MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP BOARD MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF DIRECTORS WITH THE MWDOC MET DIRECTORS
August 6, 2025

At 8:30 a.m., President McVicker called to order the Workshop Board Meeting of the Municipal Water District of Orange County in Conference Room 101 at the District facilities located in Fountain Valley, as well as including attendance via the Zoom Webinar application. Director Seckel led the Pledge of Allegiance and District Secretary Angela Crespi called the roll.

MWDOC Directors
Al Nederhood
Larry Dick* (absent)
Karl W. Seckel*
Bob McVicker
Randall Crane
Jeffery M. Thomas (absent)
Megan Yoo Schneider

*Also MWDOC MET Directors

Other MWDOC MET Directors
Linda Ackerman
Dennis Erdman

Staff
Harvey De La Torre, General Manager
Melissa Baum-Haley, Assistant General Manager
Angela Crespi, District Secretary
Heather Baez, Director of Government Affairs
Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs
Jennifer Wicks, Public Affairs Communications Manager
Kathy Pham, Assistant Board Secretary
Sarina Sriboonlue, Principal Engineer
Kevin Hostert, Senior Water Resources Analyst
Rachel Davis, Water Loss Control Programs Supervisor
Rachel Waite-Harvey, Water Use Efficiency Programs Supervisor
Katrina Wraight, Legal Counsel

Also Present

Doug Davert	East Orange County Water District
David Youngblood	East Orange County Water District
Kathryn Freshley	El Toro Water District
Mike Gaskins	El Toro Water District
Kay Havens	El Toro Water District
Mark Monin	El Toro Water District
Sherri Seitz	El Toro Water District
Mike Dunbar	Emerald Bay Services District
Doug Reinhart	Irvine Ranch Water District
Peer Swan	Irvine Ranch Water District
Paul Weghorst	Irvine Ranch Water District
Jim Atkinson	Mesa Water District
James Fisler	Mesa Water District
Stacy Taylor	Mesa Water District
Adam Benson	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Katano Kasaine	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Albert Napoli	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Arnout Van den Berg	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Dick Fiore	Moulton Niguel Water District
Donald Froelich	Moulton Niguel Water District
Marina Lindsay	Moulton Niguel Water District
Sherry Wanninger	Moulton Niguel Water District

Sara Tucker	National Resources Results
Lisa Ohlund	Ohlund Management & Technical Services
Alicia Dunkin	Orange County Water District
Emily Novak	Orange County Water District
Laura Freese	Santa Margarita Water District
Saundra Jacobs	Santa Margarita Water District
Greg Mills	Serrano Water District
Brad Reese	Serrano Water District
Rick Erkeneff	South Coast Water District
Syrus Devers	Syrus Devers Advocacy
Fernando Paludi	Trabuco Canyon Water District
Mark Toy	Yorba Linda Water District
Tom Lindsey	Yorba Linda Water District
Chuck Gibson	

TELECONFERENCE SITES

Directors McVicker and Yoo Schneider participated via teleconference locations (all agenda requirements pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act requirements were complied with).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

President McVicker asked whether any members of the public wished to comment on agenda items.

There were no public comments.

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED

No items were received.

ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO THE BOARD LESS THAN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO THE MEETING

President McVicker inquired as to whether there were any items distributed to the Board less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

District Secretary Crespi reported there were no items distributed to the Board less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

NEXT RESOLUTION NO. 2160

PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. METROPOLITAN BUSINESS MODEL UPDATE

General Manager De La Torre provided an overview of the topic and introduced Metropolitan Assistant General Manager/Chief Financial Officer Katano Kasaine.

Metropolitan Revenue and Budget Section Manager Arnout Van den Berg provided a presentation highlighting the cost recovery and rate structure for treated water, the implementation of new charges, and the reserves policy.

The Board discussed Metropolitan's fixed expense coverage and goal, revenue structure as a stable revenue source, stranded assets, the upcoming biennial budget and projections, scenarios for the long-range finance plan, repair and replacement of infrastructure, and future capital investment plan.

Following a brief discussion, the Board thanked Ms. Kasaine, Mr. Van den Berg, and Metropolitan Finance Group Manager Adam Benson for the presentation.

2. LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

a. Federal Legislative Report (NRR)

In addition to the report provided in the agenda packet, National Resource Results (NRR) Partner Sara Tucker provided an overview of the Federal Legislative Report, highlighting the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, the House Energy and Water bill, the Colorado River Basin's Salinity Control Program, the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Conservation Program, and the Colorado River negotiations.

Director Seckel asked Ms. Tucker if it would be helpful to have a letter of support for the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program and, if so, to whom it should be addressed. Ms. Tucker indicated that the optimal window may have passed, but she would get back to the staff with the information if there is still time.

The Board thanked Ms. Tucker for her report.

b. State Legislative Report (SDA)

Mr. Syrus Devers of Syrus Devers Advocacy provided an overview of the State Legislative Report, highlighting the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) Budget Trailer Bill, the threat of Golden Mussels, and Voluntary Agreements (Healthy Rivers and Landscapes). He also provided status updates on SB 707 (Durazo).

The Board thanked Mr. Devers for his report.

c. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)
d. County Legislative Report (Whittingham)
e. MWDOC Legislative Matrix
f. MET Legislative Matrix

The Board reviewed and discussed the information presented.

3. QUESTIONS OR INPUT ON MET ISSUES FROM THE MEMBER AGENCIES/ MET DIRECTOR REPORTS REGARDING MET COMMITTEE PARTICIPATION

Director Ackerman provided an update on the importance of sites and upcoming decisions, emphasizing the analysis of the Bay Delta and Purewater.

Director Erdman reported that the General Manager interviews will take place on August 11, 2025, and a decision will be made shortly thereafter.

Director Seckel informed the Board that the two ongoing key activities are financial planning and the selection of the next General Manager.

A discussion followed regarding MET's financial projections for upcoming projects, especially for Sites, the DCP, and Purewater.

INFORMATION ITEMS

4. MET ITEMS CRITICAL TO ORANGE COUNTY (The following items are for informational purposes only – a write-up on each item is included in the packet. Discussion is not necessary unless requested by a Director).

a. MET's Finance and Rate Issue
b. MET's Water Supply Condition Update

Director Nederhood inquired about MWD's ICS account in Lake Mead, as shown on the MWD Historical Dry Year Storage chart on page 80. Staff clarified the storage capacity, withdrawal limits, and the accessibility of MWD's ICS water, noting that access is contingent on the outcome of the 2026 negotiations.

c. MET's Water Quality Update
d. Colorado River Issues
e. Delta Conveyance Activities and State Water Project Issues

5. MET BOARD AND COMMITTEE AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Summary regarding June MET Board Meeting
b. Review items of significance for MET Board and Committee Agendas

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President McVicker adjourned the meeting at 9:46 a.m.

Angela Crespi
District Secretary