

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

August 15, 2023

53328 The Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California met in a regular session on Tuesday, August 15, 2023.

Chair Ortega called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Chair Ortega announced that we do not have any Directors participating in the meeting using AB 2449.

53329 The Meeting was opened with an invocation by Director Marsha Ramos, City of Burbank.

53330 The Pledge of Allegiance was given by Board Vice Chair S. Gail Goldberg, San Diego County Water Authority.

Chair Ortega welcomed Director Armstrong, Eastern Municipal Water District, to introduce the guest Member Agency Manager Joe Mouawad, General Manager at Eastern Municipal Water District. Director Armstrong and Mr. Mouawad made brief remarks.

Chair Ortega announced that in honor of National Water Quality Month, Metropolitan will highlight the work in water quality in a social media series that provides simple messages about the steps we take to provide the public with safe and clean water supplies. The series will direct the public to the 2023 annual drinking water quality report. Chair Ortega recognized that August is National Fishing Month. Metropolitan will feature fishing and other recreational opportunities at Diamond Valley and Lake Skinner. Lastly, Metropolitan will highlight Water System Operations employees who work at the field sites.

53331 Board Secretary Fong-Sakai administered the roll call. Those responding present were: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, Bryant, Camacho, Chacon, Cordero, De Jesus, Dennstedt, Dick, Erdman, Faessel, Fellow, Fong-Sakai, Garza, Goldberg, Jung (teleconference posted location), Kassakhian, Kurtz, Lefevre, Luna, McCoy, McMillan, Miller, Morris, Ortega, Petersen, Peterson (teleconference posted location), Pressman, Quinn, Ramos, Seckel, Smith, and Sutley.

Those not responding were: Directors Douglas, Gray, and Phan.

Board Secretary Fong-Sakai declared a quorum present.

53332 Community Reflections California African American Water Education Foundation

Chair Ortega introduced Darryl Lucien, Executive Director of the California African American Water Education Foundation. Mr. Lucien made remarks regarding the organization's efforts to embrace the vision of creating an informed African American community on water issues impacting their everyday lives after showing a short video highlighting the organization's recent events.

53333 Chair Ortega invited members of the public to address the Board on matters within the Board's jurisdiction (in-person and via teleconference). None were made.

Chair Ortega addressed the following: Other Matters and Reports.

53334 Chair Ortega asked if there were any changes to the report of events attended by Directors at Metropolitan's expense during the month of July, as previously posted and distributed to the Board. Chair Ortega asked the Directors if there were any corrections on the item. No amendments were made.

53335 Chair Ortega referred to the Chair's monthly report, which was previously posted and distributed to the Board.

Chair Ortega announced he may have to leave the meeting early with Director Peterson to attend to legislation business. If that occurs, Board Chair Camacho will conclude the meetings on his behalf. He discussed the luncheon with Engineering Service Interns. Lastly, Chair Ortega announced the meeting would be adjourned in honor of the late Dora Atwater, former Director Atwater's mother, the late Martin Peterson, Director Peterson's father, and the late Gary Armstrong, Director Armstrong's father, who has passed on this past year.

Chair Ortega asked the Directors if there were any questions on the item. None were made.

53336 General Manager Hagekhalil referred to the General Manager's monthly report, which was previously posted and distributed to the Board. In addition, General Manager Hagekhalil reported on the following:

1. Welcomed the guest member agency general manager; he offered his condolences to the Directors who lost loved ones and the lives lost during the recent fires in Hawaii.
2. Updated on the annual Metropolitan blood drives.
3. Acknowledge the staff during National Water Quality Month that continue to bring clean and safe water to our region.
4. Metropolitan support regarding safe drinking water to our member agencies.
5. Updated on Metropolitan efforts to secure state and federal funding
6. Updated on the Delta visit.
7. Updated on the business plan changes.

