

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

Agenda

The mission of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

L&C Committee

M. Luna, Chair
J. Garza, Vice Chair
M. Camacho
G. Cordero
L. Dick
C. Douglas
A. Fellow
C. Kurtz
T. McCoy
C. Miller
M. Ramos
K. Seckel

Special Legal and Claims Committee

Meeting with Board of Directors *

November 18, 2024

11:30 a.m.

**Monday, November 18, 2024
Meeting Schedule**

**09:00 a.m. EOT
11:00 a.m. Break
11:30 a.m. Legal
01:00 p.m. Sp Jt OWS
and BOD**

Agendas, live streaming, meeting schedules, and other board materials are available here:

<https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. Written public comments received by 5:00 p.m. the business days before the meeting is scheduled will be posted under the Submitted Items and Responses tab available here:

<https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Legislation.aspx>.

If you have technical difficulties with the live streaming page, a listen-only phone line is available at 1-877-853-5257; enter meeting ID: 873 4767 0235.

Members of the public may present their comments to the Board on matters within their jurisdiction as listed on the agenda via in-person or teleconference. To participate via teleconference 1-833-548-0276 and enter meeting ID: 876 9484 9772 or to join by computer [click here](#).

MWD Headquarters Building • 700 N. Alameda Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012

Teleconference Locations:

525 Via La Selva • Redondo Beach, CA 90277

3008 W. 82nd Place • Inglewood, CA 90305

Cedars Sinai • 8700 Beverly Boulevard Room M313 • Los Angeles, CA 90048

Conference Room 2nd Floor • 1545 Victory Blvd 2nd FL • Glendale CA 91505

5120 West Goldleaf Circle, Ste. 425 • Los Angeles, CA 90056

* The Metropolitan Water District's meeting of this Committee is noticed as a joint committee meeting with the Board of Directors for the purpose of compliance with the Brown Act. Members of the Board who are not assigned to this Committee may participate as members of the Board, whether or not a quorum of the Board is present. In order to preserve the function of the committee as advisory to the Board, members of the Board who are not assigned to this Committee will not vote on matters before this Committee.

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))

2. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

A. General Counsel's report of monthly activities [21-3934](#)

Attachments: [11192024 LC 2A Report](#)

**** CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION ****

3. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Legal and Claims Committee for October 7, 2024 (Copies have been submitted to each Director, any additions, corrections, or omissions) [21-3935](#)

Attachments: [11182024 LC 3A \(10072024\) Minutes](#)

4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION

NONE

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

5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION

8-7 Report on litigation in Ryan Tiegs v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Riverside County Superior Court Case No. CVPS2306176; Dane Crawford v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Riverside County Superior Court Case No. CVPS2304015; and Alicia Lorentzen v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 23STCV19214; authorize increase in the maximum amount payable under a contract for legal services in Ryan Tiegs v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California with Seyfarth Shaw LLP in the amount of \$275,000 for a total amount not to exceed \$525,000, increase in the maximum amount payable under a contract for legal services in Dane Crawford v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California with Seyfarth Shaw LLP in the amount of \$275,000 for a total amount not to exceed \$525,000, and increase in the maximum amount payable under a contract for legal services in Alicia Lorentzen v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California with Sheppard, Mullin, Richter & Hampton LLP in the amount of \$175,000 for a total amount not to exceed \$425,000; and report on two legal claims alleging equal employment opportunity and other violations; the General Manager [21-4071](#)

has determined that the proposed actions are exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA. [Conference with legal counsel – (1) as to the three cases: existing litigation; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(1); and (2) as to the two legal claims: anticipated litigation; based on existing facts and circumstances of receipt of legal claim communications on behalf of two individuals threatening litigation, there is significant exposure to litigation against Metropolitan: two potential cases; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(2)]. [ADDED ITEM 11/13/2024]

6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

NONE

7. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Report on environmental litigation challenging the Department of Water Resources’ Delta Conveyance Project approval, certification of the Final Environmental Impact Report and other actions taken under the California Environmental Quality Act, ten consolidated cases pending in Sacramento County Superior Court under the lead case, Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District v. California Department of Water Resources, Case No. 24WM000006 and appeals in same, Cal. Court of Appeal for the Third Appellate District Case No. C101878 [21-3980](#)

Attachments: [11182024 LC 7a Presentation](#)

- b. Report on Sierra Club et al. v. California Department of Water Resources, Cal. Court of Appeal for the Third Appellate District Case No. C100552 (consolidated with California Department of Water Resources v. All Persons Interested in the Matter, etc., Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. 34-2020-00283112) [Conference with legal counsel – existing litigation; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)] [21-3979](#)

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

NONE

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

10. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: This committee reviews items and makes a recommendation for final action to the full Board of Directors. Final action will be taken by the Board of Directors. Committee agendas may be obtained on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. This committee will not take any final action that is binding on the Board, even when a quorum of the Board is present.

Writings relating to open session agenda items distributed to Directors less than 72 hours prior to a regular meeting are available for public inspection at Metropolitan's Headquarters Building and on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

Requests for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to attend or participate in a meeting should be made to the Board Executive Secretary in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service or accommodation.