MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
August 20, 2025

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

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

*Also MWDOC MET Directors

Other MWDOC MET Directors
Linda Ackerman (absent)
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
Hilary Chumpitazi, Director of Finance/IT
Cathy Harris, Director of Human Resources and Administration
Damon Micalizzi, Director of Public Affairs
Jennifer Wicks, Public Affairs Communications Manager
Kathy Pham, Assistant Board Secretary
Sarina Sriboonlue, Principal Engineer
Melissa Buendia, Public Affairs Specialist
Rachel Davis, Water Loss Control Programs Supervisor
Rachel Waite-Harvey, Water Use Efficiency Programs Supervisor
Joe Byrne, Legal Counsel
Katrina Wraight, Legal Counsel

Also Present

Dick Ackerman	Ackerman Consulting
Alondra Renteria Solis	City of Santa Ana
Miles Lowry	eSentire
David Youngblood	East Orange County Water District
George Murdoch	East Orange County Water District
Dennis Cafferty	El Toro Water District
Vu Chu	El Toro Water District
Kathryn Freshley	El Toro Water District
Kay Havens	El Toro Water District
Mark Monin	El Toro Water District
Paul Weghorst	Irvine Ranch Water District
Keith Van Der Maaten	Laguna Beach County Water District
James Fisler	Mesa Water District
Stacy Taylor	Mesa Water District
Dick Fiore	Moulton Niguel Water District
Donald Froelich	Moulton Niguel Water District

Sherry Wanninger	Moulton Niguel Water District
Charles Luas	Orchard Dale Water District
Saundra Jacobs	Santa Margarita Water District
Brad Reese	Serrano Water District
Jennifer Lopez	South Coast Water District
John Horst	Trabuco Canyon Water District
Fernando Paludi	Trabuco Canyon Water District
Michael Perea	Trabuco Canyon Water District
Tom Lindsey	Yorba Linda Water District
Chuck Gibson	

TELECONFERENCE SITES

Directors McVicker and Dick 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 member of the public had any comments on items that were not on the agenda.

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 meeting.

No items were distributed to the Board less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR

President McVicker stated that all matters under the Consent Calendar would be approved by one MOTION unless a Director wished to consider an item separately.

Upon MOTION by Director Seckel, seconded by Director Crane, and carried (6-0), the Board approved Consent Calendar Items 1 – 10, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors Nederhood, Dick, Seckel, McVicker, Crane, and Yoo Schneider
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Director Thomas

Director Thomas arrived at 8:33 a.m.

CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 1 to 10)
All matters under the Consent Calendar will be approved by one motion unless a Board member requests separate action on a specific item.

1. MINUTES

The following minutes were approved.

a. July 2, 2025 Workshop Board Meeting
b. July 16, 2025 Regular Board Meeting

2. COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

The following Committee Meeting reports were received and filed as presented.

a.	Administration & Finance Committee Meeting:	July 9, 2025
b.	Planning & Operations Committee Meeting:	July 14, 2025
c.	Executive Committee Meeting:	July 17, 2025
d.	MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning Meeting:	July 23, 2025

3. TREASURER'S REPORTS

The following items were ratified and approved as presented.

a. MWDOC Revenue/Cash Receipt Register as of July 31, 2025
b. Disbursement Registers (July/August)

The following items were received and filed as presented.

c. Summary of Cash and Investment and Portfolio Master Summary Report (Cash and Investment report) as of June 30, 2025
d. PARS Monthly Statement (OPEB Trust)

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

The following item was received and filed as presented.

a. Combined Financial Statements and Budget Comparative for the Period Ending June 30, 2025

5. MASTER AGREEMENT FOR SHARED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES BETWEEN THE MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY & THE CITY OF SANTA ANA

The Board authorized the General Manager to execute the Master Agreement for Shared Programs and Services between the Municipal Water District of Orange County & the City of Santa Ana, subject to any non-substantive changes or modifications.

6. RECOMMENDED CHANGES TO THE 401(a) AND 457(b) RETIREMENT PLANS

The Board approved to change the current 401(a) Money Purchase Pension Plan recordkeeper to EMPOWER; authorized staff to work with Investment Advisor, Ted Grigsby of Fiduciary Consulting Group at Morgan Stanley, District Counsel, and recordkeepers to convert the current 401(a) plan record-kept by VOYA to EMPOWER, and prepare and execute required documents to successfully establish EMPOWER as the sole recordkeeper of the District's 401(a) Money Purchase Pension and 457(b) Plans, anticipated to take effect by January 1, 2026; and authorized the General Manager and Director of Human Resources to execute necessary documents and contracts.

7. ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING AMENDMENT NO. 3 TO THE MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY'S MONEY PURCHASE PENSION PLAN

The Board adopted Resolution No. 2160 approving Amendment No. 3 to the Municipal Water District of Orange County's Money Purchase Pension Plan ("Plan"), effective July 1, 2025, and authorized the Director of Human Resources, or her designee, to execute Amendment No. 3 on behalf of the District.

8. ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES COMMITTEE APPOINTMENT CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE 2026–2027 TERM

The Board authorized the General Manager to sign and submit the completed Association of California Water Agencies Committee Consideration Form for the 2026-2027 term and submit the completed Committee Consideration Form by the September 19, 2025, deadline.

9. AUTHORIZE CONTRACT FOR CYBERSECURITY SERVICES – MANAGED DETECTION AND RESPONSE (MDR)

The Board authorized the General Manager to enter into a contract with eSentire, Inc., to provide CrowdStrike endpoint protection, 24/7 network monitoring, and Security Information and Event Management services, as outlined, at an amount of $36,816 per year, for a three-year term not to exceed $110,448 (September 2025 to September 2028) with an option to renew.

10. ISDOC 3RD VICE PRESIDENT CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Board adopted Resolution No. 2161 nominating Director Albert Nederhood as a candidate for the position of 3rd Vice President for the Independent Special Districts of Orange County (ISDOC) Executive Committee.

End of Consent Calendar

PRESENTATION ITEM

11. MEMBER AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – EAST ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT

East Orange County Water District General Manager David Youngblood provided a presentation that highlighted governance, wholesale service, retail service, and sewer collection service.

Following a brief discussion and question/answer period, the Board thanked Mr. Youngblood and received and filed the presentation.

INFORMATION ITEMS

12. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT, AUGUST (ORAL AND WRITTEN)

Director of Public Affairs Damon Micalizzi introduced Melissa Buendia as the new Public Affairs Specialist and shared a brief overview of her professional background.

Director Seckel inquired about demand forecasts and methodology. Staff informed the Board that an update will be provided at a future meeting.

13. MWDOC GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Board of Directors - Reports re: Conferences and Meetings

The Board members each reported on their attendance at the regular MWDOC Board and Committee meetings. In addition to these meetings, the following reports were made on conferences and meetings attended on behalf of the District.

Director Nederhood reported that he attended all regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, Executive Committee, and MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop meeting and Regular Board meeting), multiple MET committee meetings and its Board meeting, and OC Water Summit Planning Committee meeting. Director Nederhood provided an update on the MET retention efforts, exit interviews, and the recruitment of the General Manager.

Director Dick advised that he attended all regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, Executive Committee, and MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop meeting and Regular Board meeting), MET committee meetings and its Board meeting, ISDOC, WACO and WACO Planning Committee meetings, MET Caucus Meetings, and OC Water Summit Planning Committee meeting.

Director McVicker reported that he attended all regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, Executive Committee, and MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop meeting and Regular Board meeting), MET committee meetings and its Board meeting, WACO and WACO Planning Committee meetings, ISDOC Executive Committee meeting, and the Orange County Business Council Infrastructure Committee meeting.

Director Seckel advised that he attended all regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Administration & Finance, Executive Committee, and MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop meeting and Regular Board meeting), MET committee meetings and its Board meeting, MET special Board meeting, DCP meeting with Assemblyman Valencia, Inland Caucus meeting. He also provided an update on the MET Delta Islands.

Director Crane reported that he attended all regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Administration & Finance, and MWDOC/OCWD Joint Planning Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop meeting), California Commission for Environmental Economic Balance Summer Issues Seminar, IRWD Board meetings, YLWD Board meetings and ISDOC Executive Committee meeting.

Director Thomas advised that he attended all regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop meeting and Regular Board meeting), ACWA Investment Subcommittee meeting, meeting with EOCWD Doug Davert, meeting with YLWD Brett Barbre, MET committee meetings and its Board meeting.

Director Yoo Schneider reported that she attended the California Commission for Environmental Economic Balance Summer Issues Seminar, meetings with City of San Clemente staff and Council, SCWD Committee and Board meetings, WACO meeting, meetings with Moulton Niguel Water District staff, and meeting with MWDOC staff.

b. Requests for Future Agenda Topics

No future agenda topics were requested.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President McVicker adjourned the meeting at 9:20 a.m.

Angela Crespi
District Secretary