

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
December 13, 2022

53035 The Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California met in a regular session on Tuesday, December 13, 2022.

Chairwoman Gray called the teleconference meeting to order at 1:49 p.m.

53036 The Meeting was opened with an invocation by Elisa T. Mendez, Principal Admin Analyst, Office of General Manager.

53037 The Pledge of Allegiance was given by Director Glen Peterson, Las Virgenes Municipal Water District.

53038 Board Secretary Abdo administered the roll call. Those responding present were: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Apodaca, Atwater, Camacho, De Jesus, Dennstedt, Dick, Erdman, Faessel, Fellow, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Gray, Jung, Kassakhian, Kurtz, McCoy, Miller, Morris, Ortega, Peterson, Phan, Pressman, Quinn, Ramos, Record, Repenning, Smith, Sutley, and Tamaribuchi.

Those not responding were: Director Blois, Chacon, Cordero, Lefevre, Petersen, and Williams.

Directors entered the meeting after the roll call Luna.

Board Secretary Abdo declared a quorum present.

53039 Chairwoman Gray invited members of the public to address the Board on matters within the Board's jurisdiction (in-person and via teleconference).

	Name	Affiliation	Item
1.	Charming Evelyn	Sierra Club Angeles Chapter in Los Angeles and Orange County	Agenda Item 5G
2.	Caty Wagner	Sierra Club of California	Agenda Items, 6a, 8-1, 8-2, 8-3, and 5G

Chairwoman Gray addressed the following: Other Matters and Reports.

53040 Chairwoman Gray asked if there were any changes to the report of events attended by Directors at Metropolitan's expense during the month of November, as previously posted and distributed to the Board. No amendments were made.

53041 Chairwoman Gray referred to Chairwoman's monthly report, which was previously posted and distributed to the Board. Chairwoman Gray asked the Directors if there were any questions on the item. No comments were made.

Vice Chair Jung introduced an appreciation video of Chairwoman Gray's accomplishments.

Chairwoman Gray thanked the staff, Vice Chairs, and the Board for their support and reflected on the diversity of the Metropolitan Board.

53042 Regarding matters relating to Metropolitan's operations and activities, General Manager Hagekhalil, reported on the following:

1. Offered his thanks to Chairwoman Gray for her leadership and Elisa Mendez for her invocation.
2. The challenges and accomplishments of Metropolitan for 2022.
3. Reflection on 2022 challenges and successes:
 - a. the Colorado River;
 - b. State Water Project;
 - c. State and Federal funding;
 - d. Organizational changes (EEO, DEI, and SRI offices); and
 - e. Project Labor Agreement signage.
4. Retirements of three group managers and many other employees.
5. Reported on the Meeting with Historically Black Colleges and Universities students.
6. Rosa Castro, Board Administrator moving to the SRI Office.
7. Board Administration reporting to Margie Wheeler, Board Liaison.
8. Board Visioning Retreat February 13 and 14 in Temecula.
9. Member Agency Manager meeting on January 19, 2023, to preview the board retreat.

53043 General Counsel Scully reported she wanted to thank the Board Support Team and Legal staff for their hard work as there are vacancies in her department. Announced Setha Schlang, Senior Deputy General Counsel retirement after forty-five years with Metropolitan.

53044 Ethics Officer Salinas reported he wanted to thank Chairwoman Gray for her unwavering commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, contributions, and leadership to Metropolitan. In addition to his written report, the Ethics Officer and Assistant Ethics Officer attended the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws Annual Conference in Montreal. He also thanked the Ethics Officer staff for their great work in 2022.

Rosa Castro, Board Administrator thanked the Board Support Team, Chief Financial Officer, and General Manager for supporting her career and upcoming role at Metropolitan.

53045 Deputy General Interim Auditor Tonsick stated he had nothing to add to his written report. He congratulated Chairwoman Gray on her successful and groundbreaking tenure as the Chair of Metropolitan's Board. He also announced that this was his last Board meeting as he was retiring and thanked the audit staff for all of their hard work.

53046 Chairwoman Gray announced the Induction of new Director Arturo Chacon from Central Basin Municipal Water District (Agenda Item 5G).

- (a) Received credentials
- (b) Reported on credentials by General Counsel
- (c) Filed credentials
- (d) Administered Oath of Office
- (e) Filed Oath

General Counsel Scully reported that the credentials were received and are in order.

