

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

LEGAL AND CLAIMS COMMITTEE

January 13, 2026

Chair Ortega called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m.

Members present: Directors Crawford, De Jesus, Douglas, Kurtz, McMillan (teleconference posted location), Miller, and Shepherd Romey.

Members absent: Directors Camacho, Kassakhian, Katz, and Ramos.

Other Board Members present: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Bryant, Cordero, Crane, Dennstedt, Erdman, Faessel (teleconference posted location), Fellow, Fong-Sakai, McCoy, Ortega, Paule, Pressman (teleconference posted location), Seckel, and Sutley.

Committee Staff present: Boucher, Deshmukh, Hudson, Rubin, and Scully.

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

None

2. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

A. Subject: General Counsel’s report of monthly activities

General Counsel Scully provided an update on the deferral of Item 7-2.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

3. COMMITTEE ACTION

- A. Subject: Approval of the Minutes of the Legal and Claims Committee for November 17, 2025.

Director Miller made a motion, seconded by Director Shepherd Romey, to approve item 3A.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Crawford, De Jesus, Douglas, Kurtz, McMillan, Miller, and Shepherd Romey
Noes: None
Abstentions: None
Absent: Director Camacho, Kassakhian, Katz, and Ramos

The motion for Item 3A passed by a vote of 7 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 4 absent.

4. COMMITTEE ITEMS (FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

- 7-2 Subject Amend the Metropolitan Administrative Code to conform to current policy, law, and practice, and to make other minor, non-substantive changes; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Item 7-2 was deferred.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

Chair Ortega called the meeting into closed session.

5. COMMITTEE ITEMS (ACTION FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

- 8-4 Subject Authorize filing a cross-complaint in Fakhoury v. City of Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino County Superior Court Case No. CIVRS 2509398; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA [Conference with legal counsel—existing litigation and initiating litigation; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) and 54956.9(d)(4)]
- Presented by: Bryan Otake, Sr. Deputy General Counsel

Chair Ortega reported there was no reportable action taken in closed session.

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL FOR BOARD CONSIDERATION)

None

7. COMMITTEE ITEMS (INFORMATIONAL)

None

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Meeting adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

Adán Ortega
Chair of the Board