

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

WATER PLANNING AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

October 10, 2011

Chairman De Jesus called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. in Committee Room 2-456 at Metropolitan's Headquarters.

Members present: Chairman De Jesus and Vice Chairman Wright, Directors Ackerman, Brick, Brown, Dick, Edwards, Fleming, Gray, Griset, Lewinger, Lowenthal, Morris, Peterson, Record, and Steiner.

Members absent: Directors K. Murray and Quinonez.

Other Board Members present: Board Chairman Foley, Directors Ballin, Barbre, Blake, Camacho, Heidel, Grunfeld, Little, J. Murray, and Wunderlich.

Staff present: Arakawa, Bennion, Blair, Correa, DeBacker, Donhoff, Goshi, Green, Hasencamp, Hicks, Kightlinger, Man, Morel, Neal, Nevills, Patterson, Philp, Riss, Scully, Upadhyay, Velasco, Waade, E. Wong, B. Yamasaki, and Zinke.

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION

None

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WATER PLANNING AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE HELD SEPTEMBER 12, 2011

Approved

Moved: Fleming Seconded: Lewinger

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Review of current Replenishment Service Program and proposed policy principles

Deven Upadhyay, Manager, Water Resource Management, provided introductory comments and noted that the presentation would cover background on current program and proposed policy principles for crafting a revised program with feedback from committee.

Brandon Goshi, Manager, Resource Analysis Unit, provided background on board direction and outlined the process for developing a reformed Replenishment Services Program. He described the current program and reviewed the goals. CY 2015 surplus and storage strategy and management was reviewed along with Article 21 water supplies. A summary of water management tools was provided.

Mr. Goshi gave details of the six proposed principles for consideration and discussed the next steps.

Committee discussion included cost benefit analysis, definition of regional benefits, unused groundwater capacity, and distinction of storage programs. Staff is to provide clear examples of what constitutes a regional benefit for this program and principles incorporating committee comments.

- b. Oral report on Integrated Water Resources Plan (IRP) Implementation

Mr. Goshi provided background on the IRP process. He reported on the progress of implementation, highlighting the actions taken over the last year.

He reviewed the progress over the years in storage capacity, Colorado River agreement, reliability of SWP, and local resources development. He described the approach used for development of the 2010 IRP, recent progress toward the IRP goals, monitor and triggers criteria, and next steps.

- c. Oral report on Water Surplus and Drought Management (WSDM) Plan

Mr. Upadhyay gave background information and introduced Jennifer Nevills, Resource Specialist, Water Resource Management.

Ms. Nevills discussed the favorable water conditions and the impact to Metropolitan's dry year storage levels. She reviewed water supply conditions in CY 2011 and gave a preliminary outlook for 2012.

Staff responded to committee discussion regarding Intentionally Created Surplus (ICS) storage in Lake Mead.

- d. Semiannual report on Local Resources, Conservation, and Desalination Programs

No presentation was given.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

a. Bay-Delta Matters

Roger Patterson, Assistant General Manager, updated the committee on several meetings held in Washington D.C. with various stakeholders regarding the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP). He noted the Delta Plan Draft EIR has been delayed by approximately two weeks. Several Federal representatives are in California meeting on BDCP related matters and staff has also scheduled meetings with them.

Jeff Kightlinger, General Manager, informed the committee that U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Michael Conner would be speaking at the Board meeting on October 11.

b. Colorado River Matters

Bill Hasencamp, Manager, Colorado River Resources, reported this is the start of a new water year and gave a snowpack update. He provided an update on a Lake Mead study from Reclamation, surplus triggers, and the work towards a mutually acceptable solution on an IID release to Salton Sea last year.

c. Water Resource Management Manager's Report

Mr. Upadhyay reported staff would be returning next month with reports on replenishment policy principles and groundwater storage. He also provided a Palo Verde Irrigation District fallowing update.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

Director Record requested a report on Interim Agricultural Water Program.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Next meeting will be held on November 7, 2011.

Meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.

David De Jesus
Chairman