

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

WATER PLANNING AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

May 7, 2012

Chair De Jesus called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m. in Committee Room 2-456 at Metropolitan's Headquarters.

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

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

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

Staff present: Arakawa, Bennion, Blair, Breaux, Burman, Correa, Donhoff, Goshi, Green, Hasencamp, Hui, Kightlinger, Man, Morel, Nevills, Patterson, Philp, Riss, Schaadt, Schlotterbeck, Scully, Sencion, Stites, Upadhyay, Waade, Webb-Cole, E. Wong, B. Yamasaki, Vanderhorst, von Haam, 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 APRIL 9, 2012.

Approved

Moved: Steiner Seconded: Record

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

8-4 Subject: Authorize changes to water conservation incentives and authorize a five-year agreement with Electric and Gas Industries Association to administer Metropolitan’s regional conservation rebate program in an amount not to exceed \$90 million, which includes a cap of \$4 million for administrative fees and up to \$86 million in conservation incentives (subject to budget approval)

Presented by: Alice Webb-Cole, Sr. Resource Specialist, Regional Supply Unit

Motion: Adopt the CEQA determination and authorize:

- a. Water conservation program changes effective July 1, 2012; and
- b. Five-year agreement with Electric and Gas Industries Association to administer Metropolitan’s regional conservation rebate program. The maximum amount payable under the contract for EGIA’s services would be \$4 million. The contract’s overall maximum amount will include pass-through incentive funding from Metropolitan, member agencies, and third parties to conservation program participants, with the overall contract amount not to exceed \$90 million.

Motion Carried: Approved

Moved: Griset

Seconded: Morris

Directors Lewinger and Steiner voted no.

Deven Upadhyay, Manager, Water Resource Management, provided brief introductory comments. Ms. Webb-Cole gave a presentation on the proposed changes to the overall Conservation Program and a new contract for combined regional rebate program.

Staff responded to questions regarding qualifications for incentives, equipment costs, verbiage revisions to the new contract, vendor selection process, and vendor’s prior work experience with Metropolitan.

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Oral report on Water Surplus and Drought Management

Jennifer C. Nevills, Sr. Resource Specialist, Water Resource Management, gave the monthly Water Surplus and Drought Management report.

Staff responded to comments concerning reserve levels, programs aimed at water loss management, and Metropolitan's water delivery systems losses.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

a. Bay-Delta Matters

Roger Patterson, Assistant General Manager, Strategic Water Initiatives, gave an update on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) including schedule delays in the release of the public review draft of the BDCP and its environmental impact report/statement, covering cost implications of schedule delays, and an upcoming meeting with federal and state agencies to resolve schedule delays. Governor Brown is proposing to unveil a plan on water delivery challenges in California. A Bay Delta Committee meeting was scheduled for May 22 by Director Peterson. The sixth draft of the Delta Stewardship Council Report will likely be released in the next couple of weeks.

Staff responded to comments regarding operational issues and impacted species as well as the schedule delays for the release of public review draft of the BDCP and related documents.

b. Colorado River Matters

Bill Hasencamp, Manager Colorado River Resources, gave a report on Colorado River activities including binational negotiations with Mexico, Yuma Desalter Plant refund, Imperial Irrigation District water conservation, Bureau of Reclamation's Lower Colorado Region staffing, and water storage conditions.

Staff responded to comments regarding water conservation for Imperial Irrigation District.

c. Water Resource Management Manager's Report

Deven Upadhyay, Manager, Water Resource Management, discussed an upcoming water efficiency symposium on May 24. The United States Bureau of Reclamation recently approved a \$500,000 grant to Metropolitan for rotating sprinkler nozzles. Staff will prepare an action item for a resolution to accept the grant funding from the federal government. As part of Metropolitan's conservation outreach, WRM staff has recently worked with Reclamation's regional office in Sacramento on development of a commercial conservation program for that area.

Mr. Upadhyay also reported on the Semitropic Program and managing water storage fees. Staff responded to questions regarding possible changes to this year's State Water Project allocation.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Next meeting will be held on June 11, 2012.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

David De Jesus
Chair