THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

August 14, 2017

Vice Chair Gray called the meeting to order at 12:32 p.m. in Committee Room 2-456 at Metropolitan's Headquarters.

Members present: Vice Chair Gray, Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Ballin, Barbre, Lefevre, Morris, Murray (entered at 12:35 p.m.), Peterson, Saxod, and Vasquez-Wilson.

Member absent: Chair Kurtz, Director Camacho, Galleano, Gold, and Lewinger.

Other Board Members present: Board Chairman Record, Directors Atwater, Beard, Blois, Dake, Dear, De Jesus, Dick, Faessel, Gedney, Hogan, McKenney, Paskett, Steiner, and Wunderlich.

Staff present: A. Acuña, I. Aldrete, Beatty, J. Carrillo, Cole, Donhoff, Donovan, Escuadro-Dailey, B. Garcia, Ghaly, J. Green, Hasencamp, Hightower, Hiltscher (via videoconference), Horton, E. Jackson, Kightlinger, Kuo Brinton, T. Lee, Y. Martinez, Patterson, Philp, Pitman, N. Purkiss, Riss, Rojo, Schaffer, Scully, Sims, Stites, Upadhyay, 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 10, 2017

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

The motion passed by a vote of 10 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstain and 6 absent.

Director Murray entered the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

None

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

8-8 Subject: Adopt CEQA determination and adopt the Legislative Policy Principles on Stormwater Capture

Presented by: Nathan Purkiss, Legislative Services Section Manager

Motion: Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action is not defined as a project and is not subject to CEQA, and adopt the Legislative Policy Principles on Stormwater Capture.

Moved: Director Morris Seconded: Director Ballin

Ayes: Vice Chair Gray, Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Ballin, Barbre, Lefevre, Morris, Murray, Peterson, Saxod, and Vasquez-Wilson

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Director Chair Kurtz, Camacho, Galleano, Gold, and Lewinger

The motion passed by a vote of 11 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstain, and 5 absent.

8-9 Subject: Adopt CEQA determination and express opposition unless amended to HR 23 (Valadao, R-CA): Gaining Responsibility on Water Act of 2017.

Presented by: Nathan Purkiss, Legislative Services Section Manager

Substitute Motion: The Committee voted on an amended, substitute motion to watch HR 23, to negotiate potential amendments to the bill with the author and other stakeholders, and to defer the Committee's decision on the bill.

Moved: Director Murray Seconded: Director Barbre

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

The motion passed by a vote of 9 ayes, 2 noes, 0 abstain, and 5 absent.

8-10 **Withdrawn**	Subject:	Adopt CEQA determination and express opposition, unless amended, to SB 623 (Monning, D-Carmel): Water Quality: Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund.

8-11	Subject:	Adopt CEQA determination and express opposition, unless amended, to SB 49 (De León, D-Los Angeles; Stern, D-Calabasas): California Environmental, Public Health, and Workers Defense Act of 2017.
	Presented by:	Robert Horton, Chief Deputy General Counsel
	Substitute Motion:	The Committee voted on a substitute motion to watch SB 49, to negotiate potential amendments to the bill with the author and other stakeholders, and to defer the Committee's decision on the bill.

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

The motion passed by a vote of 7 ayes, 3 noes, 0 abstain, and 6 absent.

Director Vasquez-Wilson left at 1:11 p.m.

5. **BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

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

Presented by: Brad Hiltscher, Executive Legislative Representative

Mr. Hiltscher reported on the following items:

- Federal legislative calendar items
- Update on status of confirming Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner

b. Subject: Report on activities from Sacramento

Presented by: Kathy Cole, Executive Legislative Representative

Ms. Cole reported on state matters which included:

- Legislative calendar
- State legislation including SB 623 (Monning, D-Carmel); long-term water conservation and drought contingency planning legislation including AB 1323 (Weber, D-San Diego); AB 1654 (Rubio, D-Baldwin Park); AB 1667 and 1668 (Friedman, D-Glendale); SB 606 (Skinner, D-Berkeley and Hertzberg, D-Los Angeles); AB 1000 (Friedman, D-Glendale); and SB 5 (DeLeon, D-Los Angeles).

7. MANAGEMENT REPORT

a. Subject: External Affairs Management Report

Presented by: Sue Sims, Group Manager, External Affairs

Ms. Sims reported on the following items:

- Media campaign and water conservation outreach
- Ferris wheel events at Santa Monica Pier
- Paid media for advertising campaign
- Digital media campaign elements
- Print ads in Asian language in newspapers
- Invitation to Audubon Center at Ernest Debs Park dedicating Metropolitan's new native garden and education center

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Next meeting will be held on September 11, 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 1:44 p.m.

Gloria Gray
Vice Chair