

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**  
**March 8, 2022**

**52714** The Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California met in regular session on Tuesday, March 08, 2022.

Chairwoman Gray called the teleconference meeting to order at 12:40 PM.

**52715** Annette Eckhardt, President of Women at Metropolitan Water District introduced the following invocation speakers: Pamela Tobin, ACWA President, and Cathy Green, ACWA Vice President.

**52716** The Pledge of Allegiance was given by Director Brenda Dennstedt, Western Municipal Water District.

Chairwoman Gray acknowledged Women's History Month, the crisis in Ukraine, as well as addressing the drought conditions in Southern California.

**52717** Board Secretary Abdo administered the roll call. Those responding present were: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Apodaca, Atwater, Blois, Camacho, Cordero, De Jesus, Dennstedt, Dick, Erdman, Faessel, Fellow, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Gray, Hawkins, Jung, Kassakhian, Kurtz, Lefevre, Luna, Miller, Morris, Peterson, Phan, Pressman, Quinn, Ramos, Record, Repenning, Smith, Sutley, Tamaribuchi, and Williams.

Those not responding were: Directors McCoy, Ortega, and Petersen

Board Secretary Abdo declared a quorum present.

**52718** Member Agency Overview: Richard Wilson, Assistant General Manager, Water, City of Burbank.

Director Ramos introduced Assistant General Manager Wilson who presented an member agency overview for the City of Burbank.

**52719** Introductory remarks given by Senior Deputy General Counsel Quilizapa regarding the public hearing. Public hearing opened regarding: (1) the proposed water rates and charges for calendar years 2023 and 2024 necessary to meet the revenue

requirements for fiscal years 2022/23 and 2023/24, and (2) Review of the applicability of Metropolitan Water District Act Section 124.5 ad valorem property tax limitation for fiscal years 2022/23 through 2025/26.

Chairwoman Gray invited members of the public to address the Board on matters within the Board's jurisdiction.

	Name	Affiliation	Item
1.	Lauren Ahkiam	Director of Water Campaign Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy	Project Labor Agreement
2.	Ron Miller	Retired LA Orange County Buildings Trades	Project Labor Agreement
3.	Roxanna Tynan	Executive Director of Water Projects Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy	Project Labor Agreement
	Caty Wagner	Sierra Club	Project Labor Agreement and Proposed Water Rate Increase/Delta Conveyance
4.			
5.	Rob Nothoff	Policy Director LA County Federation of Labor	Project Labor Agreement
6.	Darcy Burke	Board President, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District	Strategic Plan
7.	Chris Cheek	Director of Piping Industry Progress & Education Trust Fund (P.I.P.E.)	Project Labor Agreement
8.	Nicole Heil	Los Angeles resident	Project Labor Agreement
	Brittany Russell	Orange County resident	Project Labor Agreement and Proposed Water Rate Increase
9.			
10.	M. Venezuela	City of South Gate resident	Project Labor Agreement
11.	Joe Rangel	International Union of Operating Engineers Local Number 12	Project Labor Agreement
12.	Victor Sanchez	Los Angeles resident	Project Labor Agreement
13.	Cameron Hurt	Los Angeles resident	Project Labor Agreement
	Conner Everts	Environmental Water Caucus & the Southern California Watershed Alliance	Project Labor Agreement and Proposed Water Rate Increase
14.			
15.	Ernesto Madano	LA Orange County Building, Construction Trades Council, and the Orange County Representative	Project Labor Agreement
16.	Kathy McLaren Gomez	Palmdale Water District Board	Project Labor Agreement
17.	Sam Lewis	Executive Director, Anti-Recidivism Coalition	Project Labor Agreement
18.	Mark Hovatter	Chief Facility Executive, Los Angeles Unified School District	Project Labor Agreement
19.	Andrew Villasenor	CSI Electrical Contractors, Inc.	Project Labor

