

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WITH COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATIVE LIAISON COMMITTEE
ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
May 6, 2021, 8:00 a.m.

Due to the Governor’s Executive Order N-25-20, Chair Brandman 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

Jordan Brandman
Cathy Green
Dina Nguyen
Roger Yoh
Bruce Whitaker

OCWD Staff

Mike Markus– General Manager
Alicia Dunkin - Legislative Affairs Liaison
Gina Ayala – Director of Public Affairs
Crystal Nettles – Senior Communications Specialist
Christina Fuller – Assistant District Secretary

Alternates

Tri Ta
Kelly Rowe
Nelida Mendoza
Denis Bilodeau
Steve Sheldon

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

Ayes –Brandman, Green, Nguyen, Yoh, Whitaker

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the April 8, 2021 Communications/Legislative Liaison Committee meeting are approved as presented.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

2. State Legislative Update

State Legislative consultants provided an update on key dates of the upcoming legislative calendar, FIRO funding and the Senate Drought package. OCWD staff and Consultants provided a summary of SB 351 (Caballero D-Salinas) Water Innovation Act. Director Brandman requested the Committee take a watch position on SB 351 until the bill proceeds out of suspense with staff returning to the Board if and when the bill proceeds.

Upon motion by Director Green seconded by Director Whitaker and carried [5-0], the Committee recommended that the Board at its May 19 Board meeting: Adopt the following position:

Bill Number	Title	Recommendation
SB 351 (Caballero D-Salinas)	Water Innovation Act	Watch

Yes – Brandman, Green, Nguyen, Yoh, Whitaker

3. Federal Legislative Update

Federal consultants provided updates on federal water infrastructure funding, Prado Feasibility Study, FY 22 Appropriations and Federal bill, S. 914 (Duckworth, D-IL) Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021.

Upon motion by Director Green, seconded by Director Yoh and carried [5-0], the Committee recommended that the Board at its May 19 Board meeting: Adopt the following position:

Bill Number	Title	Recommendation
S. 914 (Duckworth, D-IL)	Drinking Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Act of 2021	Support

Yes – Brandman, Green, Nguyen, Yoh, Whitaker

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

4. 2021 Youth Environmental Summit (YES) Recap

Senior Communications Specialist Crystal Nettles reported that YES was held virtually from April 19 through 23 with approximately 5,000 students and teachers attendees each day of live presentations. She stated that in addition to live presentations, YES also featured 50+ on demand videos and activities. Ms. Nettles noted that select videos and activities are available on ocyouthsummit.com.

5. OC Water Summit Update

Director of Public Affairs Gina Ayala reported that registration for the Summit, scheduled for October 15, will open in May. She advised that staff would keep the Committee updated on the planning and program.

6. Public Affairs Outreach Report (April 2021)

Ms. Ayala stated the report is contained in today's packet.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 9:10 a.m.

DocuSigned by:

 6/22/2021
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 Jordan Brandman, Chair