

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

June 22, 2021

Chairwoman Gray called the teleconference meeting to order at 12:20 p.m.

Chairwoman Gray made remarks to the Committee.

Members present: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Atwater, Camacho, Cordero, De Jesus, Dick, Gray, Kurtz, Murray, Record, Repenning, and Smith

Member absent: Directors Hogan, and Ramos

Other Board members present: Directors Blois, Butkiewicz, Erdman, Faessel, Fellow, Hawkins, Jung, Lefevre, Luna, McCoy, Morris, Ortega, Peterson, Pressman, and Tamaribuchi

Committee staff present: Beatty, Castro, Kasaine, Kightlinger, Riss, Salinas, Scully, Upadhyay, Walters, and Zinke

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 Jeffrey Kightlinger

General Manager Kightlinger reported on the following:

1. Los Angeles Times article on Diamond Valley Lake, and managing the

current drought.

2. Metropolitan is experiencing supply chain issues due to electrical failure at chlorine plant in Washington, which is impacting a number of member agency treatment plants. However, Metropolitan is not affected currently by this issue. Meanwhile, Metropolitan is coordinating with member agencies to switch to Metropolitan water as needed.
3. Committee and board rooms are expected to be ready for the Board at the August meetings.

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

Presented by: General Auditor Gerald Riss

General Auditor Riss stated he had nothing to add to his report.

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

Presented by: Ethics Officer Abel Salinas

Ethics Officer Salinas stated he had nothing to add to his report; however, he reminded the Board of the presentations to be heard at the Audit and Ethics Committee following today's Executive Committee meeting.

f. Subject: Report from Audit and Ethics Committee

Presented by: Committee Vice Chair McCoy

Committee Vice Chair McCoy announced that the Committee will hear the Ethics Officer present the Ethics Officer's Business Plan for FY 2021/22; and, the Ethics Office monthly activities report.

In addition to providing an update on the Audit department activities, the General Auditor will present the General Auditor's Business Plan for FY 2021/22.

g. Subject: Report from Bay-Delta Committee

Presented by: Committee Chair Ackerman

Committee Chair Ackerman announced that the Committee will hear the following committee item:

- Update on Delta Conveyance Planning

as well as the Bay-Delta Manager's report.

h. Subject: Report from Communications and Legislation Committee

Presented by: Committee Chair Cordero

Committee Chair Cordero announced that the Committee will hear the following committee items:

- Report on Solar Cup 2021
- Report on Activities from Washington D.C.
- Report on Activities from Sacramento

as well as 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 consent items:

- Authorize four actions for the Desert region communication system including:
 - 1) an agreement with Nokia of America Corporation in an amount not to exceed \$5,297,000 for equipment procurement and design support to upgrade the wide area network
 - 2) an amendment to an agreement with Hatfield & Dawson Consulting Engineers, LLC for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$730,000 to provide specialized technical support
 - 3) an amendment to the Capital Investment Plan for fiscal years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 to include additional communication system improvements at the Colorado River Aqueduct's Gene Pumping Plant, and
 - 4) an agreement in an amount not to exceed \$275,000 with HDR Engineering, Inc. for design services related to the construction of a

communication line

In addition, the Committee will hear three oral reports:

- Power Operations and Planning update
- Apprenticeship Program Update
- Innovative approaches to seismic resilience for Metropolitan's pipelines and tunnels

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: Committee Vice Chair Record

Committee Vice Chair Record announced that the Committee will hear the following action item:

- Approve proposed updates to the Rate Refinement Structure Principles Recommended by the Member Agency Workgroup

In addition, the Committee will hear one information item:

- Report on Status of Member Agency Workgroup's Review of Demand Management Cost Recovery Alternatives

Lastly, the Chief Financial Officer will provide her monthly activities report.

k. Subject: Report from Legal and Claims Committee

Presented by: Committee Chair Dick

Committee Chair Dick announced that the Committee will hear the General Counsel's monthly activities report; and will also hear the following four consent items:

- 1) Adopt amendment to the Administrative Code establishing Metropolitan-specific parliamentary procedures
- 2) Authorize increase of \$100,000, to a maximum amount payable of \$300,000, for existing General Counsel contract with Olson Remcho LLP to provide general government law advice related to the Political Reform Act, the Fair Political Practices Commission regulations, conflict of interest law and other legislative and ethics matters
- 3) In closed session, hear a report on existing litigation OHL USA, Inc. v. Metropolitan; and authorize increase of maximum amount payable

under contract with Theodora Oringher PC for legal services by \$200,000 to an amount not to exceed \$900,000

- 4) In closed session, hear a report on Baker Electric, Inc. v. Metropolitan regarding Metropolitan's CRA 6.9 kV Power Cables Replacement Project, authorize filing cross-complaints; and authorize an increase in the maximum amount payable under contract with Musick, Peeler & Garrett LLP, for legal services for an amount to be determined

Also in closed session, the Committee will hear the following committee item:

- A report on San Diego County Water Authority v. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, et. al.

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

Presented by: Committee Chair Murray

Committee Chair Murray announced that the Committee will hear the following three committee items:

- Semi Annual Report on EEO Policy and Affirmative Action Plan
- Ethics Officer's Monthly Update on Independent Review of Workplace Concerns
- Cybersecurity Threat Briefing

In addition, the Committee will hear the Human Resources Group Manager's Report.

There will be no Information Technology Manager's Report in July.

A Special Organization, Personnel and Technology Committee meeting will occur on Tuesday, July 27 where Shaw Law Group will present the results of their independent review of workplace concerns at Metropolitan.

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

Presented by: Committee Vice Chair Peterson

Committee Vice Chair Peterson announced that the Committee will hear the following three consent calendar items:

- Adopt amendments to Metropolitan's Administrative Code to move certain responsibilities for annexations from the Finance and Insurance Committee to Real Property and Asset Management Committee
- Authorize the General Manager to grant a permanent easement to the State of California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) on

Metropolitan fee-owned property in the City of Los Angeles

- Authorize an increase of \$3,000,000 to an agreement with Roesling Nakamura Terada Architects for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$5,000,000 for preliminary design and architectural services in support of the District Housing and Property Improvement Program

as well as the Real Property Manager's Report.

Lastly, the Committee will hear the Quarterly Report for the period ending June 30, 2021.

n. Subject: Report from Water Planning and Stewardship Committee

Presented by: Committee Chair Atwater

Committee Chair Atwater announced that the Committee will hear the following two consent calendar items:

- Authorize agreement with Inland Empire Utilities Agency, West Valley Water District, and San Bernardino Valley Water District to provide assistance on water deliveries
- Authorize payments, by a two-thirds vote, of up to \$3.56 million for participation in the State Water Contractors for fiscal year 2021/22

as well as the following two committee items:

- Update on Water Surplus Drought Management
- Report on Storage Management Strategy and Implementation

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 May 25, 2021
- B. Approve draft committee and Board meeting agendas, and schedule for July 2021

Chairwoman Gray asked Directors if there were any comments or discussion on the Minutes of the May 25, 2021 Executive Committee Meeting.

Chairwoman Gray then asked Directors if there were any comments, additions, or corrections to the July 2021 Draft Packet.

Chairwoman Gray called for the vote:

After hearing committee reports, Director Ackerman made a motion, seconded by Director Dick to approve the consent calendar consisting of Items 3A and 3B.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Atwater, Camacho, Cordero, De Jesus, Dick, Gray, Kurtz, Murray, Record, Repenning, and Smith

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Directors Hogan and Ramos

The motion for Item 3A and 3B passed by a vote of 13 ayes; 0 no; 0 abstain; and 2 absent.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

7. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

The following director provided comments or asked questions:

1. Record

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Chairwoman Gray presented a Memorial Video and commented on the 50th Anniversary of the San Fernando Tunnel Disaster.

The meeting was adjourned in memory of 17 workers killed in a tragic accident while building the San Fernando Tunnel for Metropolitan Water District at 12:47 p.m.

Gloria D. Gray
Chairwoman of the Board