53337 General Counsel Scully stated she had nothing to add to the written report.

53338 General Auditor Suzuki stated he had nothing to add to the written report.

53339 Ethics Officer Salinas stated he had nothing to add to the written report.

53340 Report on list of certified assessed valuations for fiscal year 2023/24 and tabulation of assessed valuations, percentage participation, and vote entitlement of member agencies as of August 15, 2023.

Chair Ortega announced the report was heard at today's Finance, Audit, Insurance, and Real Property Committee meeting. Chair Ortega asked the Directors if there were any questions on the item. None were made.

53341 Presentation of Commendatory Resolution for Director Richard Atwater representing Foothill Municipal Water District.

Former Director Atwater made brief remarks.

53342 Presentation of 20-year Service Pin to Larry D. Dick, Municipal Water District of Orange County.

Director Dick made brief remarks.

Director Quinn left the meeting.

53343 Chair Ortega asked the Directors if there were any comments or discussions on the Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting Workshop Subcommittee on Long-Term Regional Planning Processes and Business Modeling Meeting for May 23, 2023, and June 27, 2023; Minutes of the Board of Directors Workshop on Ethics, Organization, and Personnel Meeting for June 27, 2023, and Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting for July 11, 2023. (Copies have been submitted to each Director, any additions, corrections, or omissions) (Agenda Item 7A). No amendments were made.

53344 Approve Commendatory Resolution for Director Heather Repenning representing the City of Los Angeles (Agenda Item 7B).

53345 Approval of Committee Assignments (Agenda Item 7D). Director Bryant added as a member of the Engineering, Operations, and Technology Committee and a member of the Ethics, Organization, and Personnel Committee

53346 Confirmation of the appointment of the Board Executive Secretary Rickita Hudson effective August 6, 2023 (Agenda Item 7C). Chair Ortega announced the confirmation and appointment. There we no comments.

Chair Ortega called on Committee Chairs to give a report on Consent Calendar Action Items and to hear abstentions or recusals before any discussion on the items.

Director Camacho recused himself on item 7-1 as it involves authorizing payment to the Los Angeles Community College District in a land lease agreement which is a client of his employer.

Director Dennstedt asked a clarifying question on item 7-5. Staff responded.

53347 A. award a \$1,962,691 contract to Structural Preservation Systems for urgent relining of Sepulveda Feeder; b. Authorize a \$280,000 increase to a professional services agreement with HDR Engineering Inc. for a new not-to-exceed amount of

\$15,780,000; and c. Authorize a \$240,000 increase to an existing land lease agreement with Los Angeles Community College District for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$1,090,000, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-1 board letter.

53348 Authorize an agreement with Nth Generation Computing Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$367,448 for the Datacenter Backup Infrastructure Upgrade, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-2 board letter.

53349 Authorize amendments to the Cyclic Cost-Offset Program terms and authorize the general manager to execute other agreements, including surface storage, that achieve the same benefits under the same financial terms and conditions, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-3 board letter. (Committee members actively discussed the amended motion introduced by Director Miller. Because of uncertainty around the inclusion of surface water, this amendment clarifies that surface-water storage within the service area is included in the Cyclic Cost-Offset Program).

53350 Authorize implementation of the tree rebate option for the Turf Replacement Program, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-4 board letter.

53351 Approve proposed amendment to Administrative Code section 6471 to increase the amount of the Ethics Officer's authority to obtain professional services for external investigations from \$100,000 to \$250,000 per contract year, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-5 board letter.

53352 Approve the nomination and renaming of Metropolitan's Pure Water Southern California Demonstration Plant as the Grace F. Napolitano Pure Water Southern, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-6 board letter.

Letter of support from Senator Bob Archuleta, California Senate, District 30 to Board Vice Chair Camacho regarding facilities naming request in honor of Grace Napolitano.

Chair Ortega called for a vote to approve Consent Calendar Items 7A, 7B, 7C, 7D, 7-1 through 7-6 (**M.I. No. 53343 through 53352**).

