

# **THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

## **MINUTES**

### **LEGISLATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE**

**March 9, 2026**

Chair Lewitt called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

Members present: Directors Ackerman, Camacho, Crane, Dennstedt, Fellow, Gray, Jay, Jung (entered after rollcall), Katz, Lewitt, Paule, Ramos (entered after rollcall) and Shepherd Romey

Members absent: Director Kassakhian

Other Board Members present: Directors Bryant, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Garza, Kurtz, McCoy and McMillan.

Committee Staff present: Deshmukh, Hudson, Novoa, Schaffer, Stites, Rubin, and Zinke

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

None

#### **2. COMMITTEE ACTION (ONLY)**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Legislation and Communications Committee for February 9, 2026.

#### **3. COMMITTEE ITEMS (FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)**

None

Director Camacho made a motion, seconded by Director Shepherd Romey, to approve the consent calendar item 2A.

|              |                                                                                                     |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ayes:        | Directors Ackerman, Camacho, Crane, Dennstedt, Fellow, Gray, Jay, Lewitt, Paule, and Shepherd Romey |
| Noes:        | None                                                                                                |
| Abstentions: | Director Katz                                                                                       |
| Absent:      | Directors Jung, Kassakhian, and Ramos                                                               |

The motion for item 2A passed by a vote of 10 ayes, 0 noes, 1 abstain, and 3 absent.

**4. COMMITTEE ITEMS (ACTION FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)**

None

**5. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)**

9-5 Subject: Information on Facilities Naming Criteria and Procedures

Presented by: Director Anthony Fellow, MWD Director and Chair of Ad Hoc Committee on Communications and Facilities Naming .

Director Fellow provided an update on the items discussed at the March 2, 2026, Ad Hoc Committee on Communications and Facilities Naming. The committee reviewed the adopted Facilities Naming Policy Principle and does not recommend changing the adopted criteria and procedures at this time.

The following Director provided comments or asked questions:

1.) Bryant

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

Director Ramos entered the meeting.

**6. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL)**

a. Subject: East Bay Municipal Utility District H2flow Campaign

Presented by: Kathryn Horn, East Bay Municipal Utility District Senior Community Affairs Representative

Ms. Horn shared EBMUD's outreach campaign "H2Flow", a music video-driven water education campaign that uses rap, rhythm, and visual storytelling to connect audiences with the journey of drinking water from source to tap.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

- 1.) Lewitt
- 2.) Ortega
- 3.) Fellow
- 4.) Fong-Sakai
- 5.) Shepherd Romey

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

Director Jung entered the meeting.

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

Presented by: Abby Schneider, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Schneider provided an update on the House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee Hearing, the Water Resources Development Act 2026 hearings, and the State Water Contractors visit to Washington D.C.

- c. Subject: Report on Activities from Sacramento

Presented by: Jay Jefferson, Executive Legislative Representative

Mr. Jefferson provided an update on the legislative calendar, advanced clean fleet regulations, and legislation for subsidence funding, Proposition 4 administration, local agency construction projects, and wildfire response.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

- 1.) Ortega
- 2.) Bryant

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

## **7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS**

- a. Subject: External Affairs Activities

Presented by: Dee Zinke, External Affairs Assistant General Manager

Ms. Zinke provided updates on state and federal government outreach, the Water Reuse Youth Summit, and the Urban Water Institute Spring Conference.

**8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

None

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 12:09 p.m.

Jay Lewitt  
Chair