

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ADJOURNED COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

August 15, 2022

Chair Cordero called the teleconference meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

Members present: Chair Cordero, Vice Chair Kurtz, Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Erdman, Morris, Peterson, Quinn, Record and Smith.

Members absent: Directors Kassakhian, Luna and Repenning.

Other Board Members present: Chairwoman Gray, Directors Atwater, Blois, De Jesus, Dennstedt, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Jung, Lefevre, McCoy, Miller, Ramos, and Pressman.

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

None

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Communications and Legislation Committee held July 12, 2022.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

7-15 Subject: Express opposition, unless amended, to SB 1020 (Laird, D-Santa Cruz, Caballero, D-Salinas, Durazo, D-Los Angeles, and Atkins, D-San Diego): Clean Energy, Jobs, and Affordability Act of 2022; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA.

Presented by: Kathy Viatella, Executive Legislative Representative

Motion: Express opposition, unless amended, to SB 1020 (Laird, D-Santa Cruz, Caballero, D-Salinas, Durazo, D-Los Angeles, and Atkins, D-San Diego): Clean Energy, Jobs, and Affordability Act of 2022.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Morris
2. Cordero
3. Quinn
4. Record

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

After completion of the presentation, Director Morris made a motion, seconded by Director Peterson to approve items 2A and 7-15:

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Cordero, Erdman, Kurtz, Morris, Peterson, Quinn,
Record and Smith
Noes: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: Directors Kassakhian, Luna, and Repenning

The motion passed by a vote of 10 ayes, 0 noes, 0 not voting, 0 abstain, and 3 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Report on Activities from Washington, D.C.

Presented by: Abby Schneider, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Schneider provided a written report on activities from Washington, D.C. with a legislative update including GM Hagekhalil's testimony before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources hearing and legislation.

- b. Subject: Report on Activities from Sacramento.

Presented by: Kathy Viatella, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Viatella provided a written report on activities from Sacramento including an update on the changes to committee leadership positions, legislative calendar, the FY 2022/23 state budget, drought and water resilience funding highlights, and Governor Newsom's proposed funding and new policies for initiatives to ensure California can achieve statewide carbon neutrality as soon as possible.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

- a. Subject: External Affairs Management Report

Presented by: Sue Sims, External Affairs Group Manager

Ms. Viatella provided an update on the suspense file hearing in the appropriations committee and updates on various bills including AB 2142 that would re-establish the tax exemption for turf replacement rebates, and AB 2108 that has come off suspense and is being reviewed. Ms. Sims will provide an update on water conservation and climate-resiliency messaging and outreach activities at the September committee meeting.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting will be held on September 11, 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 1:01 p.m.

Gloria Cordero
Chair