

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
MINUTES

ADJOURNED COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

August 16, 2021

Vice Chair Kurtz called the teleconference meeting to order at 2:40 p.m.

Members present: Vice Chair Kurtz, Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Butkiewicz (entered after roll call), Erdman, Luna, Murray, G. Peterson, Quinn, Record, and Smith.

Members absent: Chair Cordero, Directors Morris and Repenning.

Other Board Members present: Directors Blois, De Jesus, Dennstedt, Dick, Fellow, Goldberg, Hogan, Jung, McCoy, Ortega, Ramos, Tamaribuchi, and Williams.

Committee Staff present: Hagekhalil, Rojo, Scully, Sims, and Zinke.

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

None

CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the meeting of the Communications and Legislation Committee held July 12, 2021.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

- | | | |
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| 7-4 | Subject: | Approve Metropolitan’s annual membership in the U.S. Water Alliance and authorize payment of \$18,500, and approve Metropolitan’s annual membership in Water Education for Latino Leaders and authorize payment of \$25,000; the General Manager determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA |
| | Motion: | Approve Metropolitan’s annual membership in the U.S. Water Alliance and authorize payment of dues for \$18,500, and approve Metropolitan’s annual membership in Water Education for Latino Leaders and authorize payment of dues for \$25,000 |

Director Peterson made a motion, seconded by Director Abdo to approve the consent calendar consisting of items 2A and 7-4.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Erdman, Kurtz, Murray, G. Peterson, Quinn, Record, and Smith
Noes: None
Abstentions: Director Luna
Absent: Directors Butkiewicz, Cordero, Morris, and Repenning

The motion passed by a vote of 9 ayes, 0 noes, 1 abstain, and 4 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Update on Conservation Messaging
Presented by: Sue Sims, External Affairs Manager

Ms. Sims provided an update on Metropolitan's conservation messaging. The in-house designed campaign will use existing funding in the board-approved External Affairs budget to promote conservation, sustainable landscaping, and community empowerment and reinforce how we can all have a significant impact on water use. It will speak to our heritage and conservation ethic in a reassuring tone that reminds the public that we've been through extreme droughts before and know what to do, together.

- b. Subject: Report on activities from Sacramento
Presented by: Kathy Viatella, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Viatella reported on activities from Sacramento including meetings with legislators on Metropolitan sponsored bills and legislative priorities, the state budget and funding, and the Governor's recall election.

- c. Subject: Report on Activities from Washington, D.C.

Presented by: Abby Schneider, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Schneider reported on activities from Washington, D.C. including an update on appropriations, the Large-Scale Water Recycling Project Investment Act, the infrastructure package, and nomination updates.

Director Butkiewicz entered meeting

7. MANAGEMENT REPORT

- a. Subject: External Affairs Management Report

Presented by: Susan Sims, External Affairs Group Manager

Ms. Sims reported on Metropolitan's beautifully redesigned website that is now live and clarified that the new website is phase 1 and there are still two projects still to come under the board-authorized agreement.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Next meeting will be held on September 13, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 3:32 p.m.

Cynthia Kurtz
Vice Chair