Chairwoman Gray addressed the Consent Calendar Items for December 2022.

53047 Chairwoman Gray asked the Directors if there were any comments or discussions on the Approval of the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting for October 25, 2022, and the Board of the Directors Meeting for November 8, 2022 (Copies have been submitted to each Director, Any additions, corrections, or omissions) (Agenda Item 6A). No amendments were made.

53048 Authorize the preparation of commendatory resolutions for Senator Dianne Feinstein and Representative Grace Napolitano (Agenda Item 6B).

53049 Approval of Committee Assignments (Agenda Item 6C). There were no committee assignments at this time.

Chairwoman Gray addressed the Consent Calendar Items for December 2022.

Chairwoman Gray called on the Committee Chairs to give a report on Consent Calendar Action Items as discussed at their Committees.

Chairwoman announced that Record and Dennstedt would recuse and not vote on Item 7-11.

53050 Approve revisions to Administrative Code Section 2416 as set forth in Attachment 1 and Attachment 2 (related to the Equal Employment Opportunity Policies and Investigative procedures involving the Board of Directors and its direct reports), as set forth in Agenda Item 7-1 board letter.

53051 Adopt the Legislative Priorities and Principles for 2023, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-2 board letter.

53052 Authorize the General Manager to use \$80 million in grant funding from the State Water Resources Control Board, and authorize an increase of 17 staff to Metropolitan's current full-time equivalent employee headcount to commence activities related to the initiation of the Pure Water Southern California program, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-3 board letter.

53053 a. Award a \$2,165,000 contract to Caltec Corp. for Stage 3 physical security improvements at Metropolitan's Headquarters Building; and b. Authorize an increase of \$250,000 to an agreement with Arcadis IBI Group, for a new not-to-exceed total of \$3.35 million for technical support, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-4 board letter.

53054 Adopt a resolution designating authorized agents for funding from the California Office of Emergency Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-5 board letter.

53055 a. Adopt a resolution to accept \$50 million in state funding from the California Department of Water Resources to support Metropolitan's drought mitigation projects; and b. Designate the Group Manager of Engineering Services to be the signatory to execute actions related to the funds, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-6 board letter.

53056 Authorize on-call agreements with GEI Consultants, Inc., HDR, Inc., and Stantec Consulting Services Inc., in amounts not to exceed \$2.5 million each, for a maximum of five years, to support Metropolitan's Dam Safety Initiatives Program, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-7 board letter.

53057 Authorize an agreement with Voyageur Security Inc. doing business as Access Technologies in an amount not to exceed \$860,000 for procurement of radio equipment for Metropolitan's Automatic Meter Reading System, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-10 board letter.

Items 7-8 and 7-9 reported out of order.

53058 Approve amendments to the Administrative Code set forth in Attachment 2 to reflect all changes recommended as set forth in Agenda Item 7-8 board letter.

53059 Authorize an increase of \$100,000, to an amount not to exceed \$500,000, for a contract for legal services with Hanson Bridgett LLP to provide legal advice on deferred compensation plans, other employee benefits, taxes, and CalPERS matters, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-9 board letter.

53060 Authorize the General Manager to enter in to the First Amendment to the Agreement regarding Annexation of the Murrieta Window Area with Western Municipal Water District and Eastern Municipal Water District to extend the term ten years, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-11 board letter.

53061 Adopt resolution granting approval for the Yerba Valley Annexation concurrently to San Diego County Water Authority and Metropolitan and establish Metropolitan's terms and conditions for the annexation (Attachment 3), conditioned upon approval by San Diego County's Local Agency Formation Commission, and upon receipt of the annexation fee of \$535,645.70, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-12 board letter.

53062 Adopt a resolution reaffirming the Regional Drought Emergency with modifications to the actions called for within the resolutions as marked in the redline revised resolution, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-13 board letter.

Chairwoman Gray called for a vote to approve Consent Calendar Items 6A, 6B, 7-1 through 7-13 (**M.I. No. 53047, 53048, and 53050 through 53062**).

