



**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
WATER PLANNING COMMITTEE**

September 12, 2013

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Douglas called the Special Water Planning Committee Meeting to order at 1:52 p.m. Committee members present were Chair Douglas, Vice Chair Tu, Directors Kern, Linden, Madaffer, Murtland, Sanford, Saunders and Simpson. Vice Chair Watton and Directors Brady, Miller, Steiner and Weston were absent. Also present were Directors Arant, Evans, Lewinger, Morrison, Muir, Olson, Pocklington, Topolovac, Verbeke, Watkins, Williams and Wilson. At that time, there was a quorum of the committee.

Staff present was General Manager Stapleton, General Counsel Hentschke, Deputy General Managers Belock and Kerl, Assistant General Manager Cushman, Director of Water Resources Weinberg, Senior Water Resources Specialist Gage, and Dr. Cheryl Laskowski with AECOM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no requests for public comment.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Douglas thanked all for their attendance. She remarked that the meeting would focus closely on the Climate Action Plan, as the Board's policy document on Greenhouse Gas Emissions and compliance with state law, and the Supplemental Program Environmental Impact Report for the 2013 Master Plan Update. She stressed the workshop format was designed to encourage discussion.

Vice Chair Watton and Board Chair Wornham arrived at 1:58 p.m. and Director Hilliker arrived at 2:08 p.m. respectively.

I. CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no Consent Calendar items.

II. ACTION/DISCUSSION

1. Workshop on Draft Climate Action Plan and Draft Program Environmental Impact Report for the 2013 Master Plan.

Mr. Weinberg recapped work accomplished to prepare the draft Climate Action Plan, explained why the plan would be necessary and beneficial, and clarified how it would link to the 2013 Master Plan Update and the Board's Energy Management Policy.

Ms. Gage discussed regulatory purposes of the Climate Action Plan, including the state of California requirement to reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions (GHGs) to 1990 levels by 2020, and recent CEQA guideline revisions which would allow the use of a Climate Action Plan to fulfill required GHG emissions analyses at a comprehensive level so that future project-specific CEQA documents may tier from it. She reported how the Water Authority contributes directly and indirectly to GHGs. She then explained the Climate Action Plan would link to the 2013 Master Plan Update by documenting the Water Authority's baseline emissions from 2009 then adding emissions from the Master Plan projects to determine future projected emissions; identify future reduction targets based on state-identified GHG emissions reductions; list reduction measures the Water Authority would have already implemented; and recommend potential reduction measures, all of which would enable the Water Authority to achieve the state-identified GHG reduction goals.

Ms. Gage remarked on the Energy Audit Summary Report presented at the Engineering & Operations Committee meeting on May 23, 2013 and created in partnership with Operations and Maintenance and SDG&E to assess energy consumption, rates, and processes. She added that the report identified 31 low-cost and no-cost energy conservation opportunities, six of which had since been implemented, with the remaining 25 to be evaluated in the Climate Action Plan as additional GHG emissions reduction strategies.

Dr. Laskowski and staff responded to questions and comments posed by Directors Tu and Watkins. Director Olson requested a copy of the Energy Audit Summary Report.

Dr. Laskowski provided information on climate action planning in accordance with AB32 and Executive Order S305 with the use of a regularly updated state scoping plan that included measures and regulations designed to help achieve reduction goals by specified horizon years. She added that the Water Authority's Climate Action Plan horizon year would align with that of the Master Plan Update of 2035, with additional evaluation to occur in 2020.

Dr. Laskowski presented information on each of the elements of the Water Authority's Climate Action Plan including establishing baseline data by conducting an inventory that would calculate current emissions; determining future estimated emissions for 2020 and 2035; establishing reduction targets for those years; identifying and quantifying strategies that would achieve the targets; and setting a process for review and update, such as annual reporting. She added that based upon strategies already in place the 2020 target would be achieved, and she concluded with upcoming steps for release of a draft Climate Action Plan for public review.

Mr. Weinberg reiterated that the 2020 emissions reductions goal would be met largely due to credits the Water Authority receives for the Lake Hodges Pumped Storage in addition to other ongoing strategies already in place.

Dr. Laskowski and staff responded to questions and comments posed by Directors Arant, Kern, and Watton. Dr. Laskowski reported that while development of a climate action plan was not required, incentives for the Water Authority to do so would credit for existing projects that would be used to meet overall GHG emissions reduction goals and CEQA coverage for all Master Plan Update projects, which would otherwise require GHG analysis and demonstrated AB32 compliance on an individual project basis.

Ms. Gage provided a review of outcomes from the 2003 Program Environmental Impact Report process and the projects recommended for the 2013 Supplemental Program EIR; a summary of the Supplemental Program EIR Notice of Preparation process and the comments received during the related public comment period; and the remaining 2013 Master Plan Schedule which would anticipate public release of the Draft Program EIR, Master Plan, and Climate Action Plan in November 2013, followed by the related public hearing in January 2014 and Board adoption of the documents in the February to March 2014 timeframe.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Douglas thanked staff for the information presented and Committee and Board members for their attendance and participation at the workshop. Chair Douglas adjourned the meeting at 2:46 p.m.

Farrah Douglas, Chair