

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT OF ORANGE COUNTY
July 17, 2024**

At 8:30 a.m., Vice President Thomas called to order the Regular Meeting of the Municipal Water District of Orange County, in the Board Room at the District facilities located in Fountain Valley, as well as via the Zoom Webinar application. Following a moment of silence, Director Nederhood led the Pledge of Allegiance and Secretary Goldsby called the roll.

MWDOC DIRECTORS

Al Nederhood
Larry Dick (absent)
Bob McVicker
Karl Seckel
Randall Crane
Jeffery M. Thomas
Megan Yoo Schneider

STAFF

Harvey De La Torre, General Manager
Joe Byrne, Legal Counsel
Maribeth Goldsby, District Secretary
Melissa Baum-Haley, Assistant General Manager
Heather Baez, Director of Governmental Affairs
Alex Heide, Sr. Water Resources Analyst
Cathy Harris, Director of HR/Administration
Charles Busslinger, Dir. of Engineering/Dist. Eng.
Kevin Hostert, Sr. Water Resources Analyst
Sarina Sriboonlue, Principal Engineer
Rachel Davis, Water Loss Control Prog. Supervisor
Rachel Waite, WUE Programs Supervisor

ALSO PRESENT

Anya Kwan
Linda Ackerman (absent)
Dennis Erdman
David De Jesus
Doug Davert
Kathryn Freshley
Mike Gaskins
Kay Havens
Mark Monin
Dennis Cafferty
Sherri Seitz
Vu Chu
Peer Swan
Paul Weghorst
Keith Van Der Maaten
Jim Atkinson
Jim Fisler
Sherry Wanninger
John Kennedy
Brad Reese
Jennifer Lopez
Glen Acosta
Michael Perea
Lisa Ohlund
Charles Luas

Best, Best & Krieger
MWDOC/MET Director
MWDOC/MET Director
MET Director
East Orange County Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
El Toro Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Laguna Beach County Water District
Mesa Water
Mesa Water
Moulton Niguel Water District
Orange County Water District
Serrano Water District
South Coast Water District
Trabuco Canyon Water District
Trabuco Canyon Water District
Ohlund Management & Technical Services
Orchard Dale Water District

REMOTE/TELECONFERENCE SITES

Director Yoo Schneider participated via teleconference location (all agenda requirements pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act requirements were complied with).

Legal Counsel Byrne advised that a request was made by President McVicker to participate remotely pursuant to the AB 2449 Emergency Circumstances provision and, as a result, the Board would need to approve his participation.

Upon MOTION by Director Seckel, seconded by Director Nederhood, and carried (4-0), the Board approved Director McVicker participating remotely pursuant to the AB 2449 emergency circumstances exemption, by the following roll call vote:

- AYES: Directors Nederhood, Seckel, Crane & Thomas
- NOES: None
- ABSENT: Directors Dick and Yoo Schneider
- ABSTAIN: Director McVicker

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION/PUBLIC COMMENT

Vice President Thomas announced that members of the public wishing to comment on agenda items could do so after the item has been discussed by the Board and requested members of the public identify themselves when called on. Vice President Thomas asked whether any member of the public had any comments on items that were not on the agenda.

No public comments were received.

ITEMS RECEIVED TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED

No items were received.

ITEMS DISTRIBUTED TO THE BOARD LESS THAN 72 HOURS PRIOR TO MEETING

Vice President Thomas inquired as to whether there were any items distributed to the Board less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

No items were distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

EMPLOYEE SERVICE AWARD

Vice President Thomas, along with General Manager De La Torre, presented an award to Director of Governmental Affairs Heather Baez for ten-years of service with the District.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEE

General Manager De La Torre introduced new employee Jasmine Orozco (Public Affairs Coordinator) to the Board.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Vice President Thomas stated all matters under the Consent Calendar would be approved by one MOTION unless a Director wished to consider an item separately.

Upon MOTION by Director Crane, seconded by Director Nederhood, and carried (5-0) the Board approved the following Consent Calendar items, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Directors Nederhood, McVicker, Seckel, Crane, and Thomas
NOES :	None
ABSENT:	Directors Dick and Yoo Schneider
ABSTAIN:	None

MINUTES

The following minutes were approved.

June 5, 2024 Workshop Board Meeting
 June 19, 2024 Regular Board Meeting

COMMITTEE MEETING REPORTS

The following Committee Meeting reports were received and filed as presented.

Planning & Operations Committee Meeting:	June 3, 2024
Administration & Finance Committee Meeting:	June 12, 2024
Executive Committee Meeting:	June 20, 2024

TREASURER'S REPORTS

The following items were ratified and approved as presented.

MWDOC Revenue/Cash Receipt Register as of June 30, 2024
 Disbursement Registers (June/July)

The following items were received and filed as presented.

