MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
April 15, 2026

At 8:30 a.m., President Dick called to order the Regular Meeting of the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) 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, Information Technology Systems Administrator Dave Anderson led the Pledge of Allegiance, and District Secretary Crespi called the roll.

MWDOC Directors
Al Nederhood
Larry Dick
Bob McVicker
Karl W. Seckel*
Randall Crane*
Jeffery M. Thomas
Megan Yoo Schneider (arrived at 8:32 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
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
Tiffany Baca, Education and Workforce Manager
Rachel Davis, Water Loss Control Programs Manager
Kathy Pham, Assistant Board Secretary
Sarina Sriboonlue, Principal Engineer
Rachel Waite-Harvey, Water Use Efficiency Programs Supervisor
Joe Byrne, Legal Counsel

Also Present

Dick Ackerman	Ackerman Consulting
Doug Davert	East Orange County Water District
Dennis Cafferty	El Toro Water District
Kathryn Freshley	El Toro Water District
Mike Gaskins	El Toro Water District
Kay Havens	El Toro Water District
Paul Weghorst	Irvine Ranch Water District
Doug Reinhart	Irvine Ranch Water District
Jim Atkinson	Mesa Water District
Albert Napoli	Metropolitan
Dick Fiore	Moulton Niguel Water District
Donald Froelich	Moulton Niguel Water District
Marina Lindsay	Moulton Niguel Water District
Sherry Wanninger	Moulton Niguel Water District
Lisa Ohlund	Ohlund Management & Technical Services
Alicia Dunkin	Orange County Water District
John Kennedy	Orange County Water District

Saundra Jacobs	Santa Margarita Water District
Frank Ury	Santa Margarita Water District
Brad Reese	Serrano Water District
Jennifer Lopez	South Coast Water District
Brett Barbre	Yorba Linda Water District
Tom Lindsey	Yorba Linda Water District
Chuck Gibson	

TELECONFERENCE SITE

Director McVicker participated via teleconference location (all agenda and meeting requirements pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act were complied with).

PUBLIC COMMENTS

President Dick 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 Dick inquired as to whether there were any items distributed to the Board of Directors (Board) less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

District Secretary Crespi advised that a revised resolution establishing water rates for Fiscal Years 2026-27 and 2027-28 for Item No. 9 was distributed to the Board and made available to the public.

Director Yoo Schneider arrived at 8:32 a.m.

NEXT RESOLUTION NO. 2170

CONSENT CALENDAR (Items 1 to 5)

Upon MOTION by Director Thomas, seconded by Director Seckel, and carried (7-0), the Board approved Consent Calendar Items 1 – 5 by the following roll call vote:

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

1. MINUTES

The following minutes were approved.

a. March 2, 2026 Planning & Operations Committee Meeting
b. March 4, 2026 Workshop Board Meeting
c. March 11, 2026 Administration & Finance Committee Meeting
d. March 18, 2026 Regular Board Meeting
e. March 19, 2026 Executive Committee Meeting

2. TREASURER'S REPORTS

The following items were ratified and approved as presented.

a. MWDOC Revenue/Cash Receipt Register as of March 31, 2026
b. Disbursement Registers (March/April)

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 February 28, 2026
d. PARS Monthly Statement (OPEB Trust)

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

The following item was received and filed as presented.

a. Combined Financial Statements and Budget Comparative for the Period Ending February 28, 2026

4. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF K-12 WATER EDUCATION SCHOOL PROGRAM SERVICES

The Board awarded Orange County Department of Education's Inside the Outdoors a 2-year contract with the option for three additional 1-year renewals, to design and deliver a comprehensive regional K-12 water education school program and authorize the General Manager to execute the contract.

5. AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR CO-MANAGED INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (IT) SERVICES

The Board awarded Highroad Information Technology a 1-year contract in the amount of $37,000 with the option of four additional 1-year renewals for a total not to exceed amount of $185,000 over five years, to provide co-managed Information Technology services and authorize the General Manager to execute the contract.

End of Consent Calendar

ACTION ITEMS

6. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

President Dick opened the Public Hearing to receive comments on the proposed ordinance to adjust Director Compensation.

There being no public comments, President Dick closed the Public Hearing and announced that the proposal to adopt an ordinance to adjust Director Compensation was before the Board for consideration.

After considerable discussion, upon MOTION by Director Nederhood, seconded by Director Thomas, and carried (4-3), the Board adopted Ordinance No. 57 regarding Director Compensation by the following roll call vote:

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

7. PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ESTABLISHING CLASSES OF WATER SERVICE & TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF WATER SERVICE WITHIN THE DISTRICT

President Dick opened the Public Hearing to receive comments on the proposed ordinance to consider establishing classes of water service & terms and conditions of water service within the District.

