

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**MINUTES**

**WATER PLANNING AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

**May 11, 2015**

Chair De Jesus called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. in Committee Room 2-456 at Metropolitan's Headquarters.

Members present: Chair De Jesus, Vice Chair Atwater, Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Calkins, Camacho (entered at 9:37 a.m.), Dick, Gray (entered at 9:35 a.m.), Lewinger, Martinez, Morris, Peterson (entered at 9:39 a.m.), Quiñonez (entered at 9:40 a.m.), Steiner, and Touhey (entered at 9:55 a.m.).

Member absent: Director Koretz

Other Board members present: Board Chairman Record, Directors Apodaca, Barbre, Beard, Blois, Dake, Dear, Hogan, Kurtz, Lefevre, McKenney, Murray, Ramos, Tu, Vasquez, and Wunderlich.

Staff present: Arakawa, Beatty, Bartlett, Breaux, Burman, G.L. Chan, Clairday, Cole, Donhoff, Ferreira, Ghaly, Goshi, J. Green, Hasencamp, Hirsch, Hughes, Ivey, Kear, Kightlinger, Man, McDonnell, Muir, Munguia, Neudeck, Nevills, Nobriga, Parsons, Patterson, Pham, Philp, Polyzos, Posadas, Ramos, Riss, Rohen, Roth, Safely, Schaffer, Schlotterbeck, Scully, Sims, Skillman, Stites, Upadhyay, Velasco, C. Wang, G. Woo, B. Yamasaki, 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 WATER PLANNING AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING HELD APRIL 13, 2015.**

Motion: Carried  
Moved: Director Steiner Seconded: Director Morris  
Ayes: Chair DeJesus, Vice Chair Atwater, Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Dick, Lewinger, Martinez, Morris, and Steiner.  
Noes: None

Not voting: Director Calkins

Absent: Directors Camacho, Gray, Koretz, Peterson, Quinonez, and Touhey.

The motion passed by a vote of 9 ayes, 0 no, 0 abstain, 1 not voting, and 6 absent.

Director Gray entered the meeting at 9:35 a.m.

Director Camacho entered the meeting at 9:37 a.m.

### **3. Update on Bay-Delta issues by Charlton Bonham, Director of California Department of Fish and Wildlife**

Mr. Bonham provided a detailed progress report on the Delta Plan.

### **4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION**

None

Director Touhey entered the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

### **5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION**

- 8-2**      Subject:            Authorize: (1) \$150 million in additional funding for conservation incentives from the Water Stewardship Fund and the Water Management Fund; and (2) Implementation of modifications to the Turf Removal Program
- Presented by:        Deven N. Upadhyay, Manager, Water Resource Management
- Motion:                Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action is not defined as a project and is not subject to CEQA, and
- a. Authorize an increase in the biennial FY 2014/15 and 2015/16 budget of \$150 million for conservation incentives from the Water Stewardship Fund and the Water Management Fund; and
  - b. Authorize the implementation of Turf Removal Program modifications as described in the letter.

General Manager Kightlinger provided opening remarks to frame the discussion. He gave background information of the actions that led staff to today's recommendation and next steps.

Board Chairman Record also added brief comments relating to the current drought and Metropolitan's role and the state's fiscal responsibility going forward.

Mr. Updadyay gave a presentation on the proposed budget increase for fiscal year 2015/16, and staff's recommendation for modification to Metropolitan's Turf Removal Program.

Following staff's presentation, the committee and several board members had an extensive discussion on the proposed recommendation and alternative options.

Jeff Kightlinger, General Manager, proposed an amended staff recommendation.

Amended Staff Recommendation: Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action is not defined as a project and is not subject to CEQA, and

1. Authorize \$150 million increase to biennial 2014/15 and 2015/16 conservation program budget
2. Authorize the following modifications to the Turf Removal Program:
  - a. Residential and Commercial
    - i. \$2/sf up to 1,500 sf
    - ii. \$1/sf over 1,500 sf up to maximum of one acre in total
    - iii. Lifetime funding limit
  - b. Public Agency
    - i. \$2/sf up to 1,500 sf
    - ii. \$1/sf over 1,500 sf up to maximum of \$250,000 in total
    - iii. Annual funding limit
3. Direct staff to bring recommendations later this year on the following issues relative to turf removal:
  - a. Eligibility of properties using recycled water
  - b. Annual vs. Lifetime maximum funding limits
  - c. Incentive per square foot of turf removal
4. Request IRP Committee to address long-term market transformation issues and water ordinance applicability
5. Direct staff to pursue State funding to strengthen the Turf Removal Program and help local government funding challenges.

