

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**MINUTES**

**ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

**December 12, 2011**

Chair Evans called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. in Committee Room 2-145 at Metropolitan's Headquarters.

Members present: Chair Evans, Vice Chair Brown, Directors Barbre, Blake, Chavez, De Jesus, Little, Lowenthal, Morris, Steiner, and Wright.

Members absent: Directors Bowersox, Camacho, Grunfeld, Montalvo, Peterson, Record, and Sanchez.

Other Board members present: Board Chairman Foley, Directors Ackerman, Brick, Edwards, Friedman, Heidel, and Lewinger.

Staff present: Arita, Becerra, Y. Casillas, L. Carillo, Clairday, Coffey, J. Green, Hassel, S. Hom, G. Ivey, G. Johnson, Kightlinger, Koch, Lambeck, W. Lieu, Man, Mead, Morel, M. Parsons, Peci, Riss, Scully, Shamma, Stites, M. Stewart, Tellers, B. Yamasaki, and Vanderhorst.

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

No members responded.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 7, 2011.**

Approved

Motion: Director Blake

Seconded: Director De Jesus

### 3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

- 7-4**      Subject:            Appropriate \$200,000; and authorize seismic assessment of the San Gabriel Tower (Approp. 15441)
- Presented by:      No presentation was requested.
- Motion:              Adopt the CEQA determination and
- a. Appropriate \$200,000; and
  - b. Authorize detailed seismic investigations of the San Gabriel Tower.

Motion Carried    Moved: Director Morris      Seconded: Director Blake

- 7-5**      Subject:            Appropriate \$1.5 million; and authorize (1) Detailed structural analyses and preliminary design of modifications to Metropolitan’s Headquarters Building in Los Angeles; and (2) Agreement with ABSG Consulting, Inc. to provide technical support (Approp. 15473)
- Presented by:      No presentation was requested.
- Motion:              Adopt the CEQA determination and
- a. Appropriate \$1.5 million;
  - b. Authorize detailed structural analyses and preliminary design of seismic modifications to Metropolitan’s Headquarters Building at Union Station; and
  - c. Authorize agreement with ABSG Consulting, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$500,000.

Motion Carried    Moved: Director Morris      Seconded: Director Blake

### 4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

### 5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

## 6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Subject: CIP Quarterly Report-September 2011

Presented by: Engineering Services Group Unit Manager Tobin Tellers

Unit Manager Tobin Tellers gave a quarterly progress report on Metropolitan's CIP for fiscal year 2011/12.

b. Subject: Update on Reserving Key Plant and Tunnel Portal Sites for the Central Pool Augmentation Program

Presented by: Engineering Services Group Team Manager John Shamma

Team Manager John Shamma gave an update on the right-of-way preservation efforts of the Central Pool Augmentation (CPA) project. Director Blake asked why Metropolitan did not have permanent right-of-way for the Bedford Canyon properties and if the multiple options for this location would expire. Group Manager Gordon Johnson replied that there are multiple options available to Metropolitan and that there is no movement on the development of these properties at this time. Mr. Johnson added that Metropolitan is monitoring the preferred alignment and alternate alignments; and if there is a need, staff will come to the Committee with a recommendation.

Mr. Shamma added that the alternative alignment options would not expire. The alignments are in public right-of-way or in lands owned by the public. Staff is in contact with permitting and jurisdictional agencies regarding proposed projects that may impact the alignments.

Director Blake then asked if staff had anything in writing and if the preserve rights went beyond 2040. Mr. Shamma responded that some right-of-way agreements were in writing and others were included in area master plans, such as the second alternate portal at Limestone Canyon. Mr. Shamma added that the original west portal site is preserved by Metropolitan's participation in the Orange County National Community Conservation Plan and that this preservation does go beyond 2040.

Director Barbre requested that Metropolitan continue to push ahead with the CPA project due to its importance in both supply and reliability. Chief Operations Officer Man responded that Metropolitan will continue to secure sites that are important to the near- and long-term projects of Metropolitan. Ms. Man added that with the extensive work to our facilities and the conveyance system, Metropolitan is confident our facilities will remain very reliable. General Manger Kightlinger also added that staff is looking at all growth projects and system reliabilities and trying to bring forward the best recommendations to this committee and to the Board.

Director Edwards wanted to know if Metropolitan was monitoring pipeline alignments that paralleled some of our existing pipelines as much as staff is monitoring the preferred alignment of the CPA. Mr. Shamma responded that a study for alternate alignments was conducted in 2009 and two other alignments were found: (1) an alignment north of the preferred alignment (also in the Cleveland National Forest) connecting to the Allen-McColloch pipeline, and (2) a pipeline alignment traveling parallel to the 91 Freeway and parallel to the Allen-McColloch pipeline into Orange County.

Director Barbre inquired about the distance between the 91 Freeway and the alternate alignment. Mr. Johnson replied that the tunnel would be significantly to the south of the 91 Freeway so that it would not be affected by any projects within the 91 Freeway corridor.

Director Wright stated that the Eagle Valley property would be an excellent location to have solar power. Mr. Johnson responded that Metropolitan's Real Property Group has been working to develop solar power on the Eagle Valley property with a long-term lease.

## **7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

a. Subject: Water System Operations Manager's report

Presented by: Water System Operations Group Manager Jim Green

At the beginning of the committee meeting, Water System Operations Group Manager Jim Green gave an update on the Hoover Allocation Act of 2011 stating that the bill was passed by the Senate on October 18 with minor changes which were authorized by the House on December 7. The bill will now be sent to the White House for President Obama's signature. Mr. Green acknowledged John Lambeck from Water System Operations and Linda Waade and her staff from External Affairs for their efforts towards the success of this bill.

Chief Operating Officer Debra Man also acknowledged the efforts of General Manager Jeff Kightlinger and the Hoover subcommittee consisting of Chairman Foley, and Directors Brick, De Jesus, Little, Morris, and Wright.

Mr. Green gave an update on the wind storm that took place November 30 through December 1. Metropolitan's facilities experienced minimal impacts and no disruption of services occurred. The operations control center at Eagle Rock lost station power for a short time; however, the emergency generators started up as designed.

- b.           Subject:           Engineering Services Manager's report
- Presented by:       Engineering Services Group Manager Gordon Johnson
- Presentation was deferred.

**8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

None

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

Next meeting will be held on January 9, 2012.

Meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m.

Tom Evans  
Chair