

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**  
**MINUTES**

**AUDIT AND ETHICS COMMITTEE**

**November 23, 2021**

Vice Chair McCoy called the teleconference meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

Members present: Vice Chair McCoy, Blois, Dennstedt, Hawkins, Jung, Record and Smith.

Members absent: Chair Ramos, Directors Ackerman and Kurtz.

Other Board Members present: Directors Abdo, Atwater, De Jesus, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Gray, Luna, Miller, Morris, Peterson, and Tamaribuchi.

Committee Staff present: Beatty, Hagekhalil, Salinas, Scully, Shope, Riss, Rodriguez and Von Haam.

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

None

<b>CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS — ACTION</b>
--

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

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the Audit and Ethics Committee held October 26, 2021

Director Jung made a motion, seconded by Director McCoy to approve the consent calendar consisting of item 2A:

Ayes: Directors Blois, Dennstedt, Hawkins, Jung, McCoy and Smith

Noes: None

Abstentions: Director Record

Absent: Chair Ramos, Directors Ackerman and Kurtz

The motion for item 2A passed by a vote of 6 ayes, 0 noes, 1 abstain, and 3 absent.

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

None

<b>END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS</b>
--------------------------------------

### **4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION**

None

### **5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

None

### **6. COMMITTEE ITEMS**

- a.           Subject:       Discussion of Department Head Performance and Goal Setting  
[Public employees' performance evaluations – General Auditor; to  
be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54957]

No action was taken.

- b.           Subject:       Discussion of Department Head Performance and Goal Setting  
[Public employees' performance evaluations – Ethics Officer; to be  
heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54957]

No action was taken.

### **7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

- a.           Subject:       General Auditor's report

Presented by: Gerald Riss, General Auditor

Mr. Riss had nothing to add to his monthly report.

- b.           Subject:       Ethics Officer's report

Presented by: Abel Salinas, Ethics Officer

Mr. Salinas reported that since his last update to the committee in October 2021, the Ethics Office has initiated one new investigation. The Ethics Office has a total of three pending investigations. The new investigation opened in November involves a supervisor who allegedly misused their authority to favor certain employees. The investigation is expected to be completed in the next six to eight weeks. The second investigation involves an allegation that an employee conducted outside employment activities during hours they were being compensated by Metropolitan, in violation of the Ethics operating policy. This investigation was opened in June, the fact-finding portion of the investigation is complete, and the preliminary findings will be issued within the next two weeks. The third investigation involves a manager who allegedly misused their authority to advantage one employee during a recruitment process. This investigation was opened in June and is expected to be completed in the next four weeks.

## **8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

None

## **9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

## **10. ADJOURNMENT**

Next meeting will be held on January 25, 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 9:52 am

Tana McCoy  
Vice Chair