

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

WATER PLANNING AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

July 12, 2021

Chair Atwater called the teleconference meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Members present: Chair Atwater, Vice Chair Kurtz, Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Cordero, De Jesus, Lefevre, Morris, Petersen, Peterson (entered after roll call), Pressman, and Record.

Members absent: Directors Dick, Goldberg, Hogan, and Luna.

Other Board Members present: Chairwoman Gray, Directors Blois, Butkiewicz, Dennestedt, Erdman, Faessel, Fellow, Jung, Murray, Ortega, Ramos, Smith, and Tamaribuchi.

Committee staff present: Coffey, Hagekhalil, Hasencamp, Hughes, Munguia, and Upadhyay.

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION (AS REQUIRED BY GOV. CODE SECTION 54954.3(A))

None

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Water Planning and Stewardship Committee held June 7, 2021

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

- 7-7 Subject: Authorize agreement with Inland Empire Utilities Agency, West Valley Water District, and San Bernardino Valley Water District to provide assistance on water deliveries; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: Jessica Arm, Associate Resource Specialist, Water Resource Management

Motion: Authorize the General Manager to enter into an agreement with IEUA, West Valley, and Valley District to provide West Valley assistance with water deliveries in the event of an emergency or planned outage, or the loss of local supply

Ms. Arm gave a presentation on the proposed agreement that would assist Inland Empire Utilities Agency deliver water to a small portion of West Valley Water District during planned or unplanned outages.

7-8 Subject: 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; the General Manager has determined the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: Jack Safely, Imported Supply Unit, Water Resource Management, Water Resource Management

Motion: By a two-thirds vote, authorize the General Manager to make payments of up to \$3.56 million to the State Water Contractors for FY 2021/22.

Mr. Safely provided a presentation that discussed Metropolitan's dues payment to the State Water Contractors (SWC) to purchase water from the State Water Project (SWP). He also reviewed SWC's budget, activities, and initiatives.

Director Morris moved the Consent Calendar items. Director Kurtz seconded.

The following Director provided comments or asked questions:

1. Ortega

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Atwater, Cordero, De Jesus, Kurtz, Lefevre, Morris, Petersen, Peterson, Pressman, and Record.

Noes: None.

Not voting: None.

Absent: Directors Dick, Goldberg, Hogan, and Luna.

The motion passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 0 noes, 0 not voting, and 4 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Subject: Oral Update on Water Surplus Drought Management

Presented by: Tiffany Tran, Assistant Resource Specialist II, Water Resource Management

Ms. Tran provided an update on drought conditions, water supply, 2021 supply and demand balance, and dry year Water Surplus Drought Management actions that are underway. She also reviewed the governor's drought proclamation and Executive Order in response to the drought.

Mr. Deven Upadhyay, Assistant General Manager and Chief Operating Officer, added commentary regarding the state's drought conditions, how Metropolitan is responding regionally to meet member agency needs, discussions with the state officials relating to the governor's office recent actions, and the challenges facing the Central Valley Project and SWP.

Mr. Adel Hagekhalil, General Manager, also provided comments regarding discussions between Metropolitan and the State concerning coordination of water strategy and unified messaging related to investing in resiliency and water storage.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Peterson
2. Ortega
3. Butkiewicz

b. Subject: Report on Storage Management Strategy and Implementation

Presented by: Demetri Polyzos, Manager, Resource Planning Team, Water Resource Management

Mr. Polyzos provided a presentation that reviewed Metropolitan's storage portfolio and how staff implements the WSDM Plan with respect to storage programs, and implementation over the last ten years.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Smith
2. Murray

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

- a. Subject: Colorado River Matters

Presented by: Bill Hasencamp, Manager, Colorado River Resources

Mr. Hasencamp reported on Colorado River activity that focused on impacts to record low storage in Lake Mead. He highlighted a recent article in the Los Angeles Times regarding Lake Mead and provided information on the shortage declaration resulting from dry conditions.

The following directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Ackerman
2. Smith

- b. Subject: Water Resource Management Manager's Report

Presented by: Brad Coffey, Manager Water Resource Management

Mr. Coffey gave an update on conservation expenditures and activity, the Multi-Family Property Toilet Replacement Program, the Residential Flow Monitor/Leak Detection Device Pilot Program, and he explained the Future Supply Actions webinar.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Director Abdo made a request for a discussion of increasing conservation activity during this drought. Director Peterson made a request for a discussion on a Palo Verde Irrigation District land purchase opportunity and guidance to Real Property Group. Director Smith made a request for an update on a policy on the economics of storage.

10. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting will be held on August 16, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Richard Atwater
Chair