

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

WATER PLANNING AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

February 13, 2012

Chairman De Jesus called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m. in Committee Room 2-456 at Metropolitan's Headquarters.

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

Members absent: Directors Dick, Lowenthal, K. Murray, and Quinonez.

Other Board Members present: Board Chairman Foley, Directors Blake, Evans, Heidel, Grandsen, Grunfeld, Little, Millard, J. Murray, Wilson, and Wunderlich.

Staff present: Arakawa, Bennion, Breaux, Carillo, Donhoff, Goshi, Green, Hasencamp, Hicks, Hiltcher, Jay, Kightlinger, Man, Morel, Muir, Nevills, Patterson, Philp, Schlotterbeck, Scully, Sencion, Stites, Upadhyay, Velasco, Waade, E. Wong, B. Yamasaki, Young, 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 JANUARY 9, 2012.

Approved

Moved: Steiner Seconded: Fleming

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

7-4 Subject: Adopt resolutions to accept potential funding for two projects; and authorize entering into contract with the Bureau of Reclamation if selected for grant funding under the WaterSMART: Water and Energy Efficiency Grants for FY 2012

Presented by: No presentation given

- Motion: Adopt the CEQA determination and the resolutions to:
- a. Authorize acceptance of potential grant funding of up to \$1.65 million;
 - b. Delegate authority to the General Manager to execute necessary contracts if selected, including the Reclamation grant contract(s);
 - c. Agree to fulfill the grant contract(s), including provision of matching funds of up to \$1.65 million, through existing Metropolitan programs; and
 - d. State that Metropolitan, if awarded a grant, will work with Reclamation to meet established deadlines upon entering into a cooperative agreement.

Motion Carried: Approved.

Moved: Steiner

Seconded: Edwards

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

Chairman De Jesus announced that Item 6b would be heard out of order following Item 6c.

- a. Oral report on Water Surplus and Drought Management

Jennifer Nevills, Resource Specialist, Water Resource Management, gave an update on Metropolitan's water supplies and demands for 2012.

- c. Oral report on proposed Replenishment Program

Brandon Goshi, Manager, Resource Analysis Unit gave an oral report on the proposed Replenishment Program. After reviewing the background and process, he discussed some of the comments concerning the proposal that were received from the January member agency managers meeting. Staff has considered that feedback in the development of next steps.

Comments and questions included maintaining discussions in the Water Planning and Stewardship Committee related to resource benefits, and a tentative date of when staff would present the plan for board consideration.

b. Biennial 2012/13 and 2013/14 Water Resource Management Budget

Deven Upadhyay, Manager, Water Resource Management, reported on the Water Resource Management (WRM) budget. An overview of the group's mission and core priorities notes that WRM staff has reported at six other Metropolitan committees in the past year in addition to the Water Planning and Stewardship Committee.

Staff responded to questions concerning cost increase of professional services for conservation market research and demand studies, funding allocation for Colorado River programs, budgeted and actual staffed positions, impacts of decreasing number of budgeted positions, succession planning, and reducing number of Local Resources Program contracts.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

a. Bay-Delta Matters

Roger Patterson, Assistant General Manager, Strategic Water Initiatives, gave an update on Bay Delta Committee activity. He discussed status of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan Administrative Draft, Delta Stewardship Council, State Water Contractors, the release of the President's Budget, and Smelt season.

b. Colorado River Matters

Bill Hasencamp, Manager, Colorado River Resources, reported on Colorado River activity highlighting Lake Mead storage levels, snowpack conditions, ongoing binational discussions with Mexico, PVID Program, unresolved issues from 2011 including delivery of non-conserved water to Salton Sea; Imperial Irrigation District under-conservation for San Diego County Water Authority; and 2012 Benchmark issues. He also reported on a proposal to eliminate the Colorado River Board, and discussions with Coachella for a new development and water turnout.

Staff responded to a question concerning Colorado River water delivery to the new development in Coachella, if developed.

c. Water Resource Management Manager's Report

Mr. Upadhyay reported on Article 21 water supplies from the State Water Project. Staff responded to questions regarding Agenda Item 7-4 and if both sources of funding in that agenda item are available to all member agencies, and Metropolitan's storage levels in Diamond Valley Lake.

Director Record commended WRM staff for their flexibility to manage the workload while staying under the budgeted staff positions.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Next meeting will be held on March 12, 2012.

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

David De Jesus
Chair