

# **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