			Agreement
20.	Tommy Faavae	IBEW Local 11	Project Labor Agreement
21.	Anne-Marie Otey	LA Orange County's Building Construction Trades Council	Project Labor Agreement
22.	Chris Hannan	Executive Secretary, LA Orange County's Building Construction Trades Council	Project Labor Agreement
23.	John Hanna	Southwest Regional Council of Carpenters	Project Labor Agreement
24.	Douglas Obegi	Senior Attorney with NRDC	Proposed Water Rate Increase
25.	Ellen Mackey	Senior Ecologist, Chair of the Women's Caucus, Metropolitan Employee	Women History Month/DEI
26.	Michael Flores	PLA Administrator, Los Angeles Metro	Project Labor Agreement
27.	Denise Cenicerros	Diamond Bar Resident	Proposed Water Rate Increase/Delta Conveyance
28.	Victor Lamont	Orange County Labor Federation	Project Labor Agreement
29.	Bill Perez	Executive Secretary, Riverside Building Trades Council	Project Labor Agreement
30.	Ian Monte	City of Los Angeles Department Public Works	Project Labor Agreement
31.	Cliff Smith	Business Manager of Local 36 United Union of Roofers, Water proofers, and Allied Workers	Project Labor Agreement
32.	Yvette Stevenson-Rodriguez	President, Portugal Water District	Project Labor Agreement
33.	Gretchen Newsom	IBEW Local 11	Project Labor Agreement
34.	Sherry Ross	San Diego resident	Proposed Water Rate Increase
35.	Eric Christen	Executive Director, Coalition for Fair Employment in Construction	Project Labor Agreement
36.	Richard Markuson	Western Electrical Contractors Association	Project Labor Agreement
37.	Carol Kim	Business Manager San Diego County Building and Construction Trades Council	Project Labor Agreement

Chairwoman Gray addressed the following: Other Matters and Reports.

**52720** Chairwoman Gray asked if there were any changes to the report of events attended by Directors at Metropolitan's expense during the month of February as previously posted and distributed to the Board. No amendments were made.

**52721** Chairwoman Gray referred to her monthly report, which was previously posted and distributed to the Board. Chairwoman stated she had nothing to add to her report.

**52722** Regarding matters relating to Metropolitan's operations and activities, General Manager Hagekhalil, reported on the following:

1. Acknowledged the crisis in Ukraine and Women's History Month
2. Reported on snowpack and conservations measures
3. Reported on current water supply and drought conditions
4. Status update California Resilience Challenge
5. Reported on the four grants Metropolitan received
6. Status update on the State Audit
7. Reported on the EEOC Officer Position
8. Status update on the Shaw Law Group Report
9. Reported on the National Safety Council

General Manager Hagekhalil presented a video acknowledging the employees at the Jensen Water Treatment Plant, San Diego Canal, and Castaic Lake during the January-February 2022 shut down.

Additional information on the General Manager's activities may be found in his written monthly report.

**52723** General Counsel Scully acknowledged Women's History Month and presented a response to recent allegations in public statements regarding the Shaw Law Group.

The following Director asked questions or made comments:

Directors	Comments/Questions
1. Goldberg	Asked questions.

Staff responded to Director's questions.

**52724** Assistant General Auditor John Tonsick reported on Chairwoman Gray's reimbursements and approval.

The following Directors asked questions or made comments:

Directors	Comments/Questions
1. Goldberg	Commented and asked a question.
2. Peterson	Asked a question.

Chairwoman Gray responded that Vice Chair DeJesus will be reviewing Chairwoman Gray's reimbursements and approval.

Staff responded to Director's questions.

**52725** Ethics Officer Salinas reported filing deadline for Form 700 is April 1. The Board of Directors were encouraged to contact the Ethics office for advice and assistance.

The following Directors asked questions or made comments:

	Directors	Comments/Questions
1.	Sutley	Commented and asked a question.
2.	Goldberg	Asked a question.

Staff responded to Director's questions.

**52726** Presentation of 20-year Service Pin to Director David D. De Jesus, representing Three Valleys Municipal Water District. Chairwoman Gray made remarks. Vice Chair DeJesus also made brief comments.