Director Morris moved, seconded by Director Kurtz that the Board approve the Consent Calendar Items 7A, 7B, 7C, 7D, 7-1 through 7-6 as follows:

The following is a record of the vote:

Record of Vote on Consent Item(s): 7A, 7B, 7C, 7D and 7-1 through 7-6									
Member Agency	Total Votes	Director	Present	Yes	Yes Vote	No	No Vote	Abstain	Abstain Vote
Anaheim	6038	Faessel	x	x	6038				
Beverly Hills	4493	Pressman	x	x	4493				
Burbank	3175	Ramos	x	x	3175				
Calleguas Municipal Water District	13073	McMillan	x	x	13073				
Central Basin Municipal Water District	19324	Garza	x	x	9662				
		Chacon	x	x	9662				
			Subtotal:		19324				
Compton	641	McCoy	x	x	641				
Eastern Municipal Water District	11559	Armstrong	x	x	11559				
Foothill Municipal Water District	2409	Bryant	x	x	2409				
Fullerton	2561	Jung	x	x	2561				
Glendale	3985	Kassakhian	x	x	3985				
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	16030	Camacho	x	x	16030				
Las Virgenes	3090	Peterson	x	x	3090				
Long Beach	6558	Cordero	x	x	6558				
Los Angeles	80172	Sutley	x	x	26724				
		Petersen	x	x	26724				
		Quinn							
		Luna	x	x	26724				
		Douglas							
			Subtotal:		80172				
Municipal Water Dist. of Orange County	64634	Ackerman	x	x	16159				
		Seckel	x	x	16159				
		Dick	x	x	16159				
		Erdman	x	x	16159				
			Subtotal:		64634				
Pasadena	3864	Kurtz	x	x	3864				
San Diego County Water Authority	67702	Fong-Sakai	x	x	16926				
		Goldberg	x	x	16926				
		Miller	x	x	16926				
		Smith	x	x	16926				
			Subtotal:		67702				
San Fernando	260	Ortega	x	x	260				
San Marino	800	Morris	x	x	800				
Santa Ana	3431	Phan							
Santa Monica	4861	Abdo	x	x	4861				
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	8634	De Jesus	x	x	8634				
Torrance	3590	Lefevre	x	x	3590				
Upper San Gabriel Valley Mun. Wat. Dist	13418	Fellow	x	x	13418				
West Basin Municipal Water District	27064	Alvarez	x	x	27064				
		Gray							
			Subtotal:		27064				
Western Municipal Water District	14775	Dennstedt	x	x	14775				
Total	386141				382710				
Present and not voting									
Absent	3431								

The motion to approve the Consent Calendar Items 7A, 7B, 7C, 7D, and 7-1 through 7-6 (M.I. No. 53343 through 53352)* passed by a vote of 382,710 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 0 not voting; and 3,431 absent.

***Note: Individual vote tally for Item 7-1**

Director Camacho recused himself on Consent Calendar Item 7-1 due to the fact Los Angeles Community College District is a client of his employer. The motion to approve the Consent Calendar Item 7-1 passed by a vote of 366,680 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 16,030 not voting; and 3,431 absent.

Chair Ortega called on the Committee Chairs to give a report on Board Items for action and to hear recusals, abstentions, and disclosures before any discussion on the items.

53353 A. adopt the Resolution Levying Ad Valorem Property Taxes for the Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2023 and ending June 30, 2024 for the Purposes of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Attachment 1) maintaining the tax rate at .0035 percent of assessed valuation, the same rate levied in FY 2022/23; and b. direct staff to transmit that resolution to the county auditor-controller, or equivalent, for the levy and collection of the ad valorem property tax, as set forth in Agenda Item 8-1 board letter.

