senate Budget Committee at a hearing entitled “Droughts, Dollars, and Decisions: Water Scarcity in a Changing Climate
- Climate Resiliency Bond advocating efforts
- Meeting with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- Treated water surcharge meeting with member agencies
- Metropolitan received awards by the National Association of Government Communication
- Upcoming Employee Appreciation Picnic
- Headquarters Construction Update

- 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.

- d. Subject: General Auditor's report of Metropolitan activities  
Presented by: General Auditor Scott Suzuki

General Auditor Suzuki thanked the Board for their input and discussion at the Audits Subcommittee meeting.

- 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.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION**

#### **3. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting for April 23, 2024.

Chair Ortega asked the Directors if there were any additions, corrections, or omissions on the minutes of the April 23, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting. None were made.

- B. Approve the draft of the Committee and Board meeting agendas and schedule for June 2024.

Chair Ortega announced that the Executive Committee on June 25, 2024, time changed to 12:30 p.m.

Chair Ortega asked if there were any additions or deletions to the June 2024 draft packet.

Committee Vice Chair Dick reported that at the Finance and Asset Management Committee, the following item subject has been revised:

- Authorize amending agreements with Hazen and Sawyer for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$2,000,000 and CDM Smith Inc. for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$500,000, and authorize a new agreement with Arup US, Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$500,000 for a period of three years to provide support services in the development and implementation of the CAMP4W; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

#### **4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION**

7-1 Subject/Motion: Approve General Auditor’s Audit Plan for fiscal year 2024/25

Presented by: General Auditor Suzuki

Chair Ortega called for the vote on Items 3A, 3B and 7-1.

Director Garza made a motion, seconded by Director Sutley, to approve the consent calendar Items 3A, 3B as listed and revised, and 7-1.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Abdo, Camacho, Cordero, De Jesus, Garza, Goldberg, Gray, Luna, McCoy, Ortega, Quinn, and Sutley.

Abstention: None

Recusal: None

Absent: Armstrong, Erdman, Fong-Sakai, Jung, Pressman, and Smith.

The motion for Items 3A, 3B, and 7-1 passed by a vote of 12 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstention; and 6 absent.

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

#### **5. COMMITTEE INFORMATION ITEMS**

- a. Subject: Report on the Colorado River Board Meeting.

Presented by: Director Cordero

Director Cordero reported on the Colorado River Board Meeting.

b. Subject: Colorado River Activities

Presented by: William Hasencamp, Manager of Colorado River Resources

Mr. Hasencamp reported on Colorado River activities.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Ortega

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

## **6. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

General Auditor Suzuki reported on the Audit Subcommittee of the Executive Committee.

## **7. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

NONE

## **8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Director De Jesus requested a closed session to discuss the status of a letter sent to the Board on May 17, 2024, by the General Counsel regarding a confidential employment matter.

General Counsel Scully informed the Committee that correspondence would be sent to the full Board today regarding the letter, and that she would not be handling the item, and that Henry Torres, Assistant General Counsel, would be handling the matter.

Chair Ortega informed the Committee that he would be recusing himself and that Legal and Claim's Committee Chair Luna and Director Pressman would lead the board on any process or discussion on the item.

## **9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:13 p.m.

Adán Ortega, Jr.  
Chair of the Board