

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**MINUTES**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**September 11, 2012**

Chair Ackerman called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. in Committee Room 2-456 at Metropolitan's Headquarters.

Members present: Chair Ackerman, Vice Chair Peterson, Directors Abdo, Ballin, Brick, Camacho, Fleming, Friedman, Gray, Griset, Lewinger, Lowenthal, Montalvo, Morris, K. Murray, and Record.

Members absent: Directors Barbre and Heidel.

Other Board Members present: Directors Babcock, Brown, Dick, Edwards, Grandsen, Little, Millard, J. Murray, Steiner, Wilson, and Wright.

Staff present: Acuña, Ardalan, Bennion, J. Carrillo, Cole, DeBacker, Green, Hiltscher (via video conference), Kightlinger, T. Lee, Man, Patterson, Philp, Scully, Waade, Westford, Wolfe, E. Wong, T. Wong, and Zinke.

**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 COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 21, 2012**

Motion Carried    Moved: Director Record    Seconded: Director Morris

Votes: Unanimous

**3. COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Ackerman reported that there continues to be activity related to the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) and stated that Group Manager Dee Zinke will provide an update on Metropolitan's ongoing BDCP outreach efforts during her report later in the meeting.

Chair Ackerman also reported that in August, Directors Friedman and Peterson attended the Valley Industry and Commerce Association's annual event with numerous local representatives and about 300 business and community leaders.

She stated that in August, Directors Brick, Edwards, Morris and staff attended an event convened by the San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership at which Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) was the keynote speaker and provided an update on key federal issues.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION**

None

**5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION**

None

**6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

None

**7. COMMITTEE ITEMS**

a. Subject: Report on activities from Washington, D.C.

Presented by: Brad Hiltcher, Executive Legislative Representative

Mr. Hiltcher reported on a number of federal matters which included:

- Congress returned from recess on September 10
- Continuing Resolution for the 2013 federal budget
- The Farm Bill and potential Colorado River Source Water Protection
- The House Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Environment and Economy hearing regarding Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards
- The House Natural Resources Committee hearing on the Department of Energy's controversial proposal to reassess the role of Power Marketing Administrations (PMAs) in the transmission of alternative energy through federally owned facilities
- The Bureau of Reclamation named Terry Fulp as the Lower Colorado River Regional Director

b. Subject: Report on activities from Sacramento

Presented by: Kathy Cole, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Cole reported on activities in Sacramento including legislative updates related to:

- The Delta
- Department of Fish and Game reform
- California Air Resources Board Cap-and-Trade program
- Quagga Mussel eradication/control
- Desalination
- Metal theft
- Groundwater management
- Pension reform
- California Environmental Quality Act reform proposals
- Workers' Compensation reform
- State policy regarding access to drinking water.

## **8. MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Ms. Dee Zinke, Group Manager, External Affairs, gave an update on the BDCP outreach. She also reviewed Metropolitan's annual legislative proposal process for 2013 and invited directors to submit proposals for the Board's consideration.

## **9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

Next meeting will be held on October 9, 2012.

Meeting adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Linda Ackerman  
Chair