

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WITH COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE
ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
February 2, 2023, 8:00 a.m.

Due to the continuing state of emergency declared by the Governor and pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e), Chair Bilodeau called the Communications and Legislative Liaison Committee meeting to order via Zoom webinar. Members of the Board and the public participated via Zoom. The Secretary called the roll and reported a quorum as follows:

Committee Members

Denis Bilodeau
Van Tran
Roger Yoh
Bruce Whitaker
Steve Sheldon (absent)

OCWD Staff

Mike Markus – General Manager
Gina Ayala – Director of Public Affairs
Alicia Dunkin – Legislative Affairs Liaison
Christina Fuller – Asst. District Secretary

Alternates

Valerie Amezcua (absent)
Natalie Meeks (absent)
Dina Nguyen
Kelly Rowe
Cathy Green (absent)

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar was approved upon motion by Director Whitaker, seconded by Director Tran and carried [5-0] as follows:

Ayes –Bilodeau, Tran, Yoh, Whitaker, Nguyen

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the January 5, 2023 Communications/Legislative Liaison Committee meetings are approved as presented.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

2. State Legislative Update

OCWD Consultants provided a summary of state bills and recommended actions for each bill.

Upon motion by Director Bilodeau, seconded by Director Whitaker and carried [5-0], the Committee recommended that the Board at its February 15 Board meeting: Take the following positions:

| Bill Number/Author | Short Title | Recommendation |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------|
| SB 23 (Caballero, D-Merced) | Water supply and flood risk reduction projects: expedited permitting | Support |
| SB 30 (Ward, R-39) | Atmospheric Rivers: Research, Mitigation, and Climate Forecasting Program | Support |

Ayes –*Bilodeau, Tran, Yoh, Whitaker, Nguyen*

3. Federal Legislative Update

Federal Consultants reported on PFAS funding, Budget issues and earmarks.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4. GWRS Final Completion Dedication Ceremony Update

Public Affairs Director Gina Ayala stated that the GWRS Final Completion Dedication Ceremony will be held Friday, April 14, 2023. She provide an update on event logistics and details. She advised that formal invitations will be sent in late February.

5. Children’s Water Education Festival Update

Principal Communications Specialist Crystal Nettles stated that the 26th annual Children's Water Education Festival will take place on March 29-30 at UC Irvine and noted that over 5,500 students are currently registered for the event.

6. Public Affairs Outreach Report (January)

Ms. Ayala provided an update on January highlights reporting that 68 people attended tours. She Advised that the next OCWD webinar will highlight the OCWD/OC San partnership.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 a.m.

DocuSigned by:
Denis Bilodeau
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DENIS BILODEAU, Chair