

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ONE WATER AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

June 10, 2024

Chair Quinn called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Members present: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, Cordero, De Jesus (teleconference posted location), Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre (AB 2449 just cause), Miller, Pressman (teleconference posted location), Quinn, and Sutley.

Members absent: None.

Other Board Members present: Directors Dennstedt, Dick, Lewitt, Luna (AB 2449 just cause), McMillan, Morris, Ortega, Ramos (teleconference posted location), and Seckel.

Director Lefevre indicated that he was participating under AB 2449 “just cause” regarding caregiving. Director Lefevre appeared by audio and on camera and stated that he was alone.

Director Luna indicated that he was participating under AB 2449 “just cause” regarding official business travel. Director Luna appeared by audio and on camera.

Committee Staff present: Crosson, Goshi, Hasencamp, Hawk, Schlotterbeck, Upadhyay, Wheeler, and Winn.

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

Public Speakers included:

1. Connor Everts, Statewide Environmental Water Caucus, Southern California Watershed Alliance, spoke on the Delta Conveyance item.
2. Charlie Wilson, Southern California Water Coalition, spoke on the Delta Conveyance item.
3. Justin Brack, LA Water Keeper, spoke in opposition of the Delta Conveyance item.
4. Catie Wagner, Sierra Club California, spoke on the Delta Conveyance item.
5. Bruce Reznik, Executive Director, LA Water Keeper spoke on the Delta Conveyance item.
6. Kylie Griffiths, California for Water Security, spoke in support of the Delta Conveyance item.
7. John Rosenfield, Director San Francisco Bay Keeper, spoke in opposition of the Delta Conveyance item.
8. Anna Fuentes, spoke in opposition of the Delta Conveyance item.
9. Victor Reyes, spoke in support of Delta Conveyance
10. Emily Papallardo, DCC Engineering, spoke in support of item the Delta Conveyance item.

11. Sarah, BizFed spoke in support of Delta Conveyance spoke in support of Delta Conveyance
12. George Boutros, Orange County business council spoke in support of Delta Conveyance
13. Omar Gonzalez, Los Angeles area Chamber of Commerce spoke in support of Delta Conveyance
14. Sydney, spoke in opposition of Delta Conveyance.
15. Joan Taylor, spoke in opposition of Delta Tunnel cost analysis.
16. Manny Leon, California Alliance for Jobs spoke in support of Delta Conveyance
17. Matt Cremens, California and Nevada Operating Engineers spoke in support of Delta Conveyance
18. Ocean Reserve, Delta County Coalition, spoke on item the Delta Conveyance item.

19. Jan Warren, spoke on the Delta Conveyance item.
20. Wesley Chong, Los Angeles Resident, spoke on the Delta Conveyance item.
21. Charming Evelyn, Spoke in opposition of the Delta Conveyance item.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS -- ACTION

- A.** Approval of the Minutes of the Subcommittee on Bay-Delta Meeting for May 13, 2024

3 CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

Director Goldberg made a motion, seconded by Director Miller, to approve the consent calendar consisting of item 2A.

Director Lafevre announced that no one was in the room with him 18 years of age or older.

The vote was:

Ayes:	Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, Cordero, De Jesus, Erdman, Faessel, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Pressman, Quinn, and Sutley
Noes:	None.
Abstentions:	Director Fong-Sakai
Absent	None.

The motion for item 2A passed by a vote of 14 ayes, 0 noes, 1 abstention, and 0 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

8-2 Subject: By a two-thirds vote, authorize two payments of up to \$993,600 for support of the Colorado River Board, Six Agency Committee, and Colorado River Joint Powers Authority for fiscal year 2024/2025 and \$1,023,408 for fiscal year 2025/2026; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: Tom J. Ryan, Resource Specialist, Water Resource Management

Motion: By a two-thirds vote, authorize two payments of up to \$993,600 for support of the CRB, SAC, and Authority for FY 2024/2025 and \$1,023,408 for FY 2025/2026.

Mr. Ryan’s presentation described the proposed action that would give the General Manager the authority to make the annual payments in each of the next two fiscal years that are required of Metropolitan as a funding agency for the Colorado River Board, Six Agency Committee, and Colorado River Joint Powers Authority.

After completion of the presentation, Director Sutley made a motion, seconded by Director Goldberg, to approve option 1 of the board letter.

Director Lefevre announced that no one was in the room with him 18 years of age or older.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Cordero
2. De Jesus

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, Cordero, De Jesus, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Pressman, Quinn, and Sutley.

Noes: None.

Abstentions: None.

Absent: None.

The motion for item 8-2 passed by a vote of 15 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 0 absent.

5. COMMITTEE INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Update on Delta Conveyance Project-Costs Estimate and Benefit-Cost Analysis: presented by Karla Nemeth, Department of Water Resources Director and Special Advisor to the Governor on Water; Graham Bradner, Executive Director, Delta Conveyance Design and construction Authority; and Dr. David Sunding, Vice Chairman, Berkeley Research Group

Presented by: Karla Nemeth, Department of Water Resources Director and Special Advisor to the Governor on Water
Graham Brader, Executive Director, Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority

Dr. David Sunding, Vice Chairman, Berkeley Research Group

General Manager Hagekhalil provided background information and introductory comments.

Ms. Nemeth provided additional background information and opening remarks.

Mr. Bradner's portion of the presentation focused on the project cost estimate, while Dr. Sunding's portion focused on the benefit-cost analysis.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

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1. Goldberg
2. Sutley
3. Quinn

4. Miller
5. Erdman
6. Seckel

7. Ortega
8. Alvarez

Chair Quinn announced that there would be adjustments to the meeting agenda – noting that the remaining items after 6b would be deferred.

- b. Subject: Update on California System Conservation Projects 2024-2026

Presented by: Laura Lamdin, Engineer, Water Resource Management

Mr. Bill Hasencamp, Manager, Colorado River Resources provided brief background information and introduced Ms. Lamdin.

Ms. Lamdin gave a presentation on information on what forbearance is and why it is important in the context of system conservation agreements, and provided an update to the Board on the status of Colorado River System Conservation Agreements and related forbearance for 2024-2026.

- c. Subject: Update on Water Surplus and Drought Management

Deferred.

d. Subject: Update on Conservation Program

Deferred.

c. Subject: Update on Conservation

Deferred.

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT

a. Subject: Bay-Delta Resources, Colorado River Resources, Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation, and Water Resource Management activities

Deferred.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Report on the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority Meeting

None.

b. Report on Delta Conveyance Finance Authority Meeting

None.

c. Report on Bay-Delta Ad Hoc Meeting

None.

9. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

a. Discuss and provide direction to Subcommittee on Demand Management and Conservation Programs and Priorities

None

10. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

12. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on July 8, 2024.

The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Tracy Quinn
Chair