MINUTES

SPECIAL JOINT MEETING OF THE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ORGANIZATION, PERSONNEL, AND EFFECTIVENESS COMMITTEE

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

June 13, 2025

54087 The Special Joint meeting of the Board of Directors and the Organization, Personnel, and Effectiveness Committee of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California met in a special session on Friday, June 13, 2025.

Chair Ortega called the teleconference meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

Chair Ortega called on General Manager Upadhayay. General Manager Upadhayay reported on the Immigration and Customs Enforcement protest in the downtown Los Angeles area conditions affecting Metropolitan headquarters location.

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

Director(s)

1. Sutley

54088 The Pledge of Allegiance was given by Chair Ortega, San Fernando Valley.

54089 Board Executive Secretary Hudson administered the roll call. Those responding present were: Directors Ackerman (teleconference posted location available for the public), Alvarez (teleconference posted location available for the public), Armstrong (teleconference posted location available for the public), Bryant (teleconference posted location available for the public), Camacho, De Jesus (teleconference posted location available for the public), Dick (teleconference posted location available for the public), Erdman (teleconference posted location available for the public), Faessel (teleconference posted location available for the public), Fellow (teleconference posted location available for the public), Gold (teleconference posted location available for the public), Gray (teleconference posted location available for the public), Katz (teleconference posted location available for the public), Lewitt, McCoy (teleconference posted location available for the public), McMillan, Miller (teleconference posted location available for the public), Ortega (in-person and teleconference posted location available for the public), Petersen (teleconference posted location available for the public), Pressman (teleconference posted location available for the public), Quinn (teleconference posted location available for the public), Ramos (teleconference posted location available for the public), Seckel (teleconference posted location available for the public), and Sutley (teleconference posted location available for the public).

Those not responding were: Directors Cordero, Crawford, Dennstedt, Douglas, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Jay, Jung, Kassakhian, Kurtz, Luna, and Phan.

Board Executive Secretary Hudson declared a quorum present.

Director(s) entered after roll call: Directors Garza and Shepard Romey (teleconference posted location available for the public).

Chair Ortega referenced a letter from the Sierra Club regarding the general manager's recruitment.

54090 Chair Ortega invited members of the public to address the Board on matters within the Board's jurisdiction (in-person and via teleconference). None.

Directors Garza entered the meeting.

Due to technical difficulties, the public comment line remained open for public speakers.

Shepard Romey entered the meeting.

54091 Approve resolution confirming the appointment of Director Jacque McMillan for the Association of California Water Agencies Region 8 board member.

Chair Ortega called on Directors who are requesting that any items be pulled from the Consent Calendar Action Items and to state any recusals, abstentions, and disclosures.

Director Katz disclosed on Item 7-7 involves funding for insurance providers, possibly including Chubb Insurance. He owns stock; therefore, he is recusing himself from all participation in the matter.

Directors Katz and Miller disclosed on Items 7-4 and 7-9 involve agreements with the San Diego County Water Authority, which he receives per diem, reimbursements, and other benefits from the Authority for his service on the Board. Based on the MWD Act Section 56, he will note vote, including abstaining on the items.

Directors Petersen and Quinn disclosed on Item 7-4 involves an agreement with LADWP. The LA Administrative Code provides for an attendance payment for attending Metropolitan Board meetings. However, they have declined the payment in writing, and do not receive it. They have been advised that they may participate in and vote on the item.

Director Pressman disclosed Item 7-4 involves an agreement with LADWP because the City of LA is a business client, he is recusing himself from the matter.

Director Sutley disclosed on Item 7-4 involves an agreement with LADWP. The LA Administrative Code provides for an attendance payment for attending Metropolitan Board meetings. She has declined the payment in writing, and do not receive it. She also receives income as a City employee. Because the item involves her employing department, she is recusing herself.

54090 Chair Ortega invited members of the public to address the Board on matters within the Board's jurisdiction for callers that were having technical difficulties (in-person and via teleconference).

	Name	Affiliation	Comment
1.	Holamiti Ajibola	RSA Associate Member	Investments
2.	Lane	Sierra Club	Item 5-1

Consent Calendar Items- Action

54092 Authorize a one-year extension to the funding agreement for support of the CRB, SAC, and Authority (Colorado River Board, Six Agency Committee, and Joint Powers Authority), as set forth in Agenda Item 7-4 board letter.

