

# 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.

## L&C Committee

M. Luna, Chair  
J. McMillan, Vice Chair  
M. Camacho  
J. Crawford  
D. De Jesus  
L. Dick  
C. Douglas  
M. Katz  
C. Kurtz  
C. Miller  
M. Ramos

## **Legal and Claims Committee**

Meeting with Board of Directors \*

**April 8, 2025**

**10:15 a.m.**

**Tuesday, April 8, 2025  
Meeting Schedule**

**08:30 a.m. FAAME  
10:15 a.m. LEGAL  
11:30 a.m. Break  
12:00 p.m. BOD  
01:30 p.m. CWC**

**Agendas, live streaming, meeting schedules, and other board materials are available here:**

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

**<https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Legislation.aspx>.**

**If you have technical difficulties with the live streaming page, a 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 via in-person or teleconference. To participate via teleconference 1-833-548-0276 and enter meeting ID: 876 9484 9772 or to join by computer [click here](#).**

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

**Teleconference Locations:**

**3008 W. 82nd Place • Inglewood, CA 90305**

**SDCWA • Lobby Conference Room • 4677 Overland Avenue • San Diego, CA 92123**

**1005 South Cardiff Street • Anaheim, CA 92806**

**525 Via La Selva • Redondo Beach, CA 90277**

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\* 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))**

2. **MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS**

- A. General Counsel's report of monthly activities [21-4430](#)

**Attachments:** [04082025 LC 2A Report](#)

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

3. **CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Legal and Claims Committee for March 11, 2025 [21-4431](#)

**Attachments:** [04082025 LC 3A \(03112025\) Minutes](#)

4. **CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION**

- 7-8 Approve amendments to the Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code to conform oversight of the General Auditor and Audit Department duties and responsibilities to the current committee structure, to streamline reporting on professional services agreements, and make a minor non-substantive change; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA [21-4429](#)

**Attachments:** [04082025 LC 7-8 B-L](#)  
[04082025 LC 7-8 Presentation](#)

- 7-18 Authorize increase in the maximum amount payable under contract with outside counsel Liebert, Cassidy Whitmore, in the amount of \$200,000 for a total amount not to exceed \$450,000; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA [21-4457](#)

**Attachments:** [04082025 LC 7-18 B-L](#)  
[04082025 LC 7-18 Presentation](#)

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

5. **OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION**

- 8-2** Report on litigation in Maria Carmen Zarate v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 23STCV15786; and authorize an increase in the maximum amount payable under contract for legal services with Seyfarth Shaw LLP, in the amount of \$250,000 for a total amount not to exceed \$750,000; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA [Conference with legal counsel—existing litigation; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)]

[21-4428](#)

## **6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

NONE

## **7. COMMITTEE ITEMS**

- a.** Report on litigation in San Diego County Water Authority v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, et al., San Francisco County Superior Court Case Nos. CPF-10-510830, CPF-12-512466, CPF-14-514004, CPF-16-515282, CPF-16-515391, CGC-17-563350, and CPF-18-516389; the appeals of the 2010 and 2012 actions, Court of Appeal for the First Appellate District Case Nos. A146901, A148266, A161144, and A162168, and California Supreme Court Case No. S243500; the petition for extraordinary writ in the 2010 and 2012 actions, Court of Appeal for the First Appellate District Case No. A155310; the petition for extraordinary writ in the second 2016 action, Court of Appeal for the First Appellate District Case No. A154325 and California Supreme Court Case No. S251025; the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California v. San Diego County Water Authority cross-complaints in the 2014, 2016, and 2018 actions; and the appeals of the 2014, 2016, and 2018 actions, Court of Appeal for the First Appellate District Case No. A170156; including report on discussions regarding potential settlement of the 2014, 2016, and 2018 actions, including the cross-complaints and appeals, San Francisco County Superior Court Case Nos. CPF-14-514004, CPF-16-515282, and CPF-18-516389 and Court of Appeal for the First Appellate District Case No. A170156 [Conference with legal counsel – existing litigation; may be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Sections 54956.9(d)(1)]

[21-4427](#)

## **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.