

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

WATER PLANNING AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

December 12, 2011

Chairman De Jesus called the meeting to order at 11:03 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, Quinonez, Record, and Steiner.

Member absent: Director K. Murray

Other Board Members present: Board Chairman Foley, Directors Barbre, Blake, Evans, Friedman, Heidel, Grandsen, Grunfeld, Little, and J. Murray.

Staff present: Arakawa, Bennion, Blair, Carillo, Chan, Coffey, Cole, Donhoff, Goshi, Green, Hasencamp, Ivey, Kightlinger, Man, Mokhtari, Morel, Muir, Patterson, Philp, Riss, Roberts, R. Ryan, Scully, Sencion, Stites, Sumi, Ti, 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

PUBLIC HEARING

2. Review of Metropolitan's achievements in conservation, recycling, and groundwater recharge.

Grace Chan, Manager, Resource Planning & Development Section, gave a presentation on the annual SB 60 report to the Legislature of Metropolitan's achievements in water conservation, recycling, and groundwater recharge. It included requirements and the content of the report as well as next steps.

Mr. Chris Brown, California Urban Water Conservation Council spoke in support of Metropolitan's goals for achieving water conservation through programs and public education including the use of social marketing.

Mr. Edard Osann, National Resources Defense Council (NRDC), also spoke in support of Metropolitan's efforts in achieving water conservation. He added that the NRDC recommends that the Board adopt a transparent process for regularly updating the incentive level using an avoided cost benchmark.

Mr. Shivaji Deshmukh, West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin), spoke in support of collaboration with Metropolitan for developing local supplies for West Basin's service area. He applauded Metropolitan's efforts in water recycling and conservation and assisting its member agencies to achieve greater reliance on local water supplies

Ms. Penny Falcon, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, spoke in support of Metropolitan water conservation programs and water use efficiency accomplishments.

Mr. Dennis Cushman, Assistant General Manager of San Diego County Water Authority (Water Authority), spoke on behalf of the Water Authority's opposition of the SB 60 report and the Urban Water Management Plan. The Water Authority commissioned a study to compare Metropolitan's Urban Water Management plan with the cumulative total of its 26 member agencies. Mr. Cushman requested that a copy of that report be included as part of the public record that Metropolitan submits to the Legislature.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WATER PLANNING AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE HELD NOVEMBER 7, 2011

Approved

Moved: Wright Seconded: Steiner

4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

9-1 Subject: Review options for a new Replenishment Program

Presented by: Brandon J. Goshi, Manager, Resource Analysis Unit

Mr. Goshi gave a presentation on the status of development and proposed concepts for an updated replenishment program. The proposed concepts were developed in collaboration with member agencies and groundwater basins managers, based on board-adopted policy principles, and would replace the current Replenishment Services policy. He gave background information of the development of the proposed updated policy approach and proposed concepts.

Staff responded to questions and comments regarding liability issues relating to contaminants, costs associated with State Water Project (SWP) water stored with Mojave Water Agency, accounting for puts and takes, treated water costs, agencies that participated in the process, and a comparative analysis between the previous replenishment and conjunctive use programs and the current proposal.

7. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Oral report on Water Surplus and Drought Management

Deven Upadhyay gave a brief update on water supply conditions.

8. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

a. Bay-Delta Matters

Roger Patterson, Assistant General Manager/ Strategic Water Initiatives, noted that this report will be delayed until the following day, when the report would be provided at a special committee meeting. He noted that he would be available for Directors' questions.

b. Colorado River Matters

Bill Hasencamp reported on Colorado River activity.

c. Water Resource Management Manager's Report

No formal report was given. However, Mr. Upadhyay gave a statement thanking staff and the committee for a productive 2011.

Committee Chair De Jesus also added closing comments commending staff's and the committee's work in 2011.

9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Next meeting will be held on January 9, 2012.

Meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

David De Jesus
Chair