THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BAY-DELTA

July 23, 2013

Chair Peterson called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m. in Committee Room 2-456 at Metropolitan's Headquarters.

Members present: Chair Peterson, Vice Chair Gray, Directors Ackerman, Camacho, De Jesus, Griset, Record, and Steiner.

Members absent: Directors Babcock, Fleming, Morris, and K. Murray.

Other Board Members present: Directors, Brown, Evans, Friedman, Kurtz, Lewinger, Little, J. Murray, Pringle, Touhey, and Wunderlich.

Staff present: Arakawa, Bennion, Breaux, L. Carrillo, G. Chan, Clairday, J. Green, Hasencamp, Ivey, G. Johnson, Kightlinger, T. Lee, Lem, Man, Patterson, Pellegrini, Philp, N. Purkiss, Riss, Ryan, Schlotterbeck, Scully, Shraibati, Wheeler, R. Winn, Wolfe, and Zinke.

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

Mr. Don Jones, a member of the public, addressed the committee regarding the federal requirement imposed by Judge Wanger. He requested status on the biological opinions litigation and its potential impact.

The Committee Chair noted that this issue would be addressed at the end of the meeting during the Bay-Delta Manager’s Report.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BAY-DELTA HELD JUNE 25, 2013

Motion Carried Moved: Director Steiner Seconded: Director Camacho

Votes: Unanimous

3. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Subject: Update on Bay Delta Conservation Plan

Presented by: Bay-Delta Initiatives Manager Steve Arakawa

Mr. Arakawa reported on a recent public meeting that was held regarding chapters 8 and 9 of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), outlined a list of meeting topics for the Special Committee on Bay-Delta for the coming months, and reviewed the upcoming BDCP scheduled release dates.

Staff addressed a question from the committee about a possible delay of the release of the Public Draft BDCP and Environmental Impact Report/Environmental Impact Statement.

b. Subject: Bay Delta Conservation Plan Economic Analysis:
Dr. David Sunding, BDCP Consultant, The Brattle Group

Presented by: Assistant General Manager Roger Patterson

Mr. Patterson introduced Dr. Sunding,

Dr. Sunding described his diverse background in water resource economics. He provided detailed information on economic benefits and costs studies that have been done on the BDCP; explained alternatives being considered under the BDCP environmental documents and associated economic analysis; and discussed some of the comments that have been received.

The speaker and staff addressed questions from the committee regarding operating criteria, assumptions about restrictions, the high outflow scenario, evaluation of losses, cost allocation, what happens if a contractor drops out, what the cost is based on, baseline assumptions, and the water bond.

c. Subject: Bay-Delta Manager's Report

Presented by: Assistant General Manager Roger Patterson

Mr. Patterson reported that staff is working to understand how the coordinated operations agreement (COA) will work under operation criteria in BDCP. He also addressed the public comment that was made at the beginning of the committee meeting by providing the impact on water supplies that the two biological opinions have had on the state and federal water projects, gave the status of the court challenge by the state and water contractors, and explained how the BDCP relates to the court case.

Staff addressed questions regarding the COA and whether a cost benefit analysis was conducted on the Delta Stewardship Council's Delta Plan.

4. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Committee Chair requested that information on individual agency benefits under the BDCP economic study be provided.

Meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

Glen Peterson
Chair