Chairwoman Gray addressed the Consent Calendar Items for March 2022.

**52727** Chairwoman Gray asked Directors if there were any comments or discussion on the approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting for February 8, 2022 (Agenda Item 6A). No comments or requests were made.

**52728** Adopt resolution to continue remote teleconference meetings pursuant to the Brown Act Section 54953(e) for meetings of Metropolitan's legislative bodies for a period of 30 days (Agenda Item 6B). No comments or requests were made.

**52729** Approval of Committee Assignments (Agenda Item 6C).

- Director Fong-Sakai was appointed to the One Water (Conservation and Local Resources) Committee and the Engineering and Operations Committee
- Director Miller was appointed to the Water Planning and Stewardship Committee, and the Integrated Resources Plan Special Committee
- Director Smith was removed from the Integrated Resources Plan Special Committee

**52730** Chairwoman Gray addressed the Consent Calendar Items – Action for March 2022.

Chairwoman Gray called on the Committee Chairs to give a report of the Consent Calendar Action Items as discussed at their Committees.

	Directors	Comments/Questions
1.	Smith	Commented.

Director Blois requested that Item 7-1 be voted on separately from Consent Calendar Action Items.

**52731** Authorize an agreement with Hazen and Sawyer for a not-to-exceed amount of \$890,000 for design to upgrade the Cabazon Radial Gate Facility; and authorize an agreement with LEE + RO, Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$904,000 for design to replace radial gates along the San Diego Canal, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-2 board letter.

**52732** Adopt CEQA determination that the proposed action was previously addressed in the certified 2020 Program Environmental Impact Report and related CEQA actions; and award \$677,898 contract to Jeremy Harris Construction, Inc. for Stage 1 Right-of-Way and Infrastructure Protection improvements in Western San Bernardino region of Metropolitan's distribution system, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-3 board letter.

**52733** Authorize an agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$2,800,000 for preliminary design to improve erosion protection structures along the aqueduct, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-4 board letter.

**52734** Authorize the General Manager to enter into a three-year agreement with GP Generate, LLC for media placement and advertising consulting services not to exceed \$10.5 million, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-5 board letter.

Agenda Item 7-6 was deferred, Approve the General Manager's Strategic Priorities; the General 21-886 Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt of otherwise not subject to CEQA, with no action taken.

The following Directors asked questions or made comments:

	Directors	Comments/Questions
1.	De Jesus	Commented and asked a question.
2.	Miller	Commented.

Staff responded to Director's questions.

**52735** Authorize the General Manager to sign the Equity in Infrastructure Project pledge and participate in the project to support opportunities for historically underserved and underutilized businesses, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-7 board letter.

Chairwoman Gray made a statement regarding Agenda Item 7-7.

**52736** Authorize an agreement with Kennedy Jenks Consultants in an amount not to exceed \$1.5 million for design of on-site utility systems to serve the Diamond Valley Lake East Marina, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-8 board letter.

**52737** Review and consider the County of Riverside's certified Final Environmental Impact Report and Addendum No. 1, and take related CEQA actions; and authorize the granting of a permanent easement for public road purposes to the County of Riverside, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-9 board letter.

The following Directors asked questions or made comments:

	Directors	Comments/Questions
1.	Peterson	Moved Consent Calendar Items.
2.	Blois	Seconded Peterson's motion.

Chairwoman Gray called for a vote to approve the Consent Calendar Items 6A, 6B, 6C, and 7-2 through 7-5, and 7-7 through 7-9 **(M.I. 52727 through 52737)**.