- Summary of Cash and Investment and Portfolio Master Summary Report (Cash and Investment Report) as of May 31, 2024
- PARS Monthly Statement (OPEB Trust)

FINANCIAL REPORT

The following items were received and filed as presented.

- Combined Financial Statements and Budget Comparative for the Period Ending May 31, 2024

CALIFORNIA SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION (CSDA) 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS ELECTION – SOUTHERN NETWORK, SEAT A

The Board authorized staff to cast the District’s electronic ballot (after conferring with President McVicker on the District’s vote selection) for the CSDA Board of Directors, Southern Network, Seat A.

WATER QUALITY & OPERATIONAL PLANNING WORKSHOPS

The Board authorized the General Manager to reallocate up to \$22,000 of approved Professional/Special Services funds (Exhibit J) for Cost Center 21 in FY 2024-25 Budget to Water Quality & Operational Planning Workshops.

- END CONSENT CALENDAR -

DISCUSSION ITEM

MEMBER AGENCY SPOTLIGHT – EL TORO WATER DISTRICT (ETWD)

Following an introduction by General Manager De La Torre, Dennis Cafferty (ETWD General Manager) presented information regarding ETWD’s background, governance and services (potable water, wastewater collection and treatment, and recycled water). He also outlined ETWD’s water supply sources, challenges facing ETWD, and the programs ETWD uses in partnership with MWDOC (Leak Detection, WEROC, as well as other WUE rebate programs, etc.).

Following a brief discussion and question/answer period, the Board thanked Mr. Cafferty and received and filed the report.

INFORMATION CALENDAR

GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT, JULY 2024

General Manager De La Torre advised that the full General Manager’s report was included in the Board packet.

Mr. De La Torre reported that as a result of an electrical incident, the OC-88 service connection was currently down for repair. He advised that MET was holding a critical meeting later in the day to discuss damages, repair duration, and next steps; he will continue to inform the Board as to the status once more is learned.

The Board received and filed the report as presented.

MWDOC GENERAL INFORMATION ITEMS

a. BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board members each reported on their attendance at the regular (and special) MWDOC Board and Committee meetings. In addition to these meetings, the following reports were made on conferences and meetings attended on behalf of the District.

Director Nederhood advised that he attended the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), the MET Committee meetings, the WACO and WACO planning meetings, and the OC Water Summit planning meeting(s).

Director Crane reported that he attended all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), OC Water Summit planning meeting(s), member agency meetings (SMWD, IRWD, and ETWD), the ISDOC meeting, and the WACO and WACO planning meetings.

Director Seckel advised that he attended the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), the regularly scheduled MET Board and Committee meetings, the WACO and WACO planning meetings, MET's CAMP4W Task Force meeting, MET's Pure Water subcommittee meeting, and the MET Caucus; he then noted he would be speaking to a Leisure World group later in the day. He also reported on MET activities.

Director Yoo Schneider advised that she attended the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), a meeting with MWDOC staff, the WACO meeting, and several member agency Board meetings.

Director McVicker reported that he attended most of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations and Administration & Finance Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop meeting and Regular Board meetings), MET's Pure Water subcommittee meeting, the ISDOC Executive Committee meeting, the regular MET Board and Committee meetings, and the WACO planning meeting.

Director Thomas stated that he attended all of the regularly scheduled MWDOC meetings (Planning & Operations, Administration & Finance, and Executive Committee meetings, as well as the Workshop and Regular Board meetings), the OC Water Summit planning meeting(s), the WACO meeting, the IT KnowB4 Training, and a meeting with EOCWD Director Doug Davert.

a. REQUESTS FOR FUTURE AGENDA TOPICS

Following discussion regarding MET's cyber security efforts, the Board asked for an update on MWDOC's cyber security efforts at a future meeting. Director Crane advised that the OC Water Summit would include a panel on cyber security.

Director Seckel also asked for an update on WEROC's AWIA program at a future meeting.

CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

Although closed session items regarding the General Manager's performance evaluation were agendized, Vice President Thomas asked that the Board defer this item to allow full attendance

by the Board; the Board generally concurred deferring the closed session items regarding the General Manager's Performance Evaluation until August.

At 9:28 a.m., Legal Counsel Byrne reported that the Board would adjourn to closed session to discuss the following matter:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (2 CASES)

Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9

Name of Cases: Aqueous Film-Forming Foams Product Liability Litigation, Master Docket No. 2:18-mn-2873-RMG; City of Camden, et al. v. BASF Corporation, Civil Action No.: 2:24-cv-03174-RMG; City of Camden et. al. v. Tyco Fire Products LP, Civil Action No.: 2-24-cv-02321-RMG

RECONVENE

The Board reconvened at 9:41 a.m., and Legal Counsel announced that the Board unanimously voted to opt out of the two cases listed above.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, Vice President Thomas adjourned the meeting at 9:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maribeth Goldsby, Secretary