

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

LEGISLATION, REGULATORY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

January 24, 2023

Chair Jung called the hybrid teleconference meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

Members present: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Dennstedt, Fellow, Gray, Jung, Kassakhian (entered after roll call), Pressman, Ramos and Smith.

Members absent: Directors Apodaca, Luna, and Phan.

Other Board Members present: Chair Ortega, Directors Armstrong, Atwater, Chacon, Cordero, Dick, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, McMillan, Miller, Morris, Peterson, and Seckel.

Committee Staff present: Hagekhalil, Zinke, Stites, Sims, and Novoa.

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

None

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

- a. Subject: Approve creating the Subcommittee on Public Affairs Engagement and establish a two-year term.

Presented by: Sue Sims, Group Manager-External Affairs

Motion: Approve creating the Subcommittee on Public Affairs Engagement and establish a two-year term.

Ms. Sims provided a presentation on the establishment of the subcommittee on Public Affairs Engagement and its focus to devise strategies that will encourage public confidence in safe drinking water, and public education to support progress for Climate Action programs and projects related to water supply and stewardship.

After completion of the presentation, Director Smith made a motion, seconded by Director Ramos to approve item 2a.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Dennstedt, Fellow, Jung, Kassakhian, Pressman, Ramos, and Smith.

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Directors Apodaca, Gray, Luna, and Phan

The motion passed by a vote of 9 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstain, and 4 absent.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Subject: Report on Activities from Washington, D.C.

Presented by: Abby Schneider, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Schneider provided an oral report on activities from Washington, D.C., including an update on the FY 2022/2023 federal budget negotiations and appropriations, Colorado River Drought Contingency Plan, the National Defense Authorization Act..

b. Subject: Report on Activities from Sacramento.

Presented by: Rosie Thompson, Principal Legislative Representative

Ms. Thompson provided an update of the 2023/24 legislative session and the proposed FY 2023-24 state budget, committee assignments and potential bills of interest.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

a. Subject: External Affairs Management Report

Presented by: Sue Sims, External Affairs Group Manager

Ms. Sims provided an update on the updated communications plan on Colorado River issues, upcoming media events and generating positive visibility for MWD and member agencies, social media campaigns to highlight employees and cultural heritage events, and the Annual Achievement Report.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

Fred Jung
Chair