Director Atwater moved, seconded by Director Peterson that the Board approve the Consent Calendar Items 6A, 6B, 7-1 through 7-13 as follows:

The following is a record of the vote:

Record of Vote on Consent Item(s): 6A, 6B, 7-1 through 7-13									
Member Agency	Total Votes	Director	Present	Yes	Yes Vote	No	No Vote	Abstain	Abstain Vote
Anaheim	5627	Faessel	x	x	5627				
Beverly Hills	4267	Pressman	x	x	4267				
Burbank	2893	Ramos	x	x	2893				
Calleguas Municipal Water District	12368	Blois							
Central Basin Municipal Water District	18216	Apodaca	x	x	18216				
		Chacon							
					Subtotal:				18216
Compton	599	McCoy	x	x	599				
Eastern Municipal Water District	10502	Record	x	x	10502				
Foothill Municipal Water District	2290	Atwater	x	x	2290				
Fullerton	2390	Jung	x	x	2390				
Glendale	3814	Kassakhian	x	x	3814				
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	14663	Camacho	x	x	14663				
Las Virgenes	2927	Peterson	x	x	2927				
Long Beach	6151	Cordero							
Los Angeles	75699	Sutley	x	x	25233				
		Petersen							
		Quinn	x						
		Luna	x	x	25233				
		Repenning	x	x	25233				
					Subtotal:				75699
Municipal Water Dist. of Orange County	60913	Ackerman	x	x	15228				
		Tamaribuchi	x	x	15228				
		Dick	x	x	15228				
		Erdman	x	x	15228				
					Subtotal:				60913
Pasadena	3716	Kurtz	x	x	3716				
San Diego County Water Authority	63232	Fong-Sakai	x	x	15808				
		Goldberg	x	x	15808				
		Miller	x	x	15808				
		Smith	x	x	15808				
					Subtotal:				63232
San Fernando	238	Ortega	x	x	238				
San Marino	770	Morris	x	x	770				
Santa Ana	3228	Phan	x	x	3228				
Santa Monica	4619	Abdo	x	x	4619				
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	8254	De Jesus	x	x	8254				
Torrance	3416	Lefevre							
Upper San Gabriel Valley Mun. Wat. Dist.	12688	Fellow	x	x	12688				
West Basin Municipal Water District	25453	Williams							
		Gray	x	x	25453				
					Subtotal:				25453
Western Municipal Water District	13541	Dennstedt	x	x	13541				
Total	362474				340539				
Present and not voting									
Absent	21935								

The motion to approve the Consent Calendar Items 6A, 6B, 7-1 through 7-13 **(M.I. 53047, 53048, and 53050 through 53062)*** passed by a vote of 340,539 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 0 not voting; and 21,935 absent.

***Note: Individual vote tally for Item 7-11**

Director Record recused himself on Item 7-11 based on state law requirements and MWD Act Section 56, as he receives per diem from Eastern Municipal Water District. Director Dennstedt recused herself on Item 7-11 based on state law requirements and MWD Act Section 56, as she receives per diem from Western Municipal Water District. The motion to approve the Consent Calendar Items 7-11 passed by a vote of 316,496 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 24,043 not voting; and 21,935 absent.

The following Director(s) asked questions or made comments:

	Director(s)
1.	Goldberg

53063 Approve appointment of Board Vice Chairs effective January 1, 2023, Agenda Item 8-1.

Chairwoman Gray called on Chair Elect Ortega to introduce Item 8-1.

Board Vice Chairs

Heather Repenning	Board Vice Chair for Climate Action
Michael Camacho	Board Vice Chair for Strategic Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Policy
Gail Goldberg	Board Vice Chair for Finance, Audit, and Planning
Judy Abdo	Board Vice Chair for Organizational Integrity and Accountability

Chairwoman Gray called for a vote to approve Item 8-1 (**M.I. No. 53063**).

Director Sutley moved, seconded by Director Camacho that the Board approve Item 8-1 as follows:

The following Directors asked questions or made comments:

	Director(s)
1.	Gray

The following is a record of the vote:

Record of Vote on Item: 8-1									
Member Agency	Total Votes	Director	Present	Yes	Yes Vote	No	No Vote	Abstain	Abstain Vote
Anaheim	5627	Faessel	x	x	5627				
Beverly Hills	4267	Pressman	x	x	4267				
Burbank	2893	Ramos	x	x	2893				
Calleguas Municipal Water District	12368	Blois							
Central Basin Municipal Water District	18216	Apodaca	x	x	18216				
		Chacon							
			Subtotal:		18216				
Compton	599	McCoy	x	x	599				
Eastern Municipal Water District	10502	Record	x	x	10502				
Foothill Municipal Water District	2290	Atwater	x	x	2290				
Fullerton	2390	Jung	x	x	2390				
Glendale	3814	Kassakhian	x	x	3814				
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	14663	Camacho	x	x	14663				
Las Virgenes	2927	Peterson	x	x	2927				
Long Beach	6151	Cordero							
Los Angeles	75699	Sutley	x	x	18925				
		Petersen							
		Quinn	x	x	18925				
		Luna	x	x	18925				
		Repenning	x	x	18925				
			Subtotal:		75699				
Municipal Water Dist. of Orange County	60913	Ackerman	x	x	15228				
		Tamaribuchi	x	x	15228				
		Dick	x	x	15228				
		Erdman	x	x	15228				
			Subtotal:		60913				
Pasadena	3716	Kurtz	x	x	3716				
San Diego County Water Authority	63232	Fong-Sakai	x	x	15808				
		Goldberg	x	x	15808				
		Miller	x	x	15808				
		Smith	x	x	15808				
			Subtotal:		63232				
San Fernando	238	Ortega	x	x	238				
San Marino	770	Morris	x	x	770				
Santa Ana	3228	Phan	x	x	3228				
Santa Monica	4619	Abdo	x	x	4619				
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	8254	De Jesus	x	x	8254				
Torrance	3416	Lefevre							
Upper San Gabriel Valley Mun. Wat. Dist.	12688	Fellow	x	x	12688				
West Basin Municipal Water District	25453	Williams							
		Gray	x					x	25453
			Subtotal:						25453
Western Municipal Water District	13541	Dennstedt	x	x	13541				
Total	362474				315086				25453
Present and not voting									
Absent	21935								

The motion to approve Item 8-1 (**M.I. 53063**) passed by a vote of 315,086 ayes; 0 noes; 25,453 abstain; 0 not voting; and 21,935 absent.

53064 Adopt the CEQA determination and approve the recommendations for changes in the Metropolitan Administrative Code to modify the Board Committee structure to reflect the new committee structure and duties, as set forth in Agenda Item 8-2 board letter.

Chairwoman Gray called on Chair Elect Oretga to introduce Item 8-2.

The following Directors asked questions or made comments:

	Director(s)
1.	Gray

Chairwoman Gray called for a vote to approve Item 8-2 (**M.I. No. 53064**).

Director Ramos moved, seconded by Director Goldberg that the Board approve Item 8-2 as follows:

The following is a record of the vote:

Record of Vote on Item:		8-2							
Member Agency	Total Votes	Director	Present	Yes	Yes Vote	No	No Vote	Abstain	Abstain Vote
Anaheim	5627	Faessel	x	x	5627				
Beverly Hills	4267	Pressman	x	x	4267				
Burbank	2893	Ramos	x	x	2893				
Calleguas Municipal Water District	12368	Blois							
Central Basin Municipal Water District	18216	Apodaca	x	x	18216				
		Chacon							
			Subtotal:		18216				
Compton	599	McCoy	x	x	599				
Eastern Municipal Water District	10502	Record	x	x	10502				
Foothill Municipal Water District	2290	Atwater							
Fullerton	2390	Jung	x	x	2390				
Glendale	3814	Kassakhian	x	x	3814				
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	14663	Camacho	x	x	14663				
Las Virgenes	2927	Peterson	x	x	2927				
Long Beach	6151	Cordero							
Los Angeles	75699	Sutley	x	x	18925				
		Petersen							
		Quinn	x	x	18925				
		Luna	x	x	18925				
		Repenning	x	x	18925				
			Subtotal:		75699				
Municipal Water Dist. of Orange County	60913	Ackerman	x	x	15228				
		Tamaribuchi	x	x	15228				
		Dick	x	x	15228				
		Erdman	x	x	15228				
			Subtotal:		60913				
Pasadena	3716	Kurtz	x	x	3716				
San Diego County Water Authority	63232	Fong-Sakai	x	x	15808				
		Goldberg	x	x	15808				
		Miller	x	x	15808				
		Smith	x	x	15808				
			Subtotal:		63232				
San Fernando	238	Ortega	x	x	238				
San Marino	770	Morris	x	x	770				
Santa Ana	3228	Phan	x	x	3228				
Santa Monica	4619	Abdo	x	x	4619				
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	8254	De Jesus	x	x	8254				
Torrance	3416	Lefevre							
Upper San Gabriel Valley Mun. Wat. Dis	12688	Fellow	x	x	12688				
West Basin Municipal Water District	25453	Williams							
		Gray	x					x	25453
			Subtotal:						25453
Western Municipal Water District	13541	Dennstedt	x	x	13541				
Total	362474				312796				25453
Present and not voting									
Absent	24225								

The motion to approve Item 8-2 (**M.I. 53064**) passed by a vote of 312,796 ayes; 0 noes; 25,453 abstain; 0 not voting; and 24,225 absent.

