

- **Board of Directors**

January 16, 2001 Special Board Meeting

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**5A**

**Subject**

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Approve the proposed new committee restructuring as recommended by the Chairman of the Board

**Description**

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This month marks a historical change to the governance of the Metropolitan Water District Board of Directors. Over the past few months, member agency boards have worked tirelessly to affirm their respective delegates of the new 37-member Board of Directors. The downsizing of the Board has afforded us with an opportunity to review our committee organizational structure with the intent to minimize meetings and eliminate redundancy that will result in more effective use of their time and decrease the burden on Directors.

The new structure has reduced the number of committees (see Attachments 1 and 2), broadened the role of the new committees and heightened the strategic policy responsibility of the Board. In following the Carver-like philosophy, we will continue to look for ways to communicate result-oriented direction to the Department Heads and provide a means to an end for accomplishing our responsibility as Directors of this Board.

To better govern the activities of the Board, the Chairman recommends the following restructuring of committees, effective January 16, 2001, (to be evaluated after one year) in order to study, advise and make recommendations on issues within the authority of Metropolitan as set forth in the Metropolitan Water District Act:

**Standing Committees**

Executive Committee

Engineering, Operations and Real Property Committee

Legal, Claims and Personnel Committee

Audit, Budget and Finance Committee

Water Planning, Quality and Resources Committee

Communications, Outreach and Legislation Committee

**Special and Subcommittees**

Subcommittee on Rules and Ethics (reports to Executive Committee)

Special Committee on Museum Feasibility and Development (reports to Board)

Nominating Committee (reports to Board)

Subcommittee on Rate Structure Implementation (reports to Executive Committee)

Subcommittee on Investments and Bond Financing (reports to Executive Committee)

**Standing Committees**

**Executive Committee (18 members)**

The Executive Committee contains membership of all standing committee chairs and officers of the Board. The Executive Committee resolves conflicts between committees, advises the Board on any strategic policy directives that affect the governance and strategic mission of the District. In addition, the Committee is charged with

handling unexpected situations and emergencies, subject to subsequent approval of the actions taken whenever law requires such approval.

The Committee shall also evaluate the General Manager and make recommendations to the Board regarding compensation.

### **Engineering, Operations and Real Property Committee (15 members)**

This Committee will recommend and advise the Board on policies regarding the operation, protection, maintenance and leasing of all facilities owned by the District and engineering aspects of the State Water Project. This committee will recommend action to the board and conduct hearings regarding the purchase and sale of land or other interests in real property. As well, the committee will recommend action to the Board on capital improvement projects relating to facilities and technological strategies.

### **Legal, Claims and Personnel Committee (15 members)**

This Committee will recommend and advise the Board on policies regarding legal matters. Additionally, the committee shall advise and recommend policies regarding the organization and relations between the District and its employees.

The Committee shall also evaluate the General Counsel and make recommendations to the Board regarding compensation.

### **Audit, Budget and Finance Committee (15 members)**

The Audit, Budget and Finance Committee will recommend and advise the Board on policies regarding independent audit activities, budget, financial matters, and rates.

The Committee will evaluate the General Auditor and make recommendations to the Board regarding compensation. As well, the Committee will recommend for hire and evaluate the performance of any outside auditor.

### **Water Planning, Quality and Resources Committee (15 members)**

The Water Planning, Quality and Resources Committee shall recommend and advise the Board on policies regarding sources, standards and means of importing and distributing water, transferring water, and wheeling water as required by the District.

### **Communications, Outreach and Legislation Committee (15 members)**

The Communications, Outreach and Legislation Committee will recommend communications activities to the Board, review the work of other committees to gauge emerging issues and legislative priorities. The Committee will also recommend participation by Directors in legislative and other outreach activities as well as provide input on the overall communications tools employed by the District.

### **Special and Subcommittees**

The special and subcommittees will be scheduled as necessary and may be asked to assume responsibilities as approved by the Executive Committee or the Board.

### **Subcommittee on Rules and Ethics (reports to Executive Committee, 15 members)**

The Subcommittee on Rules and Ethics will meet regularly and will review and approve board and committee meeting agendas and schedules without further action by the Executive Committee. As well, the Subcommittee

shall study, advise and make recommendations to the Executive Committee regarding Metropolitan's ethics program.

**Special Committee on Museum Feasibility and Development (reports to Board, 15 members)**

This Special Committee will study, advise and make recommendations to the Board on the feasibility and development of Metropolitan's planned museum in Riverside County.

**Nominating Committee (reports to Board, 7 members)**

The Nominating Committee shall establish procedures for fair and impartial election of members to offices of the Chair, the Secretary of the Board, and the elected non-officers of the Executive Committee.

**Subcommittee on Rate Structure Implementation (reports to Executive Committee, 9 members)**

This Subcommittee will consider rate structure implementation issues and make policy recommendations for consideration by the Board standing committees and the Board during implementation.

