

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BAY-DELTA

April 22, 2014

Chair Peterson called the meeting to order at 10:35 a.m. in Committee Room 2-456 at Metropolitan's Headquarters.

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

Member absent: Director K. Murray.

Other Board Members present: Directors Atwater, Ballin, Barbre, Blois, Brown, Dear, Dick, Hogan, Kurtz, Lewinger, J. Murray, Vasquez, and Wunderlich.

Staff present: Arakawa, Beatty, Bennion, Breaux, Coffey, Ghaly, J. Green, Hutton, Ivey, Kightlinger, Lambeck, Man, Neudeck, Patterson, Pellegrini, Philp, Riss, R. Ryan, Schlotterbeck, Scully, Shraibati, Skillman, Upadhyay, Westford, Wheeler, R. Winn, E. 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 MEETING OF THE JOINT WATER PLANNING AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE AND THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BAY-DELTA WORKSHOP HELD MARCH 25, 2014

Motion:	Carried		
Moved:	Director Steiner	Seconded:	Director Record
Ayes:	Directors Peterson, Gray, Camacho, De Jesus, Griset, Lefevre, Morris, Record, and Steiner		
Noes:	None		
Abstentions:	None		
Not voting:	Director Ackerman		
Absent:	Director K. Murray		

The motion passed by a vote of 9 ayes, 0 no, 1 not voting, and 1 absent.

3. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Update on Bay Delta Conservation Plan

Presented by: Bay-Delta Initiatives Manager Steve Arakawa

Mr. Arakawa mentioned that the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) public comment period is still open, and he reviewed an updated schedule for upcoming Special Committee on Bay-Delta meetings.

- b. Subject: Update on Drought Management Actions in the Delta

Presented by: Bay-Delta Initiatives Special Projects Manager Randall Neudeck

Mr. Neudeck discussed the State Water Project water allocation that was announced the previous Friday, the salinity reduction caused by three storms in the Delta, and drought relief actions that have been implemented and are under consideration.

- c. Subject: Update on Metropolitan's Bay-Delta science efforts

Presented by: Bay-Delta Initiatives Senior Engineer Paul Hutton

Dr. Hutton provided insight into the Delta watershed's historical natural hydrologic conditions versus current conditions, and how this can affect state and federal regulatory decisions. He discussed changes in the historic landscape of the watershed, the differences between "unimpaired" and "natural" Delta outflow, and results of ongoing scientific analyses.

Staff addressed questions from the committee on natural flow versus unimpaired flow, recent changes in Delta outflow, oxidation in the Delta from farming peat soil, and timing of the outflows.

- d. Subject: Bay-Delta Manager's Report

Presented by: Assistant General Manager Roger Patterson

Mr. Patterson reminded the committee of the June 13, 2014 end date for public comments on the Draft BDCP. He also commented on Delta exports and recent pulse flows in the San Joaquin River.

Staff addressed a question from the committee regarding their impression of the impacts of the recent decision by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit regarding the renewal of Central Valley Project Sacramento Settlement Contracts.

4. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Glen Peterson
Chair