

# THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

## MINUTES

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**November 23, 2021**

Chairwoman Gray called the teleconference meeting to order at 12:04 p.m.

Members present: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Atwater, Camacho, De Jesus, Dick, Gray, Kurtz, Ramos (entered after roll call), Record, and Smith

Members absent: Directors Cordero and Repenning

Other Board members present: Directors Apodaca, Blois, Erdman, Faessel, Fellow, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Jung, Luna, McCoy, Miller, Morris, Ortega, Peterson, Pressman, Quinn, Sutley, Tamaribuchi, and Williams

Committee staff present: Beatty, Castro, Chapman, Hagekhalil, Kasaine, Riss, Salinas, Scully, and Walters

#### **1. Opportunity for members of the public to address the committee on matters within the committee's jurisdiction**

None

#### **2. OTHER MATTERS AND REPORTS**

a. Subject: Chairwoman's Report

Presented by: Chairwoman Gloria D. Gray

Chairwoman Gray stated she had nothing to add to her report.

b. Subject: General Manager's report of Metropolitan's activities

Presented by: General Manager Adel Hagekhalil

General Manager Hagekhalil presented a PowerPoint on his Proposed Strategic Priorities Plan for Metropolitan. Mr. Hagekhalil will be asking the Board for input and discussion in December; as well as meeting with the Member Agency Managers for their input as well. This item will be presented again to the Board in early 2022.

- c. Subject: General Counsel's report of Metropolitan's activities

Presented by: General Counsel Marcia Scully

General Counsel Scully stated she had nothing to add to her report.

- d. Subject: General Auditor's report of Metropolitan's activities

Presented by: General Auditor Gerald Riss

General Auditor Riss stated he had nothing to add to his report and provided holiday remarks.

- e. Subject: Ethics Officer's report of Metropolitan's activities

Presented by: Ethics Officer Abel Salinas

Ethics Officer Salinas reported that based on the Board's approval earlier this month of updates to the Ethics policies and procedures, a memo will be sent to all Directors and employees reminding everyone that the new rules are now in effect.

- f. Subject: Report from Audit and Ethics Committee

Presented by: Chairwoman Gray

Chairwoman Gray announced that the Audit and Ethics Committee will not be meeting in December.

- g. Subject: Report from Bay-Delta Committee

Presented by: Chairwoman Gray

Chairwoman Gray announced that the Bay-Delta Committee will not be meeting in December.

- h. Subject: Report from Communications and Legislation Committee

Presented by: Committee Vice Chair Kurtz

Committee Vice Chair Kurtz announced that the Committee will hear three committee items in December:

- Update on Water Conservation Advertising Campaign.
- Reports on activities from Washington D.C.
- Report on activities from Sacramento.

The Committee will also hear the External Affairs Management Report.

i. Subject: Report from Engineering and Operations Committee

Presented by: Committee Chair Smith

Committee Chair Smith announced that the Committee will hear the following three consent items:

- Amend the Capital Investment Plan for fiscal years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 to include water supply reliability improvements in the Rialto Pipeline service area.
- Award a \$11,499,000 contract to J. F. Shea Construction, Inc. for the seismic upgrade of the Casa Loma Siphon Barrel No. 1; and authorize \$1,100,000 increase to an agreement with Carollo Engineers Inc., for a new not-to-exceed total of \$3.6 million, for technical support during construction.
- Adopt a \$32,824,000 contract to J. F. Shea Construction, Inc. to upgrade the domestic water treatment systems at the five Colorado River Aqueduct pumping plants.

In addition, the Committee will hear two oral reports:

- Capital Investment Plan Quarterly Report for period ending September 2021.
- Regional Recycled Water Program Update.

Lastly, the Committee will hear the following two management reports:

- Water System Operations Manager's report.
- Engineering Services Manager's report.

j. Subject: Report from Finance and Insurance Committee

Presented by: Chairwoman Gray

Chairwoman Gray announced that the Finance and Insurance Committee will not be meeting in December.

