



**Final Minutes
Legislative Advocacy Committee of the
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
Wednesday, January 24, 2024**

The meeting was conducted via Teleconference - by Zoom.

Call to Order

Chair Adams called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Committee members present: Mary Adams, Chair
Ian Oglesby
Alvin Edwards

Committee members absent: None

Staff members present: David J. Stoldt, General Manager
Sara Reyes, Sr. Office Specialist

District Counsel present: David Laredo with De Lay and Laredo

Legislative Consultant: John Arriaga, JEA & Associates
Laurie Johnson, JEA & Associates
Roger Gwinn, The Ferguson Group
Chris Kearney, The Ferguson Group
Chris Cummins, The Ferguson Group

Comments from the Public: No comments were directed to the committee.

Action Items

1. Consider Adoption of the June 28, 2023 Committee Meeting Minutes

Chair Adams introduced the matter and opened public comment; no comments were directed to the committee.

A motion was offered by Director Edwards with a second from Director Adams to approve the June 28, 2023 Committee meeting minutes. The motion passed on a roll-call vote of 2-Ayes (Edwards and Adams), 0-Noes and 1-Abstention (Oglesby).

Discussion Items

2. Report from The Ferguson Group on Federal Legislative and Regulatory Activities

General Manager Stoldt introduced the matter and introduced Roger Gwinn from The Ferguson Group. Mr. Stoldt reported that Mr. Gwinn is attempting to establish appointments in Washington D.C. with various representatives during the ACWA conference at the end of February 2024, which

will be attended by Directors Anderson and Adams and David Stoldt.

Roger Gwinn made the following points to include, but are not limited to:

- Brief overview of matters in the House of Representatives and Senate
- FY 2024 Federal Funding
- Monterey Peninsula Stormwater Diversion and Recycling Project
- FY Appropriations for MPWMD
- FY 2025 Outlook
- 2024 Federal WaterSMART Grant Opportunities
- Water Resources Development Act of 2024
- Other Authorizing Legislation-Legislative Tracker

Chris Cummins with The Ferguson Group made the following points to include, but are not limited to:

- Authorizing Legislation -- STREAM Act Light
- Legislative Tracker Highlights --
 - WATER for California Act Working to Advance Tangible and Effective Reforms for California Act
 - Water Conservation and Farming Act
 - Coastal Habitat Conservation Act of 2023

3. Report from JEA & Associates

John Arriaga provided introductory remarks and made the following points to include, but are not limited to:

- Legislators returned on January 3, 2024 with a busy schedule dealing with legislation and issues that carried over from the previous year
- Speaker Robert Rivas is beginning his first full year as Speaker and has made numerous changes within various committees on the Assembly
- Senator McGuire will be serving beginning February 5, 2024
- Governor Newsom rolled out his proposed budget on January 10, 2024
- MPWMD's proposed legislation authority to sell water and retail

Laurie Johnson made the following points to include, but are not limited to:

- Highlighted aspects of Governor Newsom's budget proposal
 - Budget Resilience
 - Belt Tightening
 - Fund Shifts
 - Delays and Deferrals

Other Updates:

- New bills must be introduced by February 16, 2024
- Two water/climate bond bills (AB 1567 and SB 867)
- Bill of interest to the District (AB 1572)

4. Report from General Manager on Recent or Upcoming Legislative Actions

General Manager Stoldt engaged in discussion on various topics with The Ferguson Group and JEA & Associates. Mr. Stoldt reported he will be attending an ACWA conference in Sacramento May 7-9, 2024, and hopes to meet with the State Water Board to request lifting the Cease and Desist Order.

Other Items

5. Suggest Items to Place on a Future Committee Agenda

- Update from meetings attended in Washington DC by Directors Anderson and Adams and General Manager Stoldt

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Chair Adams adjourned the meeting at 4:28 p.m.

/ s/ Sara C. Reyes

Sara C. Reyes, Committee Clerk to the
MPWMD Legislative Advocacy Committee

Approved by the MPWMD Legislative Advocacy Committee on April 24, 2024
Received by the MPWMD Board of Director's on May 20, 2024