

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**MINUTES**

**COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

**October 9, 2012**

Chair Ackerman called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. in Committee Room 2-456 at Metropolitan's Headquarters.

Members present: Chair Ackerman, Vice Chair Peterson, Directors Abdo, Ballin, Barbre, Brick, Camacho, Fleming, Friedman, Gray, Morris, and Record.

Members absent: Directors Heidel, Griset, Lewinger, Lowenthal, Montalvo, and K. Murray.

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

Staff present: Acuña, Ardalan, H. Beatty, Bennion, Breaux, J. Carrillo, R. Castro, Cole, Escuadro-Dailey, Green, Hiltcher (via video conference), Kightlinger, T. Lee, Man, Y. Martinez, Patras, Patterson, Philp, Rego, Scully, Spencer, Stites, Upadhyay, Waade, Westford, Wheeler, Wolfe, 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 SEPTEMBER 11, 2012**

Motion Carried    Moved: Director Camacho    Seconded: Director Gray

Votes: Unanimous

**3. COMMITTEE CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Ackerman reported that during the past month, Metropolitan directors, staff and member agency representatives continued to brief members of the Southern California Congressional delegation on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP). General Manager Jeff Kightlinger, Bay-Delta Initiatives Manager Steve Arakawa, and other staff also

provided BDCP presentations to various member agencies, water organizations and community groups.

Director Ackerman also reported on regional events sponsored by the district and directors' participation in those events.

**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:

- House and Senate calendar;
- Oversight hearing to discuss Administration's proposal to advance role of Power Marketing Administrations (PMAs) in developing renewable energy;
- Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS) hearing;
- Representative John Garamendi's (D-CA) introduction of H.R. 6484, the Shielding Against Flood Emergencies Levee Act or "SAFE" Levee Act;
- Hydropower legislation hearing; and
- Proposed actions related to the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA).

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:

- Number of bills signed and vetoed by Governor Brown;
- Implementation of the cap-and-trade program upon Metropolitan and the State Water Project;
- AB 685 (Eng) - - the Human Right to Water Act;
- State and regional water board reform;
- Workers' compensation reform;
- Pension reform; and
- Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg's (D-Sacramento) recent appointment of Senator Michael Rubio (D-Fresno) as Chairman of the Senate Environmental Quality Committee.

c. Subject: 2012 General Election Overview

Presented by: Kathy Cole, Executive Legislative Representative and  
Brad Hiltcher, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Cole and Deputy General Manager Linda Waade (for Mr. Hiltcher) provided an overview of 2012 General Election.

d. Subject: Inspection Trip Report

Presented by: Amy Rego, Team Manager VI

Ms. Rego provided an update on the Inspection Trip Program that included:

- Purpose of the Inspection Trip Program as defined in Administrative Code Section 2615 (a);
- The 2012/13 priorities which include consistency, customer service and strategic approach to trips;
- Updated reference guide, procedures manual and trip materials.

**8. MANAGEMENT REPORT**

Ms. Dee Zinke, Group Manager, External Affairs, provided an update on the federal and state legislative proposal process for 2013. She requested that directors submit any suggestions via the legislative proposal forms provided at the September committee meeting and available online. Ms. Zinke added that an oral report on the proposed 2013 Legislative Strategy will be provided at the November committee meeting, and a board letter will be brought to the committee and Board for action in December.

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

Next meeting will be held on November 6, 2012 (subsequently moved to November 5, 2012).

Meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m.

Linda Ackerman  
Chair