

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ADJOURNED COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

August 20, 2013

Chair Ackerman called the meeting to order at 10:25 a.m. in Committee Room 2-456 at Metropolitan's Headquarters.

Members present: Chair Ackerman, Vice Chair Peterson, Directors Abdo, Apodaca, Ballin, Barbre, Camacho, Fleming, Friedman, Gray, Griset, Kurtz, Lewinger, Morris, Mudd, and K. Murray.

Members absent: Directors Lowenthal and Record.

Other Board Members present: Directors Babcock, Brown, Dick, Edwards, Evans, Little, J. Murray, and Wunderlich.

Staff present: Acuña, Arakawa, H. Beatty, Bennion, Breaux, Burman, J. Carrillo, Clairday, Cole, Coffey, Dymally, Escuadro-Dailey, Green, Hiltcher, Horton, G. Johnson, Kightlinger, T. Lee, Man, Martinez, Neudeck, Philp, Purkiss, Riss, Scully, M. Stewart, Stites, Upadhyay, West, Westford, 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 JULY 9, 2013

Motion Carried Moved: Director Camacho Seconded: Director Griset

Votes: Unanimous

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

8-7 Subject: Express opposition, unless amended, to Senate Bill 731 (Steinberg, D-Sacramento) – California Environmental Quality Act Modernization Act of 2013

Presented by: Robert Horton, Senior Deputy General Counsel

Motion: Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action is not subject to CEQA and is categorically exempt and authorize the General Manager to express Metropolitan’s opposition to SB 731 unless amended as described in the board letter.

Motion Carried Moved: Director Barbre Seconded: Director Morris

Votes: Unanimous

8-8 Subject: Express opposition, unless amended, to Assembly Bill 52 (Gatto, D-Silver Lake) – Native Americans: California Environmental Quality Act

Presented by: Cathy Stites, Senior Deputy General Counsel

Motion: Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action is not subject to CEQA and is categorically exempt and authorize the General Manager to express Metropolitan’s opposition to AB 52 unless amended as described in the board letter.

Motion Carried Moved: Director Morris Seconded: Director K. Murray

Votes: Unanimous

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. 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:

- Colorado River water issues
- Farm Bill
- Water Resources Development Act
- Drinking water treatment chemical safety
- Federal fiscal year budget deadline of September 30
- Hydropower legislation
- Federal appointment nominations

b. Subject: Report on activities from Sacramento

Presented by: Kathy Cole, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Cole reported on a number of state matters which included:

- State legislation and legislative calendar
- 2014 Water Bond

c. Subject: Update on Department of Public Health Reorganization and AB 145 (Perea, D-Fresno) – State Water Resources Control Board: Drinking Water

Presented by: Kathy Cole, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Cole reported on the following items:

- Summary of AB 145 (Perea) as amended June 18, 2013
- Background on existing drinking water program
- Previously adopted Metropolitan Board position
- US EPA notice of non-compliance
- Governor's proposal
- Proposed organizational structure
- Staff concerns
- Next steps

7. MANAGEMENT REPORT

Ms. Dee Zinke, Interim Deputy General Manager of External Affairs, reported on the following items:

- August 8 *Southern California Water Workshop: Focus on our Future* was held at L.A. Headquarters at Union Station in conjunction with Representative Grace Napolitano (D-CA). Representative Maxine Waters (D-CA) also was in attendance.
- Continued meetings with state and congressional representatives on the water bond priorities and BDCP.

8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Next meeting will be held on September 10, 2013.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

Linda Ackerman
Chair