53065 Approve Chairs, Vice Chairs, and members of Standing Committees, and of the newly approved Ad Hoc Committees of the Board effective January 1, 2023, as set forth in Attachment 8-3 Chair-Elect Memo.

Chairwoman Gray called on Chair Elect Ortega to introduce Item 8-3.

The following Director(s) asked questions or made comments:

	Director(s)
1.	Gray

Chairwoman Gray called for a vote to approve Item 8-3 (**M.I. No. 53065**).

Director Goldberg moved, seconded by Director Peterson that the Board approve Item 8-3 as follows:

The following is a record of the vote:

Record of Vote on Item: 8-3									
Member Agency	Total Votes	Director	Present	Yes	Yes Vote	No	No Vote	Abstain	Abstain Vote
Anaheim	5627	Faessel	x	x	5627				
Beverly Hills	4267	Pressman	x	x	4267				
Burbank	2893	Ramos	x	x	2893				
Calleguas Municipal Water District	12368	Blois							
Central Basin Municipal Water District	18216	Apodaca	x	x	18216				
		Chacon							
			Subtotal:		18216				
Compton	599	McCoy	x	x	599				
Eastern Municipal Water District	10502	Record	x	x	10502				
Foothill Municipal Water District	2290	Atwater							
Fullerton	2390	Jung	x	x	2390				
Glendale	3814	Kassakhian	x	x	3814				
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	14663	Camacho	x	x	14663				
Las Virgenes	2927	Peterson	x	x	2927				
Long Beach	6151	Cordero							
Los Angeles	75699	Sutley	x	x	18925				
		Petersen							
		Quinn	x	x	18925				
		Luna	x	x	18925				
		Repenning	x	x	18925				
			Subtotal:		75699				
Municipal Water Dist. of Orange County	60913	Ackerman	x	x	15228				
		Tamaribuchi	x	x	15228				
		Dick	x	x	15228				
		Erdman	x	x	15228				
			Subtotal:		60913				
Pasadena	3716	Kurtz	x	x	3716				
San Diego County Water Authority	63232	Fong-Sakai	x	x	15808				
		Goldberg	x	x	15808				
		Miller	x	x	15808				
		Smith	x	x	15808				
			Subtotal:		63232				
San Fernando	238	Ortega	x	x	238				
San Marino	770	Morris	x	x	770				
Santa Ana	3228	Phan	x	x	3228				
Santa Monica	4619	Abdo	x	x	4619				
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	8254	De Jesus	x	x	8254				
Torrance	3416	Lefevre							
Upper San Gabriel Valley Mun. Wat. Dist.	12688	Fellow	x	x	12688				
West Basin Municipal Water District	25453	Williams							
		Gray	x					x	25453
			Subtotal:						25453
Western Municipal Water District	13541	Dennstedt	x	x	13541				
Total	362474				312796				25453
Present and not voting									
Absent	24225								

The motion to approve Item 8-3 (**M.I. 53065**) passed by a vote of 312,796 ayes; 0 noes; 25,453 abstain; 0 not voting; and 24,225 absent.

53066 Chairwoman Gray asked if there were questions or need for discussion for Board Information Item 9-1. No requests were made.

53067 General Auditor Interviews and Authority to Hire [Public Employment; General Auditor; and conference with labor negotiator Diane Pitman to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code 54957 and 54957.6].

Chairwoman Gray called the meeting into closed session.

The Board returned to open session at 5:56 p.m.; the Board voted in closed session to authorize the hiring of a candidate and gave direction on contract negotiation.

53068 Chairwoman Gray asked if there were any Follow-up Items.

Director Ramos acknowledged Chairwoman Gray's last meeting and her resilient leadership.

53069 Chairwoman Gray asked if there were any Future Agenda Items.

Chairwoman Gray made closing remarks for the end of her term.

53069 There being no objection, at 6:08 p.m., Chairwoman Gray adjourned the meeting.


GLORIA D. GRAY
CHAIRWOMAN


JUDY ABDO
SECRETARY