THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

April 10, 2017

Chair Kurtz called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. in Committee Room 2-456 at Metropolitan's Headquarters.

Members present: Chair Kurtz, Vice Chair Gray, Directors Abdo, Ackerman (entered at 1:31 p.m.), Ballin, Camacho, Gold, Lefevre (entered at 1:34 p.m.), Lewinger, Morris, Murray, Peterson, Saxod, and Vasquez.

Members absent: Director Barbre and Galleano.

Other Board Members present: Board Chairman Record, Directors Beard, Dake, Dear, Gedney, Hogan, McKenney, Ramos, Treviño, and Wunderlich.

Staff present: Acuña, Arakawa, Beatty, Breaux, J. Carrillo, G. Chan, Coffey, K. Cole, Donovan, Escuadro-Dailey, Frey, Goshi, Hasencamp, Hightower, Hiltscher (via videoconference), Hirsch, Kightlinger, T. Lee, Man, Y. Martinez, Muir, Patterson, Purkiss, Riss, Rojo, Scully, Shraibati, Sims, Stites, Tubbs, West, Westford, E. Wong, T. Wong, E. Young, 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 MARCH 13, 2017

Motion:	Carried		
Moved:	Director Murray	Seconded:	Director Morris
Ayes:	Chair Kurtz, Vice Chair Gray, Directors Abdo, Ballin, Camacho, Gold, Lewinger, Morris, Murray, Peterson, Saxod, and Vasquez		
Noes:	None		
Abstentions:	None		
Absent:	Directors Ackerman, Barbre, Galleano, and Lefevre		

The motion passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstain and 4 absent.

Director Ackerman entered the meeting at 1:31 p.m.
Director Lefevre entered the meeting at 1:34 p.m.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

8-7	Subject:	Adopt CEQA determination and express support for SB 231 (Hertzberg, D-Van Nuys) – Local Government: Fees and Charges
	Presented by:	Kathy Cole, Executive Legislative Representative, External Affairs
	Motion:	Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA, and authorize the General Manager to express support for SB 231 as described in the board letter dated April 11, 2017.

Moved: Director Morris Seconded: Director Ballin

Ayes: Chair Kurtz, Vice Chair Gray, Directors Abdo, Ballin, Camacho, Gold, Lefevre, Morris, Murray, Peterson, and Vasquez

Noes: None

Abstentions: Ackerman, Lewinger, and Saxod

Absent: Director Barbre and Galleano

The motion passed by a vote of 11 ayes, 0 no, 3 abstain, and 2 absent.

Director Vasquez left the meeting at 2:09 p.m.

8-8	Subject:	Adopt CEQA determination and express support for AB 1654 (Rubio, D-Baldwin Park) – Shortage: Urban Water Management Planning
	Presented by:	Brandon Goshi, Unit Manager V, Water Resource Management
	Substitute Motion:	Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action is not subject to CEQA, and authorize the General Manager to support and seek amendments to consider provisions from the Governor's package and request that any bill to implement a framework for

long-term efficient water use advance through legislative policy and fiscal committees rather than by budget trailer bill.

Moved:	Director Murray	Seconded:	Director Camacho
Ayes:	Chair Kurtz, Vice Chair Gray, Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Ballin, Camacho, Gold, Lefevre, Lewinger, Morris, Murray, Peterson, and Saxod		
Noes:	None		
Abstentions:	None		
Absent:	Director Barbre, Galleano, and Vasquez		

The motion passed by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 no, 0 abstain, and 3 absent.

In the voting system, the incorrect item description "Item 8-7 Substitute Motion #1" was selected rather than "Item 8-8 Substitute Motion #1." The committee members understood that the vote was for Item 8-8 Substitute Motion #1.

8-9 Subject: Adopt CEQA determination and express opposition to AB 472 (Frazier, D-Oakley) – Water Transfers: Idled Agricultural Land: Wildlife, Waterfowl, and Bird Nesting Habitat.

Presented by: Steve Hirsch, Program Manager III, Water Resource Management

Motion: Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA, and authorize the General Manager to express opposition to AB 472.

Moved:	Director Morris	Seconded:	Director Ballin
Ayes:	Chair Kurtz, Vice Chair Gray, Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Ballin, Camacho, Lefevre, Lewinger, Morris, Murray, Peterson, and Saxod		
Noes:	None		
Abstentions:	Gold		
Absent:	Director Barbre, Galleano, and Vasquez		

The motion passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 0 no, 1 abstain, and 3 absent.

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Subject: Report on activities from Washington, D.C.

Presented by: Brad Hiltscher, Executive Legislative Representative

Chair Kurtz and Vice Chair Gray reported that the Washington, D.C. trip to meet with legislators was very successful. Board Chairman Record also stated that the DC trip was productive. Items mentioned during the update to the committee included:

- CA WaterFix
- Oroville
- Funding for water projects
- Meeting with Department of Interior Secretary Zinke

Mr. Hiltscher reported on federal matters which included:

- DC leadership briefings
- NWRA, AWWA, and WUWC conferences
- Infrastructure finance
- Guidance documents issued by the Office of Management and Budget regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13771, titled "Reducing Regulation and Controlling Regulatory Costs"
- U.S. Interior assignments
- Legislative calendar

b Subject: Report on activities from Sacramento

Presented by: Kathy Cole, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Cole reported on state matters which included:

- Legislative calendar
- Passage of transportation funding package
- Gubernatorial appointments
- Long-term water conservation framework and related legislation
- Dam safety program enhancements
- MWD Board trip to Sacramento

Chairman Record mentioned that the Board trip was a great success and thanked staff for organizing the trip.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORT

a. Subject: External Affairs Management Report

Presented by: Sue Sims, Group Manager, External Affairs

Ms. Sims reported on the following items:

- H2❤ conservation outreach campaign
- Focus groups will be held in San Diego, Inland Empire, Orange County, and Los Angeles to learn about attitudes and messaging on conservation
- Outreach materials are being updated, including additional videos and facts sheets in Spanish
- Solar Cup events at Lake Skinner, May 19-21
- Virtual reality tour of the Colorado River Aqueduct is posted on YouTube

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Next meeting will be held on May 8, 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

Cynthia Kurtz
Chair