

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.

LEG Committee

J. Lewitt, Chair
A. Fellow, VC
Communication
A. Kassakhian, VC
Legislation
L. Ackerman
M. Camacho
B. Dennstedt
G. Gray, Emeritus
F. Jung
M. Katz
M. Luna
M. Ramos
G. Shepherd Romey

Legislation and Communications Committee - Final

Meeting with Board of Directors *

June 9, 2025

11:00 a.m.

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

The 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 teleconference and in-person. To provide public comment by teleconference dial 1-833-548-0276 and enter meeting ID: 876 9484 9772 or to join by computer [click here](#).

Monday, June 9, 2025 Meeting Schedule

09:00 a.m.	EOT
11:00 a.m.	LEG
12:00 p.m.	Break
12:30 p.m.	Audit
02:30 p.m.	Jt. Sp.
BOD/OPE	

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

Teleconference Locations:

Conference Room • 1545 Victory Boulevard • Glendale, CA 91201

Hotel Raphael • Largo Febo Piazza Navona • Rome, Italy

City Hall • 303 W. Commonwealth Avenue, Chambers • Fullerton, CA 92832

* 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))**

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

- 2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION**

- A. Approval of the minutes of the Legislation and Communications Committee for May 12, 2025 [21-4633](#)

Attachments: [060922025 LEG 2A \(05122025\) Minutes](#)

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION

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

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION

NONE

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

NONE

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- | | | |
|----|--|---------|
| a. | Update on Conservation Outreach | 21-4636 |
| b. | Legislative Update on Golden Mussels | 21-4637 |
| c. | Report on Activities from Sacramento | 21-4634 |
| d. | Report on Activities from Washington, D.C. | 21-4635 |

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- | | | |
|----|-----------------------------|---------|
| a. | External Affairs activities | 21-4638 |
|----|-----------------------------|---------|

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.

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

LEGISLATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

May 12, 2025

Chair Lewitt called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

Members present: Directors Camacho, Dennstedt, Fellow, Gray (teleconference posted location), Jung (teleconference posted location), Katz, Lewitt, Luna (entered after roll call, AB 2449 “just cause”), and Shepherd Romey.

Members absent: Directors Ackerman, Kassakhian, and Ramos

Other Board Members present: Directors Armstrong (AB 2449 “just cause”), Bryant, Cordero, Erdman, Faessel, Goldberg, Kurtz, McCoy, Ortega, Pressman (teleconference posted location), and Seckel.

Committee Staff present: Rubin, Salgado, Schaffer, Stites, Upadhyay, and Zinke

Director Armstrong stated that he was attending the meeting under AB 2449 just cause due to illness and that he was alone in the room.

Director Luna stated that he was attending the meeting under AB 2449 just cause due to illness and that he was alone in the room.

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

Evelyn Wendel WeTap.org

Item 6a

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Legislation and Communications Committee held April 7, 2025.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

Director Fellow made a motion, seconded by Director Dennstedt to approve the consent calendar item 2A.

Ayes: Directors Camacho, Dennstedt, Fellow, Gray, Jung, Lewitt, Katz, Lewitt, and Shepherd Romey

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Directors Ackerman, Kassakhian, Luna, and Ramos

The motion for item 2A passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstain, and 4 absent.

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

Director Luna entered the meeting.

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Subject: Update on Community Partnering Program

Presented by: Joseph Chavez, Jr., Senior Public Affairs Representative

Mr. Chavez provided an update on the Community Partnering Program and four pilot projects: Pando Populus, Salesian Family Youth Center, Bob Baker Marionette Theater, and WeTap.org.

The following Chair and Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1) Ortega
- 2) Fellow
- 3) Dennstedt
- 4) Lewitt

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

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

Presented by: Abby R. Schneider, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Schneider provided an update on FY25 Appropriations and budget reconciliation, FY26 budget proposal, Senate Energy and Natural Resources Nomination Hearing, Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Hearing, Congressional staff tour of the Colorado River, and Metropolitan delegation meetings in DC.

The following Chair and Director provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1) Ortega
- 2) Lewitt

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

- c. Subject: Report on Activities from Sacramento

Presented by: Jay Jefferson II, Executive Legislative Representative

Mr. Jefferson provided an update on the state legislative calendar, invasive golden mussel in the Delta, Metropolitan's sponsored bill AB 580 (Wallis) regarding an exemption from the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act, AB 52 (Aguiar-Curry) Native American resources, and AB 496 (Hurtado) Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation appeals advisory committee exemptions. He discussed member agency proposals, including AB 259 (Rubio) on open meetings and local agencies' teleconferences, SB 394 (Allen) addressing water theft on fire hydrants, and AB 523 (Irwin) proxy vote authorizations among other legislation. He also noted recent leadership meetings with legislators in Sacramento.

The following Chair and Director provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1) Ortega
- 2) Lewitt

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

a. Subject: External Affairs activities

Presented by: Dee Zinke, External Affairs Assistant General Manager

Ms. Zinke provided an update on honoring former Santa Monica director Judy Abdo with the dedication of the Wildflower Trail at Diamond Valley Lake, employee inspection trips, celebration of Earth Week, and Water Engineering 4 Good. She recognized Mark Moss, Principal Public Affairs Representative on his retirement and introduced Brittany Foust, Section Manager for Media Services.

The Chair provided a comment.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 12:21 p.m.

Jay Lewitt
Chair