There being no public comments, President Dick closed the Public Hearing and announced that the proposal to adopt an ordinance to establish classes of water service & terms and conditions of water service within the District was before the Board for consideration.

General Manager Harvey De La Torre provided a brief overview of the topic and clarified the difference between the water rates ordinance and the water rates resolution.

Upon MOTION by Director Seckel, seconded by Director Crane, and carried (7-0), the Board adopted Ordinance No. 58 Establishing Classes of Water Service & Terms and Conditions of Water Service within the District by the following roll call vote:

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

8. ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FINAL DRAFT BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEARS 2026-27 & 2027-28

Director Seckel requested that staff provide him with additional information regarding Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) Rates and Charges Comparison for Calendar Year 2025 – 2027.

The Board commended the MWDOC-MET Directors for their time and efforts on the Metropolitan budget and for securing its approval.

General Manager Harvey De La Torre thanked Assistant General Manager Melissa Baum-Haley and staff for their efforts in transitioning from an annual budget to a biennial budget.

Upon MOTION by Director Seckel, seconded by Director Thomas, and carried (7-0), the Board adopted Resolution No. 2170 Approving and Establishing the Biennial Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-27 and 2027-28 by the following roll call vote:

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

9. ADOPT A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING WATER RATES FOR FISCAL YEARS 2026-27 & 2027-28

Upon MOTION by Director Seckel, seconded by Director Crane, and carried (7-0), the Board adopted Resolution No. 2171 Establishing Water Rates for Fiscal Year 2026-27 and 2027-28 by the following roll call vote:

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

10. ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE LOAN POLICY FOR THE 401(a) MONEY PURCHASE PENSION PLAN

Upon MOTION by Director Seckel, seconded by Director Thomas, and carried (7-0), the Board adopted Resolution No. 2172 Approving the Loan Policy for the 401(a) Money Purchase Pension Plan by the following roll call vote:

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

11. APPOINTMENT OF A SPECIAL (AD HOC) COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

Upon MOTION by Director Seckel, seconded by Director Yoo Schneider, and carried (7-0), the Board ratified the appointment of Directors Nederhood, Thomas, and Yoo Schneider to a Special (Ad Hoc) Committee, with Director Thomas serving as Chair, to complete a review of the Administrative Code and make recommendations to the Board by the following roll call vote:

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

INFORMATION CALENDAR

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

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 advised that he attended all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Joint Workshop and Regular Board meeting), several Metropolitan Board and Committee meetings, Independent Special Districts of Orange County (ISDOC), Water Advisory Committee of Orange County (WACO) meeting, and Orange County Water Summit Ad Hoc Committee meeting. Director Nederhood expressed his concerns about the Metropolitan budget and challenges in the Colorado River Basin.

Director Thomas reported that he attended all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Joint Workshop and Regular Board meeting) and the Orange County Water Summit Ad Hoc Committee meeting.

Director Seckel advised that he attended most of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations and Administration & Finance Committee meetings, as well as the Joint Workshop and Regular Board meeting), Metropolitan Board and Committee meetings as well as planning meetings, meeting with Metropolitan General Manager, Caucus meetings, and meeting with Orange County Coast Keeper Gary Brown. Director Seckel informed the Board that he is the Chair of the newly formed Metropolitan Ethics Committee. He provided additional details in response to Director Nederhood's comments on the Colorado River.

Director Crane reported that he attended all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Joint Workshop and Regular Board meeting), Metropolitan Board and Committee meetings, meetings with Metropolitan Finance staff, and co-hosted an inspection trip on the Sites Reservoir and Oroville Lake. He informed the Board that Metropolitan will be assessing the Delta Islands and their value to Metropolitan.

Director Yoo Schneider advised that she attended all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Joint Workshop and Regular Board meeting), California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance Water meetings and media briefing, meeting with City of San Clemente staff, meeting with MWDOC staff, South Coast Water District Committee and Board meetings, Santa Margarita Water District Committee meetings, WACO, and she was a speaker at the California State University, Long Beach Women in Engineering Conference.

Director McVicker reported that he attended all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Joint Workshop and Regular Board meeting), several Metropolitan Board and Committee meetings, WACO, and ISDOC Executive Committee meeting.

Director Dick advised that he attended all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations and Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Joint Workshop and Regular Board meeting), WACO and WACO Planning, ISDOC Executive Committee meeting, Orange County Business Council, and South Orange County Economic Council. He thanked Director of Government Affairs Heather Baez for her continued efforts and support in enhancing MWDOC's public visibility.

b. Requests for Future Agenda Topics

No future agenda topics were requested.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, President Dick adjourned the meeting at 9:39 a.m.

Angela Crespi
District Secretary