

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ENGINEERING, OPERATIONS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

September 8, 2025

Chair Erdman called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Members present: Directors Alvarez, Bryant, Dennstedt, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Jay (entered after roll call), Lewitt, McMillan (entered after roll call), Miller, Petersen (entered after roll call), and Seckel.

Members absent: Director Crawford and Luna

Other board members present: Chair Ortega, Directors Ackerman, Camacho, Dick, Katz, Kurtz, and Shepherd Romey

Committee staff present: Bednarski, Carter, Chapman, Chaudhuri, Eckstrom, Hattar, Parsons, Rubin, and Upadhyay

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

Director Jay entered the room

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

1. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

- A.** Approval of the Minutes of the Engineering, Operations, and Technology Committee for August 18, 2025.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS ACTION

7-2 Subject: Authorize an agreement with West Monroe Partners in an amount not to exceed \$722,500 for Metropolitan's Intramet Redesign project; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA.

Presented by: No presentation requested.

Motion: Authorize an agreement with West Monroe Partners in an amount not to exceed \$722,500 for Metropolitan's Intramet Redesign project;

7-3 Subject: Award a contract with EyeP Solutions Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$334,791 to upgrade the Wireless Networks at Metropolitan's Riverside locations, including Skinner, Mills, Diamond Valley Lake, and Lake Mathews; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA.

Presented by: No presentation requested.

Motion: Award a contract with EyeP Solutions Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$334,791 to upgrade the Wireless Networks at Metropolitan's Riverside locations, including Skinner, Mills, Diamond Valley Lake, and Lake Mathews.

7-4 Subject: Authorize an agreement with Carasoft Technology Corp. in an amount not to exceed \$920,000 for the Network Visibility and Situational Awareness Upgrades to enhance Metropolitan's network monitoring capabilities through the implementation of advanced technology; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA.

Presented by: No presentation requested.

Motion: Authorize an agreement with Carasoft Technology Corp. in an amount not to exceed \$920,000 for the Network Visibility and Situational Awareness Upgrades to enhance Metropolitan's network monitoring capabilities through the implementation of advanced technology.

Director Seckel made a motion, seconded by Director Bryant, to approve the consent calendar consisting of item 2A, and items 7-2, 7-3, and 7-4.

The vote was:

Ayes:	Directors Alvarez, Bryant, Dennstedt, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Jay, Lewitt, Miller, and Seckel.
Noes:	None
Abstentions:	None
Not voting:	None
Absent:	Directors Crawford, Luna, McMillan, and Peterson

The motion for Items 2A, 7-2, 7-3, and 7-4 passed by a vote of 10 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstention, and 4 absent.

7-5 Subject: Amend the Capital Investment Plan for fiscal years 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 to include the Palos Verdes Reservoir Helicopter Dip Tank Facility project; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or not subject to CEQA.

Presented by: James Spicer, Unit Manager, Engineering Services

Motion: Amend the Capital Investment Plan for fiscal years 2024/2025 and 2025/2026 to include the Palos Verdes Reservoir Helicopter Dip Tank Facility project.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1. Miller
2. Jay
3. Faessel
4. Dennstedt
5. Fong-Sakai
6. Bryant
7. Erdman
8. Camacho

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments.

Directors McMillan and Petersen entered the room

Director Dennstedt made a motion, seconded by Director Bryant, to approve item 7-5.

The vote was:

Ayes:	Directors Alvarez, Bryant, Dennstedt, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Jay, Lewitt, McMillan, Miller, Peterson, and Seckel.
Noes:	None
Abstentions:	None
Not voting:	None
Absent:	Directors Crawford and Luna

The motion for Item 7-5 passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstention, and 2 absent.

7-10 Subject: Award a \$7.988 million contract to Legion Contractors Inc. to construct electrical conduits at the Henry J. Mills Water Treatment Plant to support replacement of the plant's control system; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA.

Presented by: No presentation requested.

Motion: Award a \$7.988 million contract to Legion Contractors Inc. to construct electrical conduits at the Henry J. Mills Water Treatment Plant to support the replacement of the plant's control system.

The following Director provided comments and asked questions

1. Miller

Staff responded to the directors' questions.

Director Bryant made a motion, seconded by Director Dennstedt, to approve item 7-10.

The vote was:

Ayes:	Directors Alvarez, Bryant, Dennstedt, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Jay, Lewitt, McMillan, Miller, Petersen, and Seckel.
Noes:	None
Abstentions:	None
Not voting:	None
Absent:	Directors Crawford and Luna

The motion for Item 7-10 passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstention, and 2 absent.

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

3. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

NONE

4. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

NONE

5. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: State Water Project Resilience Update
- Presented by: Behzad Soltanzadeh, Department of Water Resources, Operations
and Maintenance Division Chief

Mr. Soltanzaheh reported on the following:

- SWP Infrastructure Improvements
- Emergency Preparedness Program
- Risk Informed Project Prioritization
- Maintenance Management Strategy
- Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO)
- Local Partnerships

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions.

1. Erdman
2. Seckel

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

- b. Subject: Project Labor Agreement Annual Report
- Presented by: Doaa Aboul-Hosn, Pr. Engineer - Engineering Services
Group/Engineering Planning Section

Ms. Aboul-Hosn reported on the following:

- PLA adopted in October 2022; initial 5-year term expiring in October 2027
- PLA contains 60% goal for employment of local workers and 15% goal for employment of transitional workers
- PLA requires 95% local workers and 21% transitional workers, \$40 M to local workers and \$8 M to transitional workers
- \$42 M in wages and benefits paid to craft workers
- Partner spotlight: San Bernardino Community College District
- Continued support for small businesses
- PLA administration costs decreasing

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions.

1. Dick
2. Miller
3. Fong-Sakai

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

- c. Subject: Seismic Resilience Report 2025
Presented by: Mai Hattar, Group Manager, Engineering Services

Ms. Hattar reported on the following:

- The Seismic Resilience Report was posted

- d. Subject: Capital Investment Plan Quarterly Report for Period Ending June 2025

Presented by: Jeffrey Nikolas, Sr. Engineer – CIP Office, Engineering Services

Mr. Nikolas reported on the following:

- CIP Quarterly Report
- Funding of Infrastructure Projects with Outside Sources
- Badlands Tunnel Surge Protection Facility
- CIP Budget System Improvements
- Construction Contract Completion & Change Orders
- Performance Metrics – for 4th Quarter of FY 2024/25
- Minor Capital Projects

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions.

1. Fong-Sakai
2. Chair Ortega

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

6. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- a. Subject: Engineering Services, Information Technology, and Water System
 Operations Activities
 Presented by: John Bednarski, Assistant General Manager, Water Resources and
 Technical Resources
 Shane Chapman, Assistant General Manager, Operations

Mr. Bednarski reported on the following:

- Engineering Operations & Technology Annual Field Inspection Trip
Wednesday, Oct. 29 & Thurs. Oct. 30, 2025

Mr. Chapman reported on the following:

- 2025/26 Annual Shutdown Meeting held on August 20, 2025 – the Shutdown
Schedule will be presented to Member Agencies on September 19

7. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

NONE

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

NONE

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Director Dick would like to know how many people are involved in the apprenticeship program.
2. Director Fong-Sakai would like further analysis on the PLA to see how things have changed as compared to three years prior to the PLA.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be on October 13, 2025.

Meeting adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Dennis Erdman
Chair