Chair Ortega called for a vote to approve Board Item 8-1 (**M.I. No. 53353**)

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

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	6038	Faessel	x	x	6038				
Beverly Hills	4493	Pressman	x	x	4493				
Burbank	3175	Ramos	x	x	3175				
Calleguas Municipal Water District	13073	McMillan	x	x	13073				
Central Basin Municipal Water District	19324	Garza	x	x	9662				
		Chacon	x	x	9662				
			Subtotal:		19324				
Compton	641	McCoy	x	x	641				
Eastern Municipal Water District	11559	Armstrong	x	x	11559				
Foothill Municipal Water District	2409	Bryant	x	x	2409				
Fullerton	2561	Jung	x	x	2561				
Glendale	3985	Kassakhian	x	x	3985				
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	16030	Camacho	x	x	16030				
Las Virgenes	3090	Peterson	x	x	3090				
Long Beach	6558	Cordero	x	x	6558				
Los Angeles	80172	Sutley	x	x	26724				
		Petersen	x	x	26724				
		Quinn							
		Luna	x	x	26724				
		Douglas							
			Subtotal:		80172				
Municipal Water Dist. of Orange County	64634	Ackerman	x	x	16159				
		Seckel	x	x	16159				
		Dick	x	x	16159				
		Erdman	x	x	16159				
			Subtotal:		64634				
Pasadena	3864	Kurtz	x	x	3864				
San Diego County Water Authority	67702	Fong-Sakai	x	x	16926				
		Goldberg	x	x	16926				
		Miller	x	x	16926				
		Smith	x	x	16926				
			Subtotal:		67702				
San Fernando	260	Ortega	x	x	260				
San Marino	800	Morris	x	x	800				
Santa Ana	3431	Phan							
Santa Monica	4861	Abdo	x	x	4861				
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	8634	De Jesus	x	x	8634				
Torrance	3590	Lefevre	x	x	3590				
Upper San Gabriel Valley Mun. Wat.	13418	Fellow	x	x	13418				
West Basin Municipal Water District	27064	Alvarez	x	x	27064				
		Gray							
			Subtotal:		27064				
Western Municipal Water District	14775	Dennstedt	x	x	14775				
Total	386141				382710				
Present and not voting									
Absent	3431								

The motion to approve the Board Item 8-1 (M.I. No. 53353) passed by a vote of 382,710 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 0 not voting; and 3,431 absent.

53354 Authorize an agreement with Computer Aid Incorporated in an amount not to exceed \$1,750,000 to provide staff augmentation support services for the operation and maintenance of the Metropolitan Cybersecurity Operations Center for a period of up to one year, as set forth in Agenda Item 8-2 board letter.

Chair Ortega called for a vote to approve Board Item 8-2 (**M.I. No. 53354**)

Director Erdman moved, seconded by Director Fellow that the Board approve the Board 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	6038	Faessel	x	x	6038				
Beverly Hills	4493	Pressman	x	x	4493				
Burbank	3175	Ramos	x	x	3175				
Calleguas Municipal Water District	13073	McMillan	x	x	13073				
Central Basin Municipal Water District	19324	Garza	x	x	9662				
		Chacon	x	x	9662				
			Subtotal:		19324				
Compton	641	McCoy	x	x	641				
Eastern Municipal Water District	11559	Armstrong	x	x	11559				
Foothill Municipal Water District	2409	Bryant	x	x	2409				
Fullerton	2561	Jung	x	x	2561				
Glendale	3985	Kassakhian	x	x	3985				
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	16030	Camacho	x	x	16030				
Las Virgenes	3090	Peterson	x	x	3090				
Long Beach	6558	Cordero	x	x	6558				
Los Angeles	80172	Sutley	x	x	26724				
		Petersen	x	x	26724				
		Quinn							
		Luna	x	x	26724				
		Douglas							
			Subtotal:		80172				
Municipal Water Dist. of Orange County	64634	Ackerman	x	x	16159				
		Seckel	x	x	16159				
		Dick	x	x	16159				
		Erdman	x	x	16159				
			Subtotal:		64634				
Pasadena	3864	Kurtz	x	x	3864				
San Diego County Water Authority	67702	Fong-Sakai	x	x	16926				
		Goldberg	x	x	16926				
		Miller	x	x	16926				
		Smith	x	x	16926				
			Subtotal:		67702				
San Fernando	260	Ortega	x	x	260				
San Marino	800	Morris	x	x	800				
Santa Ana	3431	Phan							
Santa Monica	4861	Abdo	x	x	4861				
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	8634	De Jesus	x	x	8634				
Torrance	3590	Lefevre	x	x	3590				
Upper San Gabriel Valley Mun. Wat.	13418	Fellow	x	x	13418				
West Basin Municipal Water District	27064	Alvarez	x	x	27064				
		Gray							
			Subtotal:		27064				
Western Municipal Water District	14775	Dennstedt	x	x	14775				
Total	386141				382710				
Present and not voting									
Absent	3431								

The motion to approve the Board Item 8-2 (**M.I. No. 53354**) passed by a vote of 382,710 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 0 not voting; and 3,431 absent.

53355 Chair Ortega asked if there were questions or need for discussion for Board Information Item 9-1 or wish to see the presentation on Item 9-2. No requests were made.

53356 Chair Ortega asked if there were any Other Matters Items. There were none.

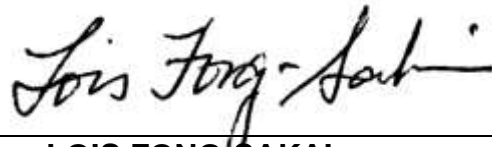
53357 Chair Ortega asked if there were any Follow-Up Items. There were none.

53358 Chair Ortega asked if there were any Future Agenda Items. Chair Ortega announced that the meeting would be adjourned in honor of the late Dora Atwater, the late Martin Gerald Peterson, and the late Gary Armstrong.

53359 There being no objection, the meeting was adjourned at 1:52 p.m.



ADÁN ORTEGA
CHAIR OF THE BOARD



LOIS FONG-SAKAI
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California State Senate

SENATOR
BOB ARCHULETA
THIRTIETH SENATE DISTRICT



STANDING COMMITTEES
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BUSINESS, PROFESSIONS
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GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION
TRANSPORTATION
JOINT LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE
ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

August 14, 2023

Director Michael Camacho
Chair, Adhoc Committee on Facilities Naming
Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors
700 N. Alameda Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

RE: Support for Facilities Naming Request in Honor of Grace Napolitano

Dear Chairman Camacho:

I am pleased to submit a letter of support to rename the Pure Water Southern California Pilot Project facilities, in Carson, California, in honor of United States Representative Grace F. Napolitano. Rep. Grace F. Napolitano is a devoted advocate for securing clean, reliable, and sustainable water supplies in Southern California. Rep. Napolitano has championed many causes that have positively impacted the State of California, especially in the advancement of recycled water and the protection of Colorado River resources.

Rep. Napolitano was elected to the California Assembly in 1992 and quickly gained a reputation as a dedicated lawmaker and advocate for environmental protection, economic growth, and social equality. After joining the U.S. House of Representatives in 1999, she focused on improving communities under her purview, particularly in water-related matters, innovation, environmental protection, labor and economic development initiatives, and social equity issues. Most notably, Rep. Napolitano orchestrated a multi-state and Federal effort to remove uranium tailings in Moab, Utah, that threatened the Colorado River resources that approximately 30 million people depend upon.

She actively advocates for conservation, water recycling, desalination, and effective groundwater management as viable solutions to address Southern California's water requirements, resulting in billions of dollars of Federal investments in Southern California. Her relentless efforts extend to advancing water recycling initiatives and consistently advocating for annual funding allocations to support these projects.

Southern California residents have greatly benefitted from Rep. Napolitano's outstanding leadership. For these efforts and many others, I respectfully request your consideration in naming Metropolitan's Pure Water SoCal Pilot facility in honor of Grace F. Napolitano.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bob Archuleta". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "B".

Senator Bob Archuleta
California Senate, District 30