

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**  
**September 14, 2021**

**52490** The Board of Directors of The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California met in Regular Meeting on Tuesday, September 14, 2021.

Chairwoman Gray called the Teleconference Meeting to order at 12:16 p.m.

**52491** The Meeting was opened with an invocation by Carmen Bermudez-Bracy, Principal Administrative Analyst, Business Outreach, External Affairs Group.

**52492** The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was given by Director Smith, San Diego County Water Authority

Chairwoman addressed the Board providing brief remarks acknowledging Hispanic Heritage Month.

**52493** Board Secretary Abdo administered the roll call. Those responding present were: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Apodaca, Atwater, Blois, Butkiewicz, Camacho, Cordero, De Jesus, Dennstedt, Dick, Erdman, Faessel, Fellow, Goldberg, Gray, Hawkins, Hogan, Jung, Kurtz, Lefevre, McCoy, Morris, Murray, Ortega, Petersen, Peterson, Phan, Pressman, Ramos, Record, Repenning, Smith, Tamaribuchi, and Williams.

Those not responding were: Directors Kassakhian, Luna, and Quinn.

Board Secretary Abdo declared a quorum present.

**52494** Chairwoman Gray invited members of the public to address the Board on matters within the Board's jurisdiction.

Name	Affiliation	Item
1. Sidney		Delta tunnel
2. John Mendoza		Various matters

Chairwoman Gray addressed the following: Other Matters and Reports.

**52495** Chairwoman Gray asked if there were any changes to the report of events attended by Directors at Metropolitan's expense during the month of August as previously posted and distributed to the Board.

No amendments were made.

**52496** Chairwoman Gray referred to her monthly report, which was previously posted and distributed to the Board.

Chairwoman Gray announced that the Palo Verde Irrigation District (PVID) is holding an election for two of its seven members of its Board of Trustees on September 23, 2021. Metropolitan is authorized to count votes based on its ownership of land and PVID. Metropolitan Resolution 9196 authorizes the Chair to cast Metropolitan votes directly or by granting a proxy to a Metropolitan employee or agent. Chairwoman Gray granted a proxy to Director Randy Record to cast Metropolitan's vote. The incumbents seeking reelection on PVID's Board of Trustees, are Gary Bryce and Brad Robinson. Debra Keenan and Michael Mullion have also filed to run as candidates for the Board of Trustees. Chairwoman Gray invited any directors to provide input to her regarding the election after the Board meeting.

**52497** Regarding matters relating to Metropolitan's operations and activities, General Manager Hagekhalil announced the following:

1. Reorganization of the General Manager's Executive Team.
2. Continuing our efforts traveling to all Metropolitan facilities to visit with staff.

Additional information on the General Manager's activities may be found in his written monthly report.

**52498** General Counsel Scully stated she had nothing to add to her report.

Director Smith asked a question to General Counsel Scully.

**52499** General Auditor Riss stated that his work with KPMG continues on the annual financial audit; the department is on target to have the audit complete and will provide a presentation to the committee on October 26.

**52500** Ethics Officer Salinas stated he had nothing to add to his report.

**52501** Chairwoman Gray acknowledged Director Gloria Cordero, representing the city of Long Beach, for her five years of service as a Metropolitan Board member.

Director Cordero expressed her appreciation.

Chairwoman Gray addressed the Consent Calendar Other Items for September 2021.

**52502** Approval of the Minutes of the meeting for August 17, 2021. Chairwoman Gray asked Directors if there were any comments or discussion on the approval of the Minutes of the Meeting for August 17, 2021 (Agenda Item 6A). No comments or requests were made.

**52503** Approval of Committee Assignments (Agenda Item 6B).

Chairwoman Gray appointed Director Dennstedt as a member to the following committees:

- Finance and Insurance Committee
- Audit and Ethics Committee
- Facilities Naming Ad Hoc Committee.

Chairwoman Gray called on the Committee Chairs to give a report of the Consent Calendar Action Items as discussed at their Committees.

**52504** Authorize an increase of \$185,000 to an agreement with Rincon Consultants, Inc. for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$1 million for services related to the preparation of a Climate Action Plan and CEQA documentation, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-1 board letter.

**52505** Award an \$11,604,521 contract to Ameresco, Inc. to construct Battery Energy Storage System Facilities at the Jensen and Skinner plants; and authorize increase of \$550,000 to agreement with Stantec, Inc. for a new not-to-exceed total of \$1,450,000, to provide technical support, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-2 board letter.

**52506** Authorize an agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$635,000 for engineering services to replace the 2.4 kV power line to Black Metal Mountain communications site, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-3 board letter.

**52507** Authorize the General Manager to sponsor the California Resiliency Challenge with a \$200,000 contribution and renew Metropolitan's seat on the Steering Committee, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-4 board letter.

**52508** Declare that the two subject parcels are surplus land and not necessary for Metropolitan's use based on the written grounds set forth in the staff board letter and authorize their disposal at fair market value under Metropolitan's surplus land disposal policies and procedures, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-5 board letter.