- k. Subject: Report from Legal and Claims Committee

Presented by: Director Tamaribuchi

Director Tamaribuchi announced that the Committee will hear the General Counsel's monthly activities; and will also consider the following consent item:

- Adopt amendment to the Administrative Code establishing Metropolitan-specific parliamentary procedures.

Lastly, in closed session, the Committee will hear a report on San Diego County Water Authority v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, et al.

- l. Subject: Report from Organization, Personnel and Technology Committee

Presented by: Chairwoman Gray

Chairwoman Gray announced that the Organization, Personnel and Technology Committee will not be meeting in December.

- m. Subject: Report from Real Property and Asset Management Committee

Presented by: Chairwoman Gray

Chairwoman Gray announced that the Real Property and Asset Management Committee will not be meeting in December.

- n. Subject: Report from Water Planning and Stewardship Committee

Presented by: Committee Chair Atwater

Committee Chair Atwater announced that the Committee will hold a Public Hearing on SB60: Review of Metropolitan's Achievements in Conservation, Recycling and Groundwater Recovery.

The Committee will also hear five consent calendar items:

- Authorize the General Manager to enter into agreements to facilitate near-term actions necessary to maintain the elevation of water in Lake Mead.

- Authorize the General Manager to enter into agreements with San Diego County Water Authority, Semitropic Water Storage District, and the California Department of Water Resources to purchase water, lease groundwater return capacity, exchange water, and to convey water in the State Water Project facilities.
- Adopt resolutions to support Metropolitan's applications for the California Department of Water Resources 2021 Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Program of \$7.5 million to supplement funding for residential and commercial landscapes within the Turf Replacement Program and \$2.5 million to supplement funding for the Residential Direct Install Program in partnership with the Southern California Gas Company; authorize the General Manager to accept grant funds, if awarded; and authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with the California Department of Water Resources for the grant funds, if awarded.
- Authorize implementation of modifications to the On-Site Retrofit Program.
- Authorize the General Manager to enter into agreements with San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District and the California Department of Water Resources to improve the management of State Water Project supplies, including the exchange of water.

The following committee items have been withdrawn from December agenda:

- Oral Report on Member Agency Drought Programs.
- Report of Metropolitan's State Water Project 2022 Statement of Charges and Audit.

In addition, the Committee will hear one committee item:

- Oral update on Water Surplus Drought Management.

Lastly, the Committee will hear two management reports:

- Colorado River Matters.
- Water Resource Management Manager's Report.

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

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee held October 26, 2021
- B. Approve draft committee and board meeting agendas, and schedule for December 2021

Chairwoman Gray asked Directors if there were any comments, additions, or corrections to the December 2021 Draft Packet. No requests were made.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION**

- 7-2      Subject:            Consider and adopt the Board's Principles of Governance Statement; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA
- Presented by:    Rhonda Hilyer, President, Agreement Dynamics
- Motion:             Adopt the Board's Principles of Governance Statement.

After hearing committee reports and presentation on Item 7-2, Director Record made a motion, seconded by Director Atwater to approve the consent calendar consisting of Items 3A, 3B, and 7-2.

Chairwoman Gray made brief remarks and introduced Rhonda Hilyer to present the Board's proposed Principles of Governance (Agenda Item 7-2).

Director Ramos entered the meeting.

Chairwoman Gray called for the vote:

The vote was:

- Ayes:            Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Atwater, Camacho, De Jesus, Dick, Gray, Kurtz, Ramos, Record, and Smith
- Noes:            None
- Abstentions:   Record (item 3A)
- Absent:          Directors Cordero and Repenning

The motion for Item 3A passed by a vote of 10 ayes, 0 noes, 1 abstention, and 2 absent.

The motion for items 3B and 7-2 passed by a vote of 11 ayes; 0 no; 0 abstain; and 2 absent.

**END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS**

**5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION**

None

**6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

None

**7. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

None

**8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Gloria D. Gray  
Chairwoman of the Board