MINUTES OF THE WORKSHOP MEETING OF THE MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF DIRECTORS WITH METROPOLITAN DIRECTORS August 5, 2026

At 8:30 a.m., Vice President Thomas called to order the Joint Workshop Board Meeting of the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan or MET) Directors 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 (absent)
Bob McVicker
Karl W. Seckel*
Randall Crane*
Jeffery M. Thomas
Megan Yoo Schneider

*Also MWDOC MET Directors

Other MWDOC MET Directors
Linda Ackerman
Dennis Erdman

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

Also Present

Dick Ackerman	Ackerman Consulting
Fernando Paludi	Dopudja & Wells
Vu Chu	El Toro Water District
Kathryn Freshley	El Toro Water District
Kay Havens	El Toro Water District
Mark Monin	El Toro Water District
Doug Reinhart	Irvine Ranch Water District
Paul Weghorst	Irvine Ranch Water District
Jim Atkinson	Mesa Water District
James Fisler	Mesa Water District
Nina Hawk	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Randall Neudeck	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Jon Rubin	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Jonathan Cruz	Moulton Niguel Water District
Dick Fiore	Moulton Niguel Water District
Donald Froelich	Moulton Niguel Water District
Laura Rocha	Moulton Niguel Water District
Sherry Wanninger	Moulton Niguel Water District
Lisa Ohlund	Ohlund Management & Technical Services

Fred Jung	Orange County Water District
John Kennedy	Orange County Water District
Chris Olsen	Orange County Water District
David Youngblood	Santa Margarita Water District
Rick Erkeneff	South Coast Water District
Larry McKenney	Trabuco Canyon Water District
Michael Boccadoro	West Coast Advisors
Beth Olhasso	West Coast Advisors
Peter Whittingham	Whittingham Public Affairs Advisors
Brett Barbre	Yorba Linda Water District
Doug Davert	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

Vice President Thomas 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

Vice President Thomas 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 reported there were no items distributed to the Board less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

NEXT RESOLUTION NO. 2178

PRESENTATION ITEM

1. OVERVIEW METROPOLITAN-OWNED DELTA ISLANDS (PRESENTATION BY METROPOLITAN STAFF)

Water Resources Analyst Jared Dawson introduced Metropolitan Manager of Bay-Delta Programs Randall Neudeck, who presented an overview of the Delta Islands and Metropolitan's Bay-Delta Policy Framework, including the original purpose for the Delta Islands purchase, key changes, strategic considerations, fiscal challenges, and future

outlook. He also discussed delta smelt and fish food supplementation efforts and improvement initiatives. He informed the Board that the Ad Hoc Committee has directed Metropolitan staff to conduct a market study to evaluate whether to hold or sell the islands.

The Board discussed Metropolitan's ownership of the Delta Islands, other Delta landowners, and Metropolitan's overall footprint in the Delta. They reviewed Metropolitan's original interest in the islands related to the Delta Conveyance Project, smelt production, science & biological studies, the pros and cons of selling the islands, the costs and benefits of maintaining them, and needed improvements. They also discussed forming a coalition to share maintenance costs, Metropolitan's contributions to California through the Colorado River Aqueduct, threats facing the Delta, and necessary levee upgrades.

The Board thanked Mr. Neudeck for his presentation.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES

a. Federal Legislative Report (Natural Resource Results)

Director of Government Affairs Heather Baez reported that the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation released a major proposal and final environmental impact statement for managing the Colorado River, outlining a 10- to 20-year framework with lower basin cuts of up to 1.25 million acre-feet annually and voluntary upper basin reductions of up to 200,000 acre-feet. She noted that the Army Corps of Engineers completed its Record of Decision for the Delta Conveyance Project under the National Environmental Policy Act. She also reported that Congress is on track to pass a Water Resources Development Act bill on its two-year cycle, which supports projects such as Sites and other regional efforts.

The Board discussed how the proposed operating guidelines affect the upper and lower basin states.

The Board thanked Ms. Baez for her report.

b. State Legislative Report (West Coast Advisors)

In addition to the report provided in the agenda packet, West Coast Advisors President Michael Boccadoro and Vice President Beth Olhasso highlighted the reduced Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund revenues, climate funding decisions, wildfire liability proposals, and the California Compete antitrust legislation. They also reported on Senate leadership changes and the political dynamics shaping negotiations. They provided an update on Assembly Bill 1436, including a recent California Air Resources Board (CARB) clarification on the private fleet rule, and on Assembly Bill 2215, which did not advance due to strong opposition from Delta-area legislators.

The Board discussed challenges posed by committee composition and the influence of Delta-area legislators, reviewed Senate Bill 872 regarding Delta levee and subsidence funding, potential funding sources, and the significant costs associated with addressing land subsidence affecting aqueduct capacity.

The Board thanked Mr. Boccadoro and Ms. Olhasso for their report.

c. Legal and Regulatory Report (Ackerman)

Mr. Dick Ackerman of Ackerman Consulting provided comments on his report, noting the recent Category 5 hurricane activity in the Pacific and explaining that regional ocean conditions generally protect California from major impacts. He also reported on a recent court decision allowing continued water releases from Shasta Reservoir.

The Board thanked Mr. Ackerman for his report.

d. County Legislative Report (Whittingham)

Mr. Peter Whittingham of Whittingham Public Affairs Advisors reported that GKN Aerospace's recent semi-annual filing includes plans for a compensation program for residents and businesses affected by the Memorial Day evacuation. He noted that additional information and a potential town hall meeting are expected prior to the Garden Grove City Council meeting.

The Board thanked Mr. Whittingham for his report.

e. MWDOC Legislative Matrix
f. Metropolitan Legislative Matrix

There were no questions or comments on the Legislative Matrices.

The Board received and filed the reports.

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

The Board discussed the recent Metropolitan presentation on Pure Water Southern California, focusing on demand assumptions, project costs, and differences between indirect and direct potable reuse.

INFORMATION ITEMS

4. METROPOLITAN ITEMS CRITICAL TO ORANGE COUNTY

a. Metropolitan's Finances
b. Metropolitan's Water Supply Condition Update
c. Metropolitan's Water Quality Update
d. Colorado River Issues
e. Delta Conveyance Activities and State Water Project Issues

5. METROPOLITAN BOARD AGENDA DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. Summary regarding July Metropolitan Board Meeting
b. Review items of significance for the Metropolitan Board Agenda

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Vice President Thomas adjourned the meeting at 10:33 a.m

Angela Crespi
District Secretary