MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF DIRECTORS WITH MET DIRECTORS September 3, 2025

At 8:30 a.m., President McVicker called to order the Joint 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 Nederhood led the Pledge of Allegiance and District Secretary Angela Crespi called the roll.

MWDOC Directors
Al Nederhood
Larry Dick*
Karl W. Seckel*
Bob McVicker
Randall Crane
Jeffery M. Thomas (absent)
Megan Yoo Schneider (left at 9:58 a.m.)

*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
Charles Busslinger, Director of Engineering/ District Engineer
Jennifer Wicks, Public Affairs Communications Manager
Kathy Pham, Assistant Board Secretary
Sarina Sriboonlue, Principal Engineer
Kevin Hostert, Senior Water Resources Analyst
Rachel Waite-Harvey, Water Use Efficiency Programs Supervisor
Joe Byrne, Legal Counsel

Also Present

Dick Ackerman	Ackerman Consulting
Paul Jones	Dopudja & Wells
Doug Davert	East Orange County Water District
David Youngblood	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
Sherri Seitz	El Toro Water District
Doug Reinhart	Irvine Ranch Water District
Peer Swan	Irvine Ranch Water District
Jim Atkinson	Mesa Water District
James Fisler	Mesa Water District
Paul Shoenberger	Mesa Water District
Stacy Taylor	Mesa Water District
Albert Napoli	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Dick Fiore	Moulton Niguel Water District
Donald Froelich	Moulton Niguel Water District
Marina Lindsay	Moulton Niguel Water District
Laura Rocha	Moulton Niguel Water District
Sherry Wanninger	Moulton Niguel Water District
Sara Tucker	National Resources Results
Lisa Ohlund	Ohlund Management & Technical Services

Emily Novak	Orange County Water District
Chris Olsen	Orange County Water District
Sofia Almeida	San Diego County Water Authority
Jeremy Crutchfield	San Diego County Water Authority
Dennis Davis	San Diego County Water Authority
Dan Denham	San Diego County Water Authority
Lois Fong-Sakai	San Diego County Water Authority - MET
Alex Heide	San Diego County Water Authority
Alexi Schnell	San Diego County Water Authority
Nick Serrano	San Diego County Water Authority
Darren Simon	San Diego County Water Authority
Jeff Stephenson	San Diego County Water Authority
Meena Westford	San Diego County Water Authority
Greg Mills	Serrano Water District
Brad Reese	Serrano Water District
Syrus Devers	Syrus Devers Advocacy
Fernando Paludi	Trabuco Canyon Water District
Peter Whittingham	Whittingham Public Affairs Advisors
Tom Lindsey	Yorba Linda Water District

TELECONFERENCE SITE

Director McVicker participated via teleconference location (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. 2162

PRESENTATION ITEM

1. SAN DIEGO COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY (SDCWA)

General Manager Harvey De La Torre welcomed and introduced SDCWA Board Chair Nick Serrano, SDCWA and MET Director Lois Fong-Sakai, and SDCWA General Manager Dan Denham.

SDCWA Board Chair Nick Serrano provided an overview of SDCWA and introduced Director of Imported Water, Meena Westford, and Principal Water Resources Specialist, Alex Heide.

SDCWA General Manager Dan Denham then provided a presentation that highlighted the agency's service area, strategic investments to enhance water supply reliability, mitigating pressures that challenge rates, previous long-range demand forecasts and disrupters, the cost of new water supplies, and the water supply exchange framework.

The Board discussed collaboration, regionalism, long-term sustainability and reliability, as well as maintenance and investment in infrastructure.

Following a brief discussion, the Board thanked Chair Nick Serrano, Director Lois Fong-Sakai, General Manager Dan Denham, Ms. Meena Westford, and Mr. Alex Heide for attending the Board meeting.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

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 Continuing Resolution to fund the federal government, the House Energy and Water Bill, Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, second reconciliation package, Bureau of Reclamation's Commissioner nominee hearing, and the Bureau of Reclamation provided funding to Arizona and Utah for large-scale water recycling.

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 SB 707 (Durazo), AB 532 (Ransom), the Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) Budget Trailer Bill, and the Golden Mussels.

General Manager Harvey De La Torre requested an update on AB 523 (Irwin), which authorizes the designation of a proxy for the purposes of voting at a Metropolitan board meeting. Mr. Devers responded that the bill is currently on the Senate floor and will be sent to the Governor once passed.

The Board thanked Mr. Devers for his report.

c. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)

Mr. Dick Ackerman of Ackerman Consulting provided an overview of the Legal and Regulatory Report, highlighting the Wildfire Moonshot as well as emergency and large electric vehicles.

The Board thanked Mr. Ackerman for his report.

d. County Legislative Report (Whittingham)

Mr. Peter Whittingham of Whittingham Public Affairs Advisors informed the Board, as a part of his County Legislative Report, that Josh Cook announced his resignation from the United States Environmental Protection Agency in California and the Pacific Southwest (Region 9).

The Board discussed electric vehicle mandates and monitoring developments from the Air Quality Management District.

The Board thanked Mr. Whittingham for his report.

e. MWDOC Legislative Matrix

Director Crane brought attention to AB 93 (Papan), emphasizing the critical role water plays as a coolant for data centers.

f. MET Legislative Matrix

The Board received and filed the reports.

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

Director Ackerman reported that Metropolitan finalized the local supply exchange framework, which enables member agencies to sell/exchange local water they produce. Agencies will be required to provide assessments of exchange agreements that involve local projects with an active Local Resource Program (LRP). Metropolitan approved two separate agricultural leases on the Delta Islands that will benefit them financially. Additionally, the Board authorized a 4% cost-of-living adjustment for the General Counsel, Auditor, and Ethics Officers. Other key updates included the Bay Delta Scientific Achievements Report and a review of summer-fall Delta operations impacting the Delta smelt.

Director Erdman informed the Board that the upcoming Metropolitan Board of Directors Workshop on Engineering, Operations, and Technology will include a report on the State Water Project's Resilience Update, a Quarterly Capital Investment Plan Report, and a Seismic Resilience Report.

Director Seckel reported that Metropolitan is currently engaged in the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) decision-making process. There will be updates in the upcoming month on the cost estimate for the Pure Water project, as well as on post-2026 efforts on the Colorado River. Finance will provide key baseline assumptions to help evaluate the affordability and feasibility of upcoming investments, specifically in the Pure Water and Sites Reservoir projects, and how these investments may be incorporated into Metropolitan's rate-making process.

Director Dick provided an update on the State Water Project and the recruitment process for the General Manager. He emphasized the need for Metropolitan to prioritize infrastructure funding in the budget.

The Board discussed the Pure Water Los Angeles project.

INFORMATION ITEMS

4. MET ITEMS CRITICAL TO ORANGE COUNTY

a. MET's Finance and Rate Issue
b. MET's Water Supply Condition Update
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 August 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 10:15 a.m.

Angela Crespi
District Secretary