Moved: Director Peterson      Seconded: Director Morris

Ayes: Directors Ackerman, Atwater, Calkins, De Jesus, Gray, Morris, and Peterson

Noes: Directors Abdo, Camacho, Lewinger, Martinez, Quinonez, Steiner, and Touhey

Abstentions: Director Dick

Absent: Director Koretz

The motion failed by a vote of 7 ayes, 7 noes, 1 abstain, and 1 absent.

Director Quiñonez made a substitute motion to the staff recommendation that would:

- Substitute Motion:
1. Authorize \$150 million increase to biennial 2014/15 and 2015/16 conservation program budget
  2. Authorize the following modifications to the Turf Removal Program:
    - a. Residential
      - i. \$2/sf up to 3,000 sf
      - ii. \$1/sf over 3,000 sf up to maximum of two acre in total
      - iii. Annual funding limit
    - b. Commercial
      - i. \$2/sf up to 6,000 sf
      - ii. \$1/sf over 6,000 sf up to maximum of two acre in total
      - iii. Annual funding limit
    - c. Public Agency and Institutional
      - i. \$2/sf up to 6,000 sf
      - ii. \$1/sf over 6,000 sf up to maximum of 5.7 acre in total
      - iii. \$250,000 Annual funding limit

Moved: Director Quinonez                      Seconded: Director Camacho  
Ayes: Directors Abdo, Atwater, Camacho, Martinez, Quinonez, and Touhey  
Noes: Directors Ackerman, Calkins, De Jesus, Dick, Gray, Lewinger, Morris, Peterson, and Steiner  
Abstentions: None  
Absent: Director Koretz

The motion failed by a vote of 6 ayes, 9 noes, 0 abstain and 1 absent.

The committee voted on a second substitute motion made by Director Lewinger.

Motion: Delay consideration of this item to a Special Board Meeting on May 26, 2015  
Moved: Director Lewinger                      Seconded: Director Quiñonez  
Ayes: Directors Abdo, Atwater, Calkins, Camacho, De Jesus, Gray, Lewinger, Morris, Quiñonez, Steiner, and Touhey  
Noes: Directors Ackerman, Dick, and Peterson  
Abstentions: None  
Not voting: Director Martinez  
Absent: Director Koretz

The motion passed by a vote of 11 ayes, 3 noes, 1 not voting, and 1 absent.

- 8-3**      Subject:            Authorize payment of up to \$9.975 million from the Water Management Fund to purchase water transfer supplies from Yuba County Water Agency
- Presented by:        None
- Motion:                Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action has been previously addressed in the certified 2007 Final EIR, FOF, SOC, and MMRP, and authorize the General Manager to pay up to \$9.975 million from the Water Management Fund to purchase up to 15,000 acre-feet of groundwater substitution supplies from YCWA.

Moved:                    Director Steiner                                    Seconded: Director Morris

Ayes:                      Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Atwater, Camacho, De Jesus, Dick, Gray, Lewinger, Morris, Peterson, Steiner, and Touhey.

Noes:                        None

Abstentions:             None

Not voting:                Directors Calkins, Martinez, and Quiñonez.

Absent:                     Director Koretz.

The motion passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 0 no, 3 not voting, and 1 absent.

## 6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

Committee Chair announced that staff oral presentations on Committee Items 7a and 7b would be bypassed.

## 7. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a.                    Subject:                Oral report on Water Surplus Drought Management
- Presented by:        None
- b.                    Subject:                Oral report on State Water Resources Control Board's action in support of Governor's Executive Order.

Presented by: None

## **8. MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

a. Subject: Bay Delta Matters

Presented by: Roger N. Patterson, Assistant GM Strategic Water Initiatives

Mr. Patterson briefly reported on the salinity barrier at False River, a recent Yuba tour with various board directors and staff to inspect investments made through the Yuba Accord, and on salmon reintroduction program in the Yuba River.

b. Subject: Colorado River Matters

Presented by: Bill Hasencamp, Manager, Colorado River Resources

Mr. Hasencamp reported on Lake Mead reservoir levels and potential Colorado River shortages.

c. Subject: Water Resource Management Manager's Report

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

Mr. Upadhyay noted that he had nothing to report.

## **7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

Next meeting will be held on June 8, 2015.

Meeting adjourned at 12:22 p.m.

David De Jesus  
Chair