**Subcommittee on Investments and Bond Financing (reports to Executive Committee, 4 members)**

This Subcommittee will recommend and advise the Board on policies regarding the District's investments and financing as requested by the Directors of the Executive Committee.

**Policy**

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Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Sections 2400 and 2500

**Board Options/Fiscal Impacts**

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**Option #1**

Approve the proposed restructuring of the committees as recommended by the Chairman of the Board. The Administrative Code will be amended accordingly and brought to the Board at a later date for ratification.

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Option #2**

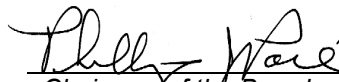
Do not approve the proposed restructuring of the committees as recommended by the Chairman of the Board.

**Fiscal Impact:** None

**Staff Recommendation**

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Option #1

  
Chairman of the Board

1/11/2001  
Date

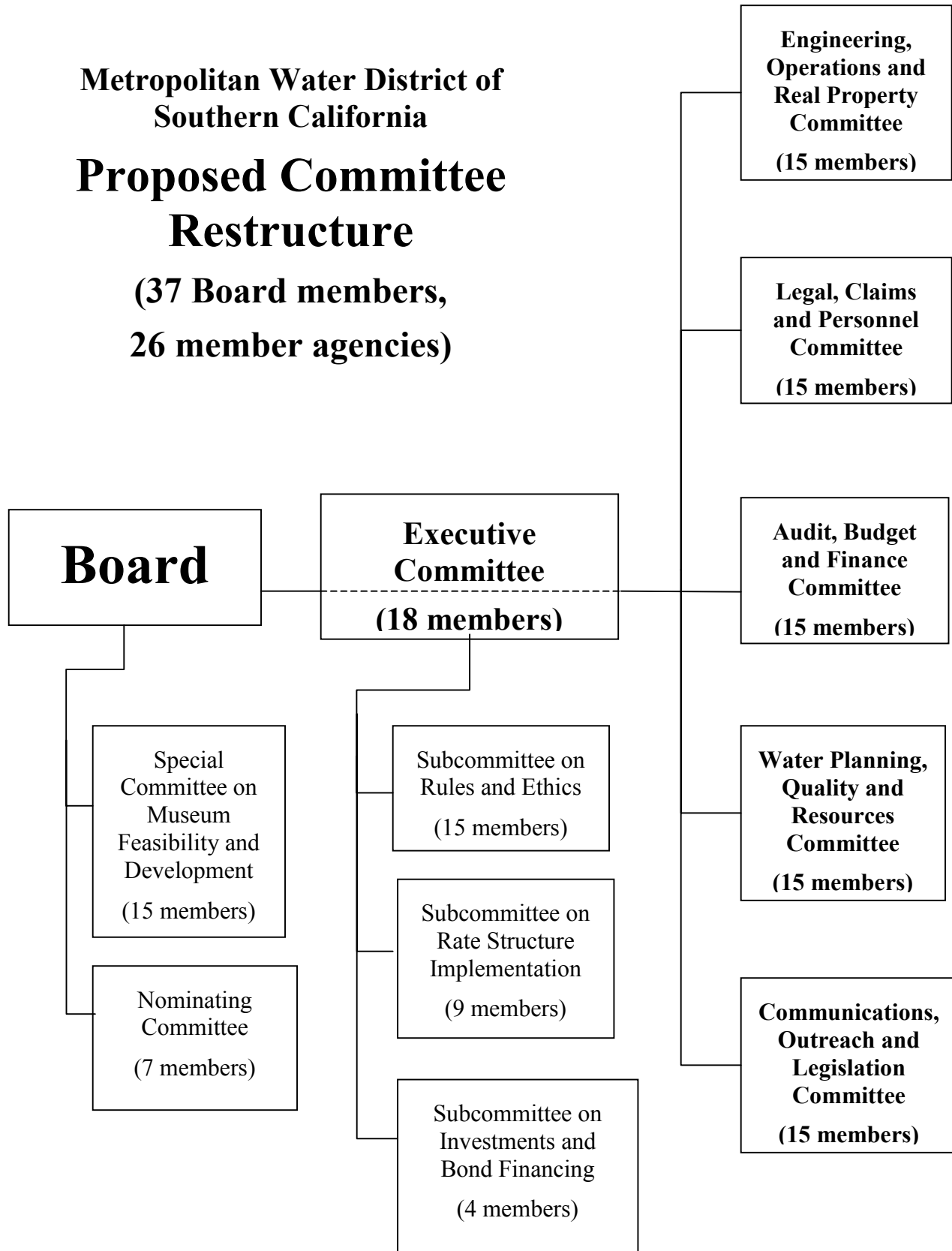
[Attachment 1](#)

[Attachment 2](#)

**Metropolitan Water District of  
Southern California**

**Proposed Committee  
Restructure**

**(37 Board members,  
26 member agencies)**



**Metropolitan Water District of  
Southern California**

**Former Committee  
Structure**

**(51 Board members,  
27 member agencies)**