54093 Approve Metropolitan’s Statement of Investment Policy for fiscal year 2025/26; and delegated authority to the Treasurer to invest Metropolitan’s funds for fiscal year 2025/26, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-6 board letter.

54094 Approve up to $2.485 million to purchase insurance coverage for Metropolitan’s Property and Casualty Insurance Program for Fiscal Year 2025/26, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-7 board letter.

54095 Authorized an amendment to the LRP Agreement to extend the start-of-operation deadline for the Oceanside Pure Water and Recycled Water Expansion Phase I Project; adopted CEQA determination that the proposed action was previously addressed in the City of Oceanside's adopted 2018 Final MND and Addendum and Olivenhain Municipal Water District's certified 2015 Final PEIR and Addendum and that no further CEQA review is required, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-9 board letter.

Director Fellow moved, seconded by Director Seckel, that the Board approve the Consent Calendar Items 5A, 7-4, 7-6, 7-7, and 7-9.

Chair Ortega called for a vote to approve the Consent Calendar Items 5A, 7-4, 7-6, 7-7, and 7-9.

The following is a record of the vote:

Record of Vote on Consent Item(s):	Items: 5A, 7-4, 7-6, 7-7, and 7-9								
Member Agency	**Total Votes**	**Director**	**Present**	**Yes**	**Yes Vote**	**No**	**No Vote**	**Abstain**	**Abstain Vote**
Anaheim	6306	Faessel	x	x	6306				
Beverly Hills	4677	Pressman	x	x	4677				
Burbank	3330	Ramos	x	x	3330				
Calleguas Municipal Water District	13627	McMillan	x	x	13627				
Central Basin Municipal Water District	20265	Garza	x	x	20265				
		Crawford							
			Subtotal:		20265				
Compton	678	McCoy	x	x	678				
Eastern Municipal Water District	13623	Armstrong	x	x	13623				
Foothill Municipal Water District	2543	Bryant	x	x	2543				
Fullerton	2766	Jung							
Glendale	4165	Kassakhian							
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	17103	Camacho	x	x	17103				
Las Virgenes	3224	Lewitt	x	x	3224				
Long Beach	6805	Cordero							
Los Angeles	83835	Sutley	x	x	27945				
		Petersen	x	x	27945				
		Quinn	x	x	27945				
		Luna							
		Douglas							
			Subtotal:		83835				
Municipal Water Dist. of Orange County	68102	Ackerman	x	x	17026				
		Seckel	x	x	17026				
		Dick	x	x	17026				
		Erdman	x	x	17026				
			Subtotal:		68102				
Pasadena	4042	Kurtz							
San Diego County Water Authority	70158	Fong-Sakai							
		Goldberg							
		Miller	x	x	35079				
		Katz	x	x	35079				
			Subtotal:		70158				
San Fernando	274	Ortega	x	x	274				
San Marino	836	Shepherd R	x	x	836				
Santa Ana	3569	Phan							
Santa Monica	5055	Gold	x	x	5055				
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	9019	De Jesus	x	x	9019				
Torrance	3781	Jay							
Upper San Gabriel Valley Mun. Wat. Dist.	14079	Fellow	x	x	14079				
West Basin Municipal Water District	28764	Alvarez	x	x	14382				
		Gray	x	x	14382				
			Subtotal:		28764				
Western Municipal Water District	15689	Dennstedt							
Total	**406315**				**365498**				
Present and not voting									
Absent	**40817**								

The motion to approve the Consent Calendar Items: 5A, 7-4, 7-6, 7-7, and 7-9 passed by a vote of 290,663 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 74,835 not voting; and 40,817 absent (**M.I. No. 54091 through 54095***) passed by a vote of 365,498 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 0 not voting; and 40,817 absent.

*Directors Miller, Katz, Pressman and Sutley did not vote on Item 7-4 (**M.I. 54092**) passed by vote of 290,663 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 70,158 not voting; and 45,494 absent.

*Director Katz did not vote on Item 7-7 (**M.I. 54094**) passed by a vote of 365,498 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 0 not voting; and 40,817 absent.

