

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

LEGISLATION, REGULATORY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

May 8, 2023

Chair Jung called the hybrid teleconference meeting to order at 11:01 a.m.

Members present: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Dennstedt, Garza, Jung (teleconference posted location), Kassakhian (entered after roll call), Luna (entered after roll call), Phan (teleconference posted location), Ramos (entered after roll call), and Smith.

Members absent: Directors Fellow, Gray, McMillan and Pressman.

Other Board Members present: Chair Ortega, Directors Armstrong, Camacho, Cordero, Dick, Erdman, Faessel, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Morris, Peterson and Seckel.

Committee Staff present: Hagekhalil, Zinke, Stites, Sims, and Novoa.

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE’S JURISDICTION (as required by Gov. Code Section 54954.3(a))

None

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Legislation, Regulatory Affairs, and Communications Committee for April 10,2023

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

Director Smith made a motion, seconded by Director Dennstedt to approve item 2A.

Ayes: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Dennstedt, Garza, Jung, Kassakhian, Luna, Phan, Ramos, and Smith.

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Directors Fellow, Gray, McMillan, and Pressman

The motion passed by a vote of 10 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstain, and 4 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Update on legislative bond proposals to provide funding to address impacts of climate change, including AB 1567 (Garcia) and SB 867 (Allen)

Presented by: Rosie Thompson, Principal Legislative Representative

Ms. Thompson provided an update on legislative bond proposals AB 1567 (Garcia) and SB 867. AB 1567 includes funding for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, and the Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024. SB 867 (Allen) includes funding for drought, flood, and water resilience, wildfire and forest resilience, coastal resilience, extreme heat mitigation, biodiversity and nature-based climate solutions, climate smart agriculture, park creation and outdoor access, and the Clean Energy Bond Act of 2024.

The following Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1.) Smith

Staff responded to the Directors' comments and questions.

- b. Subject: Update on Water Conservation, Advertising, and Outreach

Presented by: Debra Sass, Team Manager-Creative Design

Ms. Sass provided an update on water conservation, advertising and outreach with an emphasis on Metropolitan's commitment to maintain momentum on conservation Subject programs. Report on Activities from Washington, D.C. Budget and board direction, fiscal year 2022/23 flight one media buy and results, the success of the Presented by: Abby Schneider, Executive Legislative Representative social media influence campaigns engaging legislative and representative audiences, evolving messaging based on conditions, reaching new audiences and Metropolitan's not presented with original construction ball Club.

The following Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1.) Dennstedt
- 2.) Dick

Staff responded to the Directors' comments and questions.

Subject:	Report on Activities from Sacramento
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- c. Subject: Report on Activities from Washington, D.C.
Presented by: Renee Thompson, Principal Legislative Representative

Presented by: Abby Schneider, Executive Legislative Representative
The item was not presented due to time restraints.

Ms. Schneider provided an update on permitting reform, FY 2024 budget request hearings, appropriations bills, and Metropolitan's Congressional staff tour to the Colorado River and the Pure Water Southern California facility.

The following Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1.) Kassakhian

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

- d. Subject: Report on Activities from Sacramento

Presented by: Jay Jefferson, Executive Legislative Representative

Mr. Jefferson provided an update on legislative deadlines, Metropolitan's 50 50 \$50 million budget request to support drought resilience in State Water Dependent areas, the Colorado River Information Hearing, Senate and Assembly bills of interest to Metropolitan and water rights bills.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

a. Subject: External Affairs Management Report

Presented by: Sue Sims, External Affairs Group Manager

Ms. Sims provided an update on our earned media buy, LA Times story on DVL refilling press conference, media impressions locally and nationally, GM Hagekhalil's appearances on public affairs and news talk shows, Metropolitan's primary agency brochure and Metropolitan's leadership and environmental stewardship booklet.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Chair Jung