Director Peterson moved, seconded by Director Blois that the Board approve the Consent Calendar Items 6A, 6B, 6C, and 7-2 through 7-5, and 7-7 through 7-9 as follows:

The following is a record of the vote:

Record of Vote on Consent Item(s) 6A, 6B, 6C, and 7-2 through 7-5 and 7-7 to 7-9									
Member Agency	Total Votes	Director	Present	Yes	Yes Vote	No	No Vote	Abstain	Abstain Vote
Anaheim	5277	Faessel	x	x	5277				
Beverly Hills	4056	Pressman	x	x	4056				
Burbank	2666	Ramos	x						
Calleguas Municipal Water District	11552	Blois	x	x	11552				
Central Basin Municipal Water District	17051	Apodaca	x	x	8526				
		Hawkins	x	x	8526				
			Subtotal:		17051				
Compton	553	McCoy							
Eastern Municipal Water District	9492	Record	x	x	9492				
Foothill Municipal Water District	2131	Atwater	x	x	2131				
Fullerton	2255	Jung	x	x	2255				
Glendale	3622	Kassakhian	x	x	3622				
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	13433	Camacho	x	x	13433				
Las Virgenes	2741	Peterson	x	x	2741				
Long Beach	5772	Cordero	x	x	5772				
Los Angeles	70689	Sutley	x	x	17672				
		Petersen							
		Quinn	x	x	17672				
		Luna	x	x	17672				
		Repenning	x	x	17672				
			Subtotal:		70689				
Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Coun	57264	Ackerman	x	x	14316				
		Tamaribuchi	x	x	14316				
		Dick	x	x	14316				
		Erdman	x	x	14316				
			Subtotal:		57264				
Pasadena	3522	Kurtz	x	x	3522				
San Diego County Water Authority	58302	Fong-Sakai	x	x	14576				
		Goldberg	x	x	14576				
		Miller	x	x	14576				
		Smith	x	x	14576				
			Subtotal:		58302				
San Fernando	224	Ortega							
San Marino	730	Morris	x	x	730				
Santa Ana	3035	Phan	x	x	3035				
Santa Monica	4352	Abdo	x	x	4352				
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	7753	De Jesus	x	x	7753				
Torrance	3237	Lefevre	x	x	3237				
Upper San Gabriel Valley Mun. Wat. D	11942	Fellow	x	x	11942				
West Basin Municipal Water District	23608	Williams	x	x	11804				
		Gray	x	x	11804				
			Subtotal:		23608				
Western Municipal Water District	12466	Dennstedt	x	x	12466				
<b>Total</b>	<b>337725</b>				<b>334282</b>				
<b>Present and not voting</b>	<b>2666</b>								
<b>Absent</b>	<b>777</b>								

The motion to approve the Consent Calendar Items 6A, 6B, 6C, and 7-2 through 7-5 and 7-7 to 7-9 (**M.I. 52727 through 52737**), passed by a vote of 334,282 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 2,666 not voting; and 777 absent.



**\*Note: Individual vote tally for Item 7-8**

Director Morris recused himself for Item 7-8. The motion to approve the Consent Calendar Item 7-8 passed by a vote of 333,552 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 3,396 not voting; and 777 absent.

Chairwoman Gray Director called on Director Smith to introduce Item 7-1.

**52738** Authorize the General Manager to negotiate a Project Labor Agreement for application on construction contracts with a value of \$5 million or greater within Metropolitan's Capital Investment Plan, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-1 board letter.

Director Smith moved, seconded by Director Phan that the Board approve the Consent Calendar Item 7-1 as follows:

The following Directors asked questions or made comments:

	Directors	Comments/Questions
1.	Smith	Moved Consent Calendar Item.
2.	Phan	Seconded Smith's motion.
3.	Gray	Commented.
3.	Blois	Substitute motion.
4.	Dick	Seconded substitute motion and asked a question.
5.	Repenning	Commented.
6.	De Jesus	Commented.
7.	Camacho	Commented and asked a question.
8.	Pressman	Commented and asked a question.
9.	Lefevre	Commented.
10.	Cordero	Commented.
11.	Record	Commented.
12.	Dennstedt	Commented.
13.	Ramos	Commented.
14.	Faessel	Commented.
15.	Luna	Commented.
16.	Peterson	Commented.
17.	Miller	Commented.
18.	Goldberg	Commented.
19.	Kurtz	Commented.
20.	Fong-Sakai	Commented.
21.	Blois	Withdrew substitute motion.
22.	Ackerman	Commented.