**52509** Provided price and terms direction on a possible real property purchase. (Agenda Item 7-6).

**52510** Authorize an increase in the maximum amount payable under contract with Ryan & Associates, Attorneys at Law, for advisory legal services related to real estate and commercial leasing law by \$100,000 to a maximum amount payable of \$200,000, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-7 board letter.

**52511** Authorize the General Counsel to increase the amount payable by amendment of the contract with Theodora Oringher PC for legal services by \$200,000 for an amount not to exceed \$1,100,000, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-8 board letter.

**52512** Authorize the General Counsel to settle matters consistent with Board Letter 7-9, as set forth in Agenda Item 7-9 board letter.

**52513** Chairwoman Gray called for a vote to approve the Consent Calendar Items 6A, 6B, and 7-1, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4, 7-5, 7-6, 7-7, 7-8, and 7-9 (**M.I.52502 through M.I. 52512**).

The following Directors asked questions or made comments:

	Directors	Comments/Questions
1.	Morris	Moved Consent Calendar
2.	Dick	Seconded Consent Calendar

Director Morris moved, seconded by Director Dick that the Board approve the Consent Calendar Other Items for Action 6A, 6B and 7-1 through 7-9 as follows:

The following is a record of the vote:

Record of Vote on Consent Item(s): 6A, 6B, 7-1 through 7-5*, 7-6, 7-7, 7-8, and 7-9									
Member Agency	Total Votes	Director	Present	Yes	Yes Vote	No	No Vote	Abstain	Abstain Vote
Anaheim	5277	Faessel	x	x	5277				
Beverly Hills	4056	Pressman	x	x	4056				
Burbank	2666	Ramos	x	x	2666				
Calleguas Municipal Water District	11552	Blois	x	x	11552				
Central Basin Municipal Water District	17051	Apodaca	x	x	8526				
		Hawkins	x	x	8526				
			Subtotal:		17051				
Compton	553	McCoy	x	x	553				
Eastern Municipal Water District	9492	Record	x	x	9492				
Foothill Municipal Water District	2131	Atwater	x	x	2131				
Fullerton	2255	Jung	x	x	2255				
Glendale	3622	Kassakhian							
Inland Empire Utilities Agency	13433	Camacho	x	x	13433				
Las Virgenes	2741	Peterson	x	x	2741				
Long Beach	5772	Cordero	x	x	5772				
Los Angeles	70689	Murray	x	x	23563				
		Petersen	x	x	23563				
		Quinn							
		Luna							
		Repenning	x	x	23563				
			Subtotal:		70689				
Municipal Water Dist. of Orange Coun	57264	Ackerman	x	x	14316				
		Tamaribuchi	x	x	14316				
		Dick	x	x	14316				
		Erdman	x	x	14316				
			Subtotal:		57264				
Pasadena	3522	Kurtz	x	x	3522				
San Diego County Water Authority	58302	Butkiewicz	x	x	14576				
		Goldberg	x	x	14576				
		Hogan	x	x	14576				
		Smith	x	x	14576				
			Subtotal:		58302				
San Fernando	224	Ortega	x	x	224				
San Marino	730	Morris	x	x	730				
Santa Ana	3035	Phan	x	x	3035				
Santa Monica	4352	Abdo	x	x	4352				
Three Valleys Municipal Water District	7753	De Jesus	x	x	7753				
Torrance	3237	Lefevre	x	x	3237				
Upper San Gabriel Valley Mun. Wat. D	11942	Fellow	x	x	11942				
West Basin Municipal Water District	23608	Williams	x	x	11804				
		Gray	x	x	11804				
			Subtotal:		23608				
Western Municipal Water District	12466	Dennstedt	x	x	12466				
<b>Total</b>	<b>337725</b>				<b>334103</b>				
<b>Present and not voting</b>									
<b>Absent</b>	<b>3622</b>								

The motion to approve the Consent Calendar Items 6A, 6B and 7-1, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4, 7-5\*, through 7-9 (**M.I.52502 through M.I. 52512**), passed by a vote of 334,103 ayes; 0 noes; 0 abstain; 0 not voting; and 3,622 absent.

**\*Note: Individual vote tally for Item 7-5**

Director Dennstedt abstained from 7-5. The motion to approve the Consent Calendar Item 7-5 passed by a vote of 321,637 ayes; 0 noes; 12,466 abstain; 0 not voting; and 3,622 absent.

**52514** Board Chairwoman Gray asked if there were questions or need for discussion for Board Information Item 9-1 through 9-6. No requests were made.

**52515** Chairwoman Gray asked if there were any future agenda items.

Director Ortega asked a question.

**52516** There being no objection, at 12:55 p.m., Chairwoman Gray adjourned the Meeting.



**GLORIA D. GRAY**  
**CHAIRWOMAN**



**JUDY ABDO**  
**SECRETARY**