

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

June 7, 2021

Chair Smith called the teleconference meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Members present: Chair Smith, Directors Apodaca, Blois, Camacho, De Jesus, Dick, Faessel, Lefevre, Morris, Murray, Peterson, and Williams.

Members absent: Director Repenning.

Other Board members present: Chairwoman Gray, Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Atwater, Cordero, Dennstedt, Erdman, Goldberg, Hawkins, Hogan, Jung, Kurtz, Pressman, Record, and Tamaribuchi.

Committee staff present: Bednarski, Kightlinger, Molette, Scully, Upadhyay, and Yamasaki.

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. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the Engineering and Operations Committee held May 10, 2021.

Chair Smith turned meeting over to Director Blois.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

- 7-3 Subject: Authorize an agreement with Black & Veatch Corporation, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$8 million, for engineering and technical studies to support the environmental planning activities of the Regional Recycled Water Program; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA
- Presented by: Bruce Chalmers, Regional Recycled Water Program Manager
- Motion: Authorize an agreement with Black & Veatch Corporation, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$8 million for engineering and technical studies to support environmental planning activities of the Regional Recycled Water Program.

- 7-4 Subject: Adopt resolution to support Metropolitan's \$6,250,000 WaterSMART: Title XVI WIIN Water Reclamation and Reuse grant application and authorize General Manager to accept funding and enter contract if awarded; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA
- Presented by: Raymond Jay, Water Resource Management Sr. Resource Specialist
- Motion: Adopt the Board Resolution supporting the grant application; and
- a. Authorize the General Manager to accept potential grant funding up to \$6,250,000.
 - b. Delegate authority to the General Manager to enter into a grant contract with Reclamation, subject to the approval of the General Counsel, if awarded.
 - c. Agree to fulfill the grant contract, including providing matching funds up to \$18.75 million with existing funding.
 - d. State that Metropolitan, if awarded a grant, will work with Reclamation to meet the established deadlines upon entering the cooperative agreement.

Director Smith stated that Agenda Item 7-3 involves authorization to increase an agreement for Black & Veatch and as he currently owns Black & Veatch stock, is recusing himself from Agenda Item 7-3.

Director Morris made a motion, seconded by Director Lefevre, to approve the consent calendar consisting of items 2A, 7-3 and 7-4:

The vote was:

- Ayes: Directors Apodaca, Blois, Camacho, De Jesus, Dick, Faessel, Lefevre, Morris, Murray, Peterson, Smith and Williams.
- Noes: Peterson (Item 7-3)
- Recusal: Smith (Item 7-3)
- Abstentions: None
- Absent: Director Repenning.

The motion for Items 2A and 7-4, passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 1 absent.

The motion for Items 7-3, passed by a vote of 10 ayes, 1 no, 1 recusal, 0 abstentions, and 1 absent.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Lefevre
2. Morris
3. Abdo

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

Director Blois returns meeting to Chair Smith.

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Capital Investment Plan Quarterly Report for period ending March 2021
 Presented by: James Hong, Engineering Services Principal Engineer

- b. Subject: Shutdown Planning at Metropolitan
 Presented by: Arman Motavvef, Water System Operations Associate Engineer

- c. Subject: Applications of Hydraulic Modeling
 Presented by: Saurabh Shekhar, Engineering Services Senior Engineer

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Smith

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

- a. Subject: Water System Operations Manager's report
- Presented by: Brent Yamasaki, Water System Operations Group Manager
- Mr. Yamasaki reported on the following:
- Current operational conditions
 - Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) framework and key comments on draft DPR criteria
 - Nitrification/ Chloramine Workshop
 - Water Section Manager Mic Stewart's retirement
 - Metropolitan providing assistance to another water agency

- b. Subject: Engineering Services Manager's report
- Presented by: John Bednarski, Engineering Services Group Manager
- Mr. Bednarski reported on the following:
- Construction and procurement contracts as of March 2021
 - West Valley Feeder No. 1 Desoto Ave valve upgrade project
 - Installation of air quality equipment in the Headquarters building
 - Upcoming Member Agency Engineering Managers meeting
 - Assistant Group Manager Cash Spradling's retirement

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Next meeting will be held on July 12, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Tim Smith
Chair