Staff responded to Director's questions.

Record of Vote on Item: 7-1									
Member Agency	Total Votes	Director	Present	Yes	Yes Vote	No	No Vote	Abstain	Abstain Vote
Anaheim	5277	Faessel	x	x	5277				
Beverly Hills	4056	Pressman	x	x	4056				
Burbank	2666	Ramos	x	x	2666				
Calleguas Municipal Water District	11552	Blois	x			x	11552		
Central Basin Municipal Water District	17051	Apodaca	x	x	8526				
		Hawkins	x	x	8526				
			Subtotal:		17051				
Compton	553	McCoy							
Eastern Municipal Water District	9492	Record	x	x	9492				
Foothill Municipal Water District	2131	Atwater	x	x	2131				
Fullerton	2255	Jung	x	x	2255				
Glendale	3622	Kassakhian	x	x	3622				
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	13433	Camacho	x	x	13433				
Las Virgenes	2741	Peterson	x	x	2741				
Long Beach	5772	Cordero	x	x	5772				
Los Angeles	70689	Sutley	x	x	17672				
		Petersen							
		Quinn	x	x	17672				
		Luna	x	x	17672				
		Repenning	x	x	17672				
			Subtotal:		70689				
Municipal Water Dist. of Orange County	57264	Ackerman	x	x	14316				
		Tamaribuchi	x	x	14316				
		Dick	x	x	14316				
		Erdman	x	x	14316				
			Subtotal:		57264				
Pasadena	3522	Kurtz	x	x	3522				
San Diego County Water Authority	58302	Fong-Sakai	x	x	14576				
		Goldberg	x	x	14576				
		Miller	x	x	14576				
		Smith	x	x	14576				
			Subtotal:		58302				
San Fernando	224	Ortega							
San Marino	730	Morris	x	x	730				
Santa Ana	3035	Phan	x	x	3035				
Santa Monica	4352	Abdo	x	x	4352				
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	7753	De Jesus	x	x	7753				
Torrance	3237	Lefevre	x	x	3237				
Upper San Gabriel Valley Mun. Wat. Dist.	11942	Fellow	x	x	11942				
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		Gray	x	x	11804				
			Subtotal:		23608				
Western Municipal Water District	12466	Dennstedt	x	x	12466				
<b>Total</b>	<b>337725</b>				<b>325396</b>		<b>11552</b>		
<b>Present and not voting</b>									
<b>Absent</b>	<b>777</b>								

The motion to approve Item 7-1 passed by a vote of 325,396 ayes; 11,552 noes; 0 abstain; 0 not voting; and 777 absent.

**52739** Chairwoman Gray stated there were no Other Items - Action.

**52740** Chairwoman Gray asked if there were questions or need for discussion for Board Information Item 9-1. No requests were made.

**52741** Chairwoman Gray asked if there were questions or need for discussion for Board Information Item 9-2. No requests were made.

**52742** Chairwoman Gray asked if there were questions or need for discussion for Board Information Item 9-3. No requests were made.

**52743** Chairwoman Gray asked if there were any Other Matters. No requests were made.

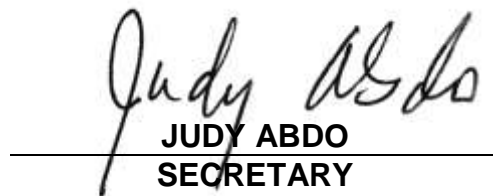
**52744** Chairwoman Gray asked if there were any Follow-up Items. No requests were made.

**52745** Chairwoman Gray asked if there were any future agenda items. No requests were made.

**52746** There being no objection, at 4:36 PM, Chairwoman Gray adjourned the Meeting with Director Blois' comments in honor of the over 400 victims of St. Francis Dam collapse on March 12, 1928.



GLORIA D. GRAY  
CHAIRWOMAN



JUDY ABDO  
SECRETARY