

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WITH COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE
ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
February 5, 2016 @ 8:00 a.m.

Director Anthony called the Communications and Legislative Liaison Committee meeting to order in Conference Room C-2 at the District office. The Recording Secretary called the roll as follows:

Committee Members

Philip Anthony
Jordan Brandman
Dina Nguyen
Roman Reyna (arrived 8:24 a.m.)
Steve Sheldon (arrived 8:06 a.m.)

Alternates

Roger Yoh (arrived 8:15 a.m.)
Shawn Dewane (not present)
Jan Flory (not present)
Denis Bilodeau (arrived 8:10 a.m.)
Cathy Green

OCWD Staff

Mike Markus - General Manager
Eleanor Torres - Director of Public Affairs
Judy-Rae Karlsen - Assistant District Secretary
Gina Ayala, Alicia Dunkin, Becky Mudd,
Diane Pinnick

Teleconference

Eric Sapirstein - ENS Resources

Others

Debbie Cook
John Earl - Surf City Voice
Casey Elliott - Townsend Public Affairs
Jim McConnell - McConnell & Associates
James Petersen - Townsend Public Affairs
Stacy Taylor - Mesa Water District
John Grubben – Integrated Media System

ITEM TOO LATE TO BE AGENDIZED

Legislative Affairs Liaison Alicia Dunkin reported that Senator Feinstein's office submitted a request for support on federal legislation after the agenda was posted that involved water recycling. She recommended the Committee take action to approve adding the item to today's Agenda. Discussion ensued regarding the necessity of adding an item to the Agenda when the discussion could be held during the Federal Legislative Report. The Committee requested that Ms. Dunkin present the request from Senator Feinstein during her legislative report.

VISITOR PARTICIPATION

Ms. Debbie Cook recommended that staff become more familiar with the specific requirements for adding matters to the Agenda after the 72 hour posting requirement.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The Consent Calendar was approved upon motion by Director Green, seconded by Director Nguyen and carried [4-0] as follows.

[Yes –Anthony, Brandman, Nguyen, Green/No – 0]

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the January 7, 2015 Communications/Legislative Liaison Committee meeting are approved as presented.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

Directors Sheldon, Bilodeau, Yoh arrived during the following discussion.

2. Federal Legislative Update

Federal legislative advisors Jim McConnell and Eric Sapirstein gave verbal updates on the various federal activities and then reported on recent meetings with the Army Corps of Engineers. Mr. Sapirstein noted the final invitation list for the White House event on March 22, 2016 has not yet been released. He will forward that information when it is available.

Ms. Dunkin advised that Senator Feinstein was in the process of drafting federal drought legislation that includes water recycling federal financial support and that legislation will be introduced shortly. Director Green advised that she has been briefed on the legislation and she has the authority to transmit a letter of support to Senator Feinstein on behalf of the District as the legislation is under the Board adopted 2016 legislative platform. Federal legislative advisor James Petersen (Townsend Public Affairs/TPA) reported on the District's ongoing relationship with Senator Feinstein.

General Manager Mike Markus gave a brief update on the Army Corps of Engineers meeting and advised that the requested deviation was granted, allowing the District permission to store water up to elevation 505 feet. He also gave a brief update on the WRDA changes recently enacted into law. This item was informational and the Committee took no action.

3. State Legislative Update

Director Reyna arrived during the following discussion.

State legislative advisor Casey Elliott (Townsend Public Affairs/TPA) discussed the proposed budgeting process and the Governor's proposed spending plan. Ms. Dunkin discussed the Water Reuse proposed legislation and advised that Orange County Sanitation District and the District will co-sponsor the legislation. The Committee discussed ways to acknowledge Groundwater Producers who report meeting water conservation goals. This item was informational and the Committee took no action.

4. Purchase of Tour Sound System

Director of Public Affairs Eleanor Torres advised that the District needs an audio system to support the tour program and ensure information is appropriately communicated. Tour Coordinator Becky Mudd reported there is a significant need for an audio system on tours of the facilities. Ms. Torres reviewed the benefits of the Integrated Media Systems sound system. Surf City voice representative John Earl voiced his concern about the cost of the system and then noted the attendance of the Directors at the Committee meeting. Director Brandman left the meeting prior to the vote on the following matter. The Committee discussed the matter and took the following action.

Upon motion by Director Yoh, seconded by Director Nguyen and carried [4-1], with Director Sheldon voting "No", the Committee recommended that the Board at its February 17 Board meeting: Authorize issuance of Purchase Order to Integrated Media Systems in the amount of \$25,000 for a sound system to support the tour program.

[Yes- Anthony, Nguyen, Reyna, Yoh/No - Sheldon]

INFORMATIONAL ITEM

6. Public Affairs Outreach Report [November/December 2015]


Ms. Torres advised that the staff report was in the packet.

ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT CALENDAR FOR FEBRUARY 17 BOARD MEETING

The Committee recommended placing Item No. 4, Purchase of Tour Sound System on the Consent Calendar at the February 17 Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:05 a.m.



Philip Anthony, Chair