#### **MINUTES**

Tuesday, May 10, 2016

East Bay Municipal Utility District Board of Directors 375 Eleventh Street Oakland, California

### Special Meeting

President Frank Mellon called to order the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors at 9:32 a.m. in the Training Resource Center. The Board met in workshop session to receive an update on the Water Conservation Program.

#### **ROLL CALL**

Directors John A. Coleman, Doug Linney, Lesa R. McIntosh, William B. Patterson, Marguerite Young, and Frank Mellon were present at roll call. Director Andy Katz was absent at roll call but arrived at 9:47 a.m.

Staff present included General Manager Alexander R. Coate, General Counsel Craig S. Spencer, Manager of Customer and Community Services Sherri A. Hong, Manager of Water Conservation Richard W. Harris, Operations and Maintenance Department Manager Clifford C. Chan, Special Assistant to the General Manager Alison A. Kastama, Assistant to the General Manager Rischa S. Cole, and Secretary of the District Lynelle M. Lewis.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

#### **DISCUSSION**

- Filed with the Board was a presentation entitled "Water Conservation Workshop" dated May 10, 2016.

General Manager Alexander R. Coate provided an overview of the workshop and introduced staff who provided updates on Water Conservation Program efforts. Manager of Water Conservation Richard W. Harris presented an update on the Water Conservation Master Plan (WCMP) water saving targets, implementation strategies, and conservation trends (past, present, and future). He highlighted advances in technology, areas of future focus, customer incentives, education and outreach efforts, and water management tools. He reported that:

- Water use efficiency and conservation targets have been achieved District-wide due to behavior modifications;
- New conservation initiatives are on the rise as market transformation and codes become mainstream;

- Conservation trends are moving toward more behavior-based (personal) water management tools for customers;
- Opportunities exist to leverage customer engagement, metering, and instrumentation technology; and
- Customer expectations for tools, information and self-services are increasing.

Operations and Maintenance Department Manager Clifford C. Chan presented an overview of factors that contribute to water loss such as meter inaccuracy, unauthorized consumption, data handling errors, and leaks. He also highlighted strategies for reducing losses such as leak detection, improved repair time and quality, pipeline replacement, pressure management and monitoring, District Metered Area technology, and meter replacement.

Next, Manager of Water Conservation Richard W. Harris presented conservation research initiatives and WCMP standards, regulations, and legislation. Upcoming priorities for the Water Conservation Program for FY17-18 include:

- Locking in achieved demand reductions to cost-effectively meet near-term, 2020 and 2040 savings goals;
- Continue to focus on outdoor water efficiency and savings;
- Expand customer water management services (landscape water budgets, Home Water Reports, web self services);
- Adopt District Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) standards and accelerate phased installations for conservation and water loss reductions;
- Replace Water Conservation database; and
- Sunset toilet and clothes washer standard rebates due to code changes (effective January 1, 2017).

## **Board Discussion**

Board members expressed appreciation for the information presented. It requested staff to explore the following and report back to the Board:

- Can we make AMI meter updates a point of sale transaction during a home sale?
- Can we reduce On-Bill Financing interest rates to 2-3 percent versus 4 percent and how can we simplify the administrative process?
- Provide a "last call" for toilet and clothes washer rebates before the phase out.
- Provide an update on conservation tools that will be employed to maintain conservation savings for large single-family residential customers.
- Determine alternate methods to provide Home Water Reports to low-income, senior, non-English speaking, and non-computer using customers.
- Look into partnering with California Emerging Technology Fund which helps low-income and disadvantaged communities obtain internet access.

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# **ADJOURNMENT**

President Mellon adjourned the Special Meeting at 11:37 a.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Lynelