

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ONE WATER AND ADAPTATION COMMITTEE

March 10, 2025

Vice Chair Katz called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m.

Members present: Directors Ackerman, Armstrong, Cordero, De Jesus (teleconference posted location), Erdman, Fong-Sakai, Gold (entered after roll call), Goldberg, Katz, Kurtz, Lefevre (teleconference posted location), Lewitt, Miller, Pressman (entered after roll call, teleconference posted location), and Sutley (entered after roll call).

Members absent: Directors Alvarez and Quinn.

Other Board Members present: Directors Morris, Ortega, and Seckel.

Committee Staff present: Bednarski, Crosson, Goshi, Hasencamp, Hawk, Hudson, Munguia, Rubin, Schlotterbeck, and Upadhyay.

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

Public Speakers included:

1. Christine McCaffrey, General Manager, Calleguas Municipal Water District spoke in support of item 7-4.
2. Jennifer Tribo, City of Ventura, spoke in support of item 7-4.
3. Raymond Heimstra, Orange County Coastkeeper, spoke in favor of item 7-6.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS -- ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting One Water and Stewardship Committee for February 10, 2025

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

7-4 Subject: Authorize the General Manager to enter into agreements with the City of San Buenaventura and Calleguas Municipal Water District for wheeling and emergency delivery of State Water Project water; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

 Motion: Authorize the General Manager to enter into agreements with the City of San Buenaventura and Calleguas Municipal Water District for wheeling and emergency delivery of State Water Project water.

7-5 Subject: Authorize the General Manager to terminate six inactive Conjunctive Use Program agreements; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA
[DEFERRED on 3/3/25]

 Motion: Authorize the General Manager to terminate six inactive CUP agreements.

Director Miller requested to see the presentation for item 7-6.

7-6 Subject: Authorize the General Manager to enter into a Stormwater for Recharge Pilot Program agreement with the City of Anaheim with a maximum amount up to \$980,000 for the State College Stormwater Tank Project; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

 Motion: Authorize the General Manager to enter into a Stormwater for Recharge Pilot Program agreement with the City of Anaheim with a maximum amount of up to \$980,000 for the State College Stormwater Tank Project.

 Presented by: Christina I. Vallejo, Assistant Resource Specialist II,
Water Resource Management

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Ortega
2. Pressman
3. Gold

Directors Pressman and Gold entered the meeting.

7-7 Subject: Authorize the General Manager to forbear water conserved by two Coachella Valley Water District projects, thus allowing the conserved water to be added to Lake Mead under U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program; the General Manager has determined the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

 Motion: Authorize the General Manager to forbear water conserved by two Coachella Valley Water District projects, thus allowing the conserved water to be added to Lake Mead under the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Lower Colorado River Basin System Conservation and Efficiency Program.

Director Erdman made a motion, seconded by Director Lewitt, to approve the Consent Calendar consisting of items 2a, 7-4, 7-6, and 7-7.

The vote was:

Ayes: Ackerman, Armstrong, Cordero, DeJesus, Erdman, Fong-Sakai, Gold, Goldberg, Katz, Kurtz, Lefevre, Lewitt, Miller, and Pressman.

Noes: None.

Abstentions: None.

Absent: Directors Alvarez, Quinn, and Sutley.

The motion passed by a vote of 14 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 3 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

8-1 Subject: Authorize an increase of the maximum amount payable under the contract with Richardson & Company LLP for auditing services related to State Water Project charges from \$5,125,000 to an amount not to exceed \$8,900,000 and extend the term by three years to March 31, 2028; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

 Presented by: Jaime L. Dalida, Sr. Resource Specialist, Water Resource Management

 Motion: Authorize an increase in the maximum amount payable under a contract with Richardson & Company LLP for auditing services related to State Water Project charges from \$5,125,000 to an amount not to exceed \$8,900,000 and extend the term by three years to March 31, 2028.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions.

1. Miller

Director Kurtz made a motion, seconded by Director Erdman, to approve item 8-1.

The vote was:

Ayes: Ackerman, Armstrong, Cordero, DeJesus, Erdman, Fong-Sakai, Gold,
Goldberg, Katz, Kurtz, Lefevre, Lewitt, Miller, and Pressman.

Noes: None.

Abstentions: None.

Absent: Directors Alvarez, Quinn, and Sutley.

The motion passed by a vote of 14 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 3 absent.

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

NONE.

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Update on Water Surplus and Drought Management
Presented by: Larry Lai, Resource Specialist, Water Resource Management

The following Director provided comments or asked questions.

1. Armstrong

- b. Subject: Palo Verde Valley Land Ownership Analysis
Presented by: Lauren Steely, Sr. Resource Specialist,
Water Resource Management

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions.

1. Gold
2. Miller

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

Director Erdman left the meeting.

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT AND HIGHLIGHTS

- a. Subject: Bay-Delta Resources activities
Colorado River Resources activities
Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation activities
Water Resource Management activities

John Bednarski, Assistant General Manager, reported on Metropolitan's Regional Supply and Demand balance and steps that staff will be taking to implement surplus actions.

Director Cordero reported on the Colorado River Board and Six Agency Committee meeting on January 15, 2025.

Director De Jesus gave an update on the Community Enhancement Committee with Palo Verde Irrigation District.

Ms. Crosson provided an update on Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation activities.

8. FOLLOW UP ITEMS

None.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

Vice Chair Katz announced the formation of an Imported Water Sub-Committee and its membership.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on April 7, 2025

The meeting adjourned at 4:03p.m.

Mel Katz
Vice Chair