

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**MINUTES**

**AUDIT AND ETHICS COMMITTEE**

**September 24, 2019**

Chair Ramos called the meeting to order at 10:52 a.m. in Committee Room 2-145 at Metropolitan Headquarters.

Members present: Chair Ramos, Directors Ackerman, Ballin, Hogan, Kurtz, and Smith.

Members absent: Vice Chair Paskett, Directors Barbre, Butkiewicz, McKenney and Quiñonez.

Other Board Members present: Directors Atwater, Blois, Dick, Faessel, Goldberg, Lefevre, Peterson, Pressman, Record, Trevino and Williams.

Staff present: Beatty, Riss, Rodriguez, Salinas, Scully, Tonsick and Von Haam

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

None

**2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE AUDIT AND ETHICS COMMITTEE HELD ON JULY 23, 2019**

Motion: Carried

Moved: Director Ballin                      Seconded: Director Kurtz

Ayes: Directors Ackerman, Ballin, Hogan, Kurtz, Ramos and Smith

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Not Voting: None

Absent: Directors Butkiewicz, Barbre, McKenney, Paskett, and Quiñonez

The motion passed by a vote of 6 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstain, 0 not voting, and 5 absent

### **3. MANAGEMENT REPORTS**

- a. Subject: Ethics Officer's report

Presented by: Ethics Officer Abel Salinas

Mr. Salinas provided an activities update from the month of July, which includes advice, education, compliance, policy, investigations and outreach. Mr. Salinas reported approximately 25 outreach efforts have been made, including appearing in the General Manager's State of Metropolitan address. He also presented as the keynote speaker at the Hispanic Employees Association. He then reported that the Ethics staff visited both Eagle Rock and Jensen facilities for site tours.

- b. Subject: General Auditor's report

Presented by: General Auditor Gerald Riss

Mr. Riss reported on monthly activities and noted that the audit department has begun to respond to the comments and recommendations as presented in the Audit Quality Assurance Self-Assessment. He stated that one staff training session was completed with additional meetings scheduled over the next few months. Mr. Riss also mentioned they are in the process of drafting revisions to the Administrative Code and plan on presenting them to the committee by the end of the calendar year.

The following Directors asked questions or provided comments:

- Trevino
- Ramos
- Dick

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

None

### **5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION**

None

### **6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

None

## 7. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Ethics Officer's Update on proposed ethics-related amendments to the Administrative Code

Presented by: Ethics Officer Abel Salinas

Mr. Salinas provided an update on the Administrative Code amendment process.

- b. Subject: Ethics Officer's Business Plan for Fiscal Year 2019/20

Presented by: Ethics Officer Abel Salinas

Mr. Salinas presented the Business Plan for Fiscal Year 2019/20.

- c. Subject: Discussion of Department Head Performance and Goal Setting  
**[Public employees' performance evaluations – General Auditor; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54957]**

- d. Subject: Discussion of Department Head Performance and Goal Setting  
**[Public employees' performance evaluations – Ethics Officer; to be heard in closed session pursuant to Gov. Code Section 54957]**

The following Directors asked questions or provided comments:

1. Hogan
2. Smith
3. Ballin

## 8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

## 9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Next meeting will be held on October 7, 2019

Marsha Ramos  
Chair