

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

LEGISLATION AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

March 11, 2024

Vice Chair Abdo called the meeting to order at 11:31 a.m.

Members present: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Dennstedt (AB 2449 “just cause”), Fellow, Garza, Gray (entered after consent vote), Jung (teleconference posted location), McMillan, and Smith.

Members absent: Directors Kassakhian, Luna, Phan, Pressman and Ramos.

Other Board Members present: Directors Alvarez, Armstrong, Bryant, Camacho, Cordero, Dick, Erdman, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, McCoy, Miller, Morris, and Ortega.

Committee Staff present: Hagekhalil, Zinke, Sims, Stites, and Novoa.

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

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 Meeting of the Communications and Legislation Committee held January 11, 2024.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

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

Ayes: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Dennstedt, Fellow, Garza, Jung, McMillan, and Smith.

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Directors Gray, Kassakhian, Luna, Phan, Pressman and Ramos.

The motion for item 2A passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstain, and 6 absent

Director Dennstedt stated that she was alone in the room

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

Director Gray entered the meeting room

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Regional Survey on Water Conservation; Presented by Adam Probolsky - President of Probolsky Research

Presented by: Adam Probolsky, President of Probolsky Research

Mr. Probolsky provided an update on a recent Regional Survey on Water Conservation and the survey's results.

The following Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1.) Garza
- 2.) Dennstedt
- 3.) Jung
- 4.) Smith
- 5.) Fellow
- 6.) Ackerman
- 7.) Gray
- 8.) Morris
- 9.) Fong-Sakai

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

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

Presented by: Abby Schneider, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Schneider provided an update on federal appropriations, Congressional hearings on microplastics, and the Water Resource Development Act bill.

The following Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1.) Fellow
- 2.) Dennstedt

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

- c. Subject: Report on Activities from Sacramento

Presented by: Jay Jefferson, Executive Legislative Representative

Mr. Jefferson provided an update on the state budget, Sacramento legislative calendar, Surface Mining and Reclamation Act legislative proposal, Prop 218 issues, legislation on flood flow streamlining, and the proposed climate bonds.

The following Directors provided a comment or asked a question:

- 1.) Gray
- 2.) Dennstedt

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

8. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- a. Subject: External Affairs Management Announcements and Highlights

Presented by: Dee Zinke, Assistant General Manager

Ms. Zinke provided an update on the event to launch Metropolitan's new tree rebate program; the updated Leadership Today Water Tomorrow brochure; Pure Water outreach, tours and a Spectrum News interview on the project; the wildflower trail at Diamond Valley Lake; and the introduction of Eduardo Garcia as a new inspection trip manager.

9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

11. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Vice Chair Abdo