*Directors Katz and Miller did not vote on Item 7-9 (**M.I. 54095)** passed by a vote of 295,340 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 70,158 not voting; and 40,817 absent.

54096 Report on firm selected for the general manager recruitment. Chair Ortega announced that the Board authorized the Organization, Personnel, and Effectiveness Committee to hire the recruitment firm. The recruitment firm selected was the Bob Murray and Associates. The Board reviewed the job description (Board Item 5-1).

Director(s)

1. Seckel

Staff responded to the Directors' comments and questions.

54097 Tabled approval of the General Manager job description, General Manager priorities, and General Manager qualities to June 24, 2025. (Board Item 5-2).

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

Director(s)

1. Seckel
2. Camacho
3. Garza
4. Armstrong

Staff responded to the Directors' comments and questions.

Director McMillian left the meeting.

Director Garza moved, seconded by Director Camacho, that the Board table Board Item 5-2.

Chair Ortega called for a vote to table Board Item 5-2.

The following is a record of the vote:

Record of Vote on Item:	5-2								
Member Agency	**Total Votes**	**Director**	**Present**	**Yes**	**Yes Vote**	**No**	**No Vote**	**Abstain**	**Abstain Vote**
Anaheim	6306	Faessel	x	x	6306				
Beverly Hills	4677	Pressman	x	x	4677				
Burbank	3330	Ramos	x	x	3330				
Calleguas Municipal Water District	13627	McMillan							
Central Basin Municipal Water District	20265	Garza	x	x	20265				
		Crawford							
			Subtotal:		20265				
Compton	678	McCoy	x	x	678				
Eastern Municipal Water District	13623	Armstrong	x	x	13623				
Foothill Municipal Water District	2543	Bryant	x	x	2543				
Fullerton	2766	Jung							
Glendale	4165	Kassakhian							
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	17103	Camacho	x	x	17103				
Las Virgenes	3224	Lewitt	x	x	3224				
Long Beach	6805	Cordero							
Los Angeles	83835	Sutley	x	x	27945				
		Petersen	x	x	27945				
		Quinn	x	x	27945				
		Luna							
		Douglas							
			Subtotal:		83835				
Municipal Water Dist. of Orange County	68102	Ackerman	x	x	17026				
		Seckel	x	x	17026				
		Dick	x	x	17026				
		Erdman	x	x	17026				
			Subtotal:		68102				
Pasadena	4042	Kurtz							
San Diego County Water Authority	70158	Fong-Sakai							
		Goldberg							
		Miller	x	x	35079				
		Katz	x	x	35079				
			Subtotal:		70158				
San Fernando	274	Ortega	x	x	274				
San Marino	836	Shepherd Romey	x	x	836				
Santa Ana	3569	Phan							
Santa Monica	5055	Gold	x	x	5055				
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	9019	De Jesus	x	x	9019				
Torrance	3781	Jay							
Upper San Gabriel Valley Mun. Wat. Dist.	14079	Fellow	x	x	14079				
West Basin Municipal Water District	28764	Alvarez	x	x	14382				
		Gray	x	x	14382				
			Subtotal:		28764				
Western Municipal Water District	15689	Dennstedt							
Total	**406315**				**351871**				
Present and not voting									
Absent	**54444**								

The motion to approve the Board Item 5-2 (**M.I. No. 54097**) passed by a vote of 351,871 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 0 not voting; and 54,444 absent.

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Director McMillian entered the meeting.

54096 Report on firm selected for the general manager recruitment.

Director(s)

1. Ortega
2. Sutley
3. Seckel
4. Katz
5. Lewitt
6. Gold
7. Garza
8. Armstrong
9. Pressman
10. Ramos

The Recruiter and Staff responded to the Directors' comments and questions.

Chair Ortega announced an Ad Hoc Committee on Executive Performance would be created to work with the recruiting firm.

Board Items 5-3 and 5-4 were deferred.

54098 Chair Ortega asked if there were any Follow-Up Items. No requests were made.

54099 Chair Ortega asked if there were any Future Agenda Items. No requests were made.

54100 There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 11:24 a.m.

Rickita C. Hudson

RICKITA HUDSON
BOARD EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

ADÁN ORTEGA, JR.
CHAIR OF THE BOARD