

**MWD Board Meeting Highlights
November 4-5, 2019**

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) held its monthly Board and committee meetings on November 4-5, 2019. At these meetings, the MWD Board:

- Heard an update on MWD’s Climate Action Plan (CAP). MWD is developing a robust CAP with the goal of taking inventory of MWD’s greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), and implementing both a monitoring plan and efforts that reduce GHG. In terms of next steps, the MWD board will discuss potential GHG reduction measures and associated costs, select a GHG reduction target, and ultimately consider approving the CAP.
- Heard an update on microplastics, an emerging water quality issue. There are numerous sources of microplastics, however in certain areas, car tires are the number one source of microplastics. Challenges with the analytical methods, and pervasive testing errors continue to be an issue. Currently, there is tremendous focus on microplastics in the legislative arena, however, the World Health Organization finds “low or no concern of human health hazards at this time.”
- Heard an update on the water system operations. The State Water Project allocation continues at 75 percent, and the Colorado River Aqueduct is still at a 1 pump flow. While there are currently 11 fires burning in MWD’s service area, there are no significant impacts to MWD.
- Heard two presentations regarding allocation of demand management costs. This was part of a series of presentations related to allocation of demand management costs. This was initiated by a board action in 2018 to study demand management cost allocation with the goal of using this information to inform the pending rate setting process. Currently, the water stewardship rate, which is 100 percent volumetric, recovers demand management costs. Rick Giardina of Raftelis presented cost recovery options. The next step is for the Board to approve the most appropriate method to recover demand management costs. This will inform the proposed water rates and charges for 2021 and 2022.
- Heard an update on the Casa Loma Siphon Barrel No. 1, Seismic Upgrade that is occurring in EMWD’s service area. Earthquake resistant ductile iron pipe is being installed where the siphon crosses the Casa Loma earthquake fault line. An earthquake up to 7.5 is anticipated on this fault, with displacement of up to 13 feet. Project completion is anticipated for February 2021.
- Heard a presentation from Paul Souza, Pacific Southwest Regional Director of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding efforts to leverage synergies between the state and federal efforts to manage the ecosystem, and the water resources in the Bay Delta.

Actions:

- Authorized design activities to reline a portion of the Lake Perris Bypass Pipeline. The Lake Perris Bypass Pipeline is a 2.44-mile-long, 120-inch diameter prestressed concrete cylinder pipeline constructed in 1981 that extends from the Department of Water Resource's (DWR) Santa Ana Valley Pipeline to MWD's Lake Perris Pressure Control Facility. The Lake Perris Bypass Pipeline is part of a conveyance system that can deliver water to Diamond Valley Lake or, under drought conditions, reverse flow and deliver pumped water from Lake Perris into the Mills Plant. MWD is required to relocate or protect any portion of the Lake Perris Bypass that would be impacted as a result of DWR's planned improvements.
- Awarded \$476,000 for an equipment procurement contract to Royal Industrial Solutions for upgrade of the ozone control system at the Robert A. Skinner Water Treatment Plant, and authorized an agreement with Suez Treatment Solutions, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$320,000 for specialized technical support during the upgrade. Ozone is used as the primary disinfectant at MWD's five water treatment plants. The existing control system equipment for the ozone system at the Skinner plant is outdated and is no longer supported by the manufacturer.
- Authorized refurbishment of the sleeve valves at the Hiram W. Wadsworth Pumping Plant. Recent inspections have identified numerous deteriorated sleeve valves at the Wadsworth Pumping Plant. The sleeve valves originally installed in 1999 control the flow of water from Diamond Valley Lake to the San Diego Canal. This action authorizes design, fabrication, and installation of interior valve components to refurbish seven 66-inch by 42-inch sleeve valves at the Wadsworth Pumping Plant.
- Authorized entering into a ten-year license with T-Mobile West, LLC, for an existing telecommunications services site on MWD's fee-owned property in the city of Anaheim.
- Authorized the General Manager to acquire a temporary easement over a portion of the property at 475 S. State College Blvd in Brea (Assessor's Parcel No. 284-181-50) for the Orange County Right-of-Way Infrastructure Protection Program.
- Adopted a resolution to support MWD's \$750,000 WaterSMART: Water Reclamation and Reuse Research grant application and authorized the General Manager to accept funding and enter into contract if awarded.
- Approved closing the Water Desalination Trust Fund and transferring the balance to unrestricted reserves. MWD staff recommended the transfer of \$21.6 million plus accrued interest from the Desalination Trust Fund to unrestricted reserves. These

funds are no longer necessary for the initial purpose of securing property for a desalinization plant.

- Authorized the General Manager to advance co-sponsorship of legislation that would create a state-wide program to identify, evaluate and systematically develop appropriate regulatory actions for new constituents of emerging concern (CEC). Currently, the state does not have a dedicated program to assess CEC nor a consistent regulatory process. This has led to public uncertainty and on occasion regulations being set through legislation without a comprehensive risk-based scientific processes. The program proposed under the MWD legislation would be developed in collaboration with the State Water Resources Control Board, the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, the water industry, and non-governmental organizations; and would be designed to systematically identify and evaluate CEC in drinking water sources, including recycled water and treated drinking water, and examine their potential effects on public health. This would help streamline and inform existing regulatory processes, improve timeliness of findings, and fill data gaps to ensure consistent and science-based approaches are used for assessing the public health risks from CEC in source waters and prioritizing contaminants for regulation. The proposed bill will be co-sponsored with the California Municipal Utilities Association.
- Authorized \$7.5 million for a Stormwater for Recharge Pilot Program for developing and monitoring of stormwater for recharge projects. In an effort to gain a better understanding of the relationship between stormwater capture and yield, MWD authorized a Recharge Pilot to encourage the development and monitoring of new and existing stormwater projects. The Recharge Pilot will provide funding for both new construction and installation of monitoring equipment. Since 1982, MWD has provided incentives to its member agencies to develop local projects through the Local Resources Program (LRP). Local stormwater capture projects currently are not funded through the LRP in part due to the need to have a better understanding of the connection between captured stormwater and yield.
- Reviewed and approved the City of Oceanside's approved Final Mitigated Negative Declaration and Addendum and Olivenhain Municipal Water District's certified Final Program Environmental Impact Report; and, authorized the General Manager to enter into a Local Resources Program Agreement with the City of Oceanside and San Diego County Water Authority for the Oceanside Pure Water and Recycled Water Expansion Phase I Project. The Project will provide up to 6,000 acre-feet per year of recycled water for groundwater recharge, agriculture, and landscape irrigation. MWD's maximum financial obligation will be up to \$42.7 million over 15 years for a project yield of 150,000 acre-feet over 25 years.

Attachment(s):

Exhibit A - Hydrology Report