

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

WATER PLANNING AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

February 10, 2014

Chair De Jesus called the meeting to order at 10:54 a.m. in Committee Room 2-456 at Metropolitan's Headquarters.

Members present: Chair De Jesus, Vice Chair Touhey, Directors Ackerman, Brown, Dick, Edwards, Gray, Griset, Lewinger, Morris, Peterson, Quinonez, Record, and Steiner.

Member absent: Director Lowenthal.

Other Board Members present: Directors Apodaca, Babcock, Ballin, Barbre, Camacho, Dear, Evans, Grunfeld, Hogan, Kurtz, J. Murray, Pringle, Vasquez, and Wunderlich.

Staff present: Alonzo, Ardalan, Arakawa, H. Beatty, Bennion, Breaux, Clairday, Coffey, K. Cole, Donhoff, Ghaly, Goshi, J. Green, Harding, Hasencamp, Jay, Kightlinger, Man, Matusak, McDonnell, Mokhtari, Muir, Munguia, Nevills, Nobriga, Parsons, Patterson, Phan, Philp, Polyzos, Riss, Roth, R. Ryan, Safely, Schaffer, Schlotterbeck, Scully, Tucker, Upadhyay, Velasco, Webb-Cole, Wolfe, E. Wong, B. Yamasaki, and Zinke.

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

Mr. Charlie Wolk, California Avocado Commission, addressed the committee on agriculture water programs. The commission will be presenting specific concepts and working with Metropolitan's staff and Director Dick's Agriculture and Business Committee on outreach for the future of agriculture and on the need for agriculture water programs at Metropolitan's level.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE WATER PLANNING AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BAY-DELTA HELD JANUARY 13, 2014.

Motion: Carried

Moved: Director Edwards Seconded: Director Morris

Abstentions: None
Absent: Director Lowenthal

The motion passed by a vote of 13 ayes, 1 no, 0 abstain, and 1 absent.

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Oral report on Water Surplus and Drought Management
Presented by: Brandon J. Goshi, Unit Manager, Water Resource Management

This item was heard out of order following item 7-6.

Mr. Goshi's presentation covered Metropolitan's Water Supply and Drought Management Plan (WSDM), Governor Brown's emergency drought declaration and his recent visit to Metropolitan, current and projected Metropolitan water supplies, and how Metropolitan's water supplies and demands are affected.

During Governor Brown's unprecedented visit, staff met and discussed Metropolitan's role in supporting the governor's call by declaring a water supply alert, increasing the conservation budget to help support conservation efforts, and to explore achievable means to help address statewide water supply challenges.

Staff responded to comments relating to meeting water demands based on the current State Water Allocation, and a committee policy discussion on storage water withdrawals compared to storage balances in order to meet current year demands, and the existing Water Supply Allocation Plan.

Chair De Jesus announced that agenda item 8-3 would be heard next.

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

- 8-3** Subject: Adopt Water Supply Alert Resolution
Presented by: Brandon J. Goshi, Unit Manager, Water Resource Management
Motion: Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action is categorically exempt from CEQA and adopt the proposed Water Supply Alert Resolution.

Mr. Mokhtari gave a presentation on the proposed On-site Retrofit Pilot Program that would implement and provide financial incentives for converting the potable water irrigation or industrial system to use recycled water. The three-year program would provide incentives up to \$195 per acre-foot for two years of estimated water use and is open to irrigation, commercial and industrial applications. The pilot program would be administered through Metropolitan's existing regional conservation vendor. Providing financial assistance for customer conversions would expedite and increase use of recycled water resulting in meeting Metropolitan's Integrated Resource Plan goals.

Staff responded to comments surrounding liability for inadvertent cross connection, criteria requirements for new recycled hook-ups, limitations of the proposed \$3 million, criteria for receiving additional Local Resource Program funding for increased production of recycled water, and proposed plan availability to SDCWA.

Director Lewinger and Steiner noted at the end of the meeting that there was some confusion regarding the electronic voting and their intent was to vote No on both items 8-2 and 8-7. Chair DeJesus acknowledged their request and noted the correction.

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- b. Oral report on 2013 Innovative Conservation Program

Presented by: Bill McDonnell, Sr. Resource Specialist, Regional Supply Unit

Mr. McDonnell gave an oral report on Metropolitan's Innovative Conservation Program and the results of the latest request for proposals.

- c. Oral report on Pilot System Conservation Project

Presented by: Jan P. Matusak, Principal Engineer, Imported Supply Unit

Mr. Matusak gave an oral presentation on various concepts on a potential pilot program for the creation of Colorado River System water.

Staff responded to comments surrounding establishment of procedures for differentiating this type of conservation from Metropolitan's existing conservation programs, such as the Intentionally Created Surplus, and geographical diversity.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

a. Subject: Bay Delta Matters

Presented by Roger Patterson

Mr. Patterson gave a brief report on the Delta Stewardship Council and the newly appointed chair and vice chair. He also discussed public meetings and comments on the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) coming to an end soon.

Staff responded to comments regarding status of negotiations on the cost of the BDCP and allocation of the water.

b. Subject: Colorado River Matters

Presented by: Bill Hasencamp, Manager of Colorado River Resources

Mr. Hasencamp provided updates on Metropolitan's Palo Verde Irrigation District (PVID) following call and Colorado River water transfers into Southern California. He announced that Ms. Pat Mulroy, General Manager, Southern Nevada Water Authority, has retired. General Manager Kightlinger will present Ms. Mulroy with a Board Resolution for her years of service this week at an event in her honor.

Staff responded to questions regarding potential effects of additional PVID following.

c. Subject: Water Resource Management Manager's Report

Presented by: Deven N. Upadhyay, Manager, Water Resource Management

Mr. Upadhyay gave an update on the finalized audit report from Richardson and Company related to State Water Project statement of charges to Metropolitan. The audit is complete and filed. He highlighted that Richardson and Company discovered a charge discrepancy over a 10-year period that may result in credits or adjustments. Staff is working with Department of Water Resources to reach a quick conclusion.

Staff responded to comments regarding incurred interests on the overpayments.

9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Next meeting will be held on March 10, 2014.

Meeting adjourned at 12:17 p.m.

David De Jesus
Chair, Water Planning and Stewardship Committee