

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

LEGISLATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

October 7, 2024

Chair Jung called the meeting to order at 11:46 a.m.

Members present: Directors Ackerman, Dennstedt (teleconference posted location), Fellow, Garza, Gray (teleconference posted location), Jung (teleconference posted location), Lewitt, Luna, McMillan, Morris, Pressman (teleconference posted location), Ramos (entered after roll call), and Smith.

Members absent: Directors Kassakhian and Phan.

Other Board Members present: Directors Camacho, Cordero, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre (teleconference posted location), McCoy, Miller, Ortega, and Seckel.

Committee Staff present: Dela Cruz, Stites, Sims, Upadhyay, Wheeler, and Zinke

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

None

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION

- A. Approval of the minutes of the Legislation and Communications Committee held September 9, 2024.

Director Morris made a motion, seconded by Director Fellow to approve item 2A.

Ayes: Directors Ackerman, Dennstedt, Fellow, Garza, Gray, Jung, Lewitt, Luna, McMillan, Morris, Pressman and Smith.

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Directors Kassakhian, Phan, and Ramos.

The motion for item 2A passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstain, and 3 absent.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Subject: Outreach for Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water.

Presented by: Carolyn Schaffer, Section Manager - Sustainability and Resilience

Ms. Schaffer provided an update on outreach and engagement activities for the Climate Adaptation Master Plan, including an update on recent activities and future plans.

The following Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

1.) Ortega

b. Subject: Quarterly State and Federal Regulatory Matrices.

Presented by: Christopher Gabelich, Principal Environmental Specialist

Mr. Gabelich provided an update on federal and state regulatory developments, including rule updates and new additions.

Director Ramos entered the meeting.

The following Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

None

c. Subject: Report on Activities from Washington, D.C.

Presented by: Abby Schneider, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Schneider provided an update on the congressional legislative schedule which is in recess until November 12, a legislative update on fiscal year 2025 appropriations, WRDA and NDAA, and two Metropolitan supported bills: Help Hoover Dam Act; S.4016 and the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program Amendment Act of 2024; and S.5012.

d. Subject: Report on Activities from Sacramento

Presented by: Rosie Thompson, Principal Legislative Representative

Ms. Thompson provided an update on the legislative calendar, the Governor's action on Metropolitan's legislative priorities, other bills of interest, activity over the interim session, and statewide association planning meetings.

The following Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1) Dennstedt
- 2) Ortega

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

a. Subject: External Affairs Activities

Presented by: Dee Zinke, Assistant General Manager

Ms. Zinke provided an update on the turf replacement program and rebates in a series of advertisements and noted that the fall media buy will total less than half of typical advertising spend this time of year. She also highlighted Water Professionals Week social media posts and the upcoming annual planning meeting with member agency legislative coordinators.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 12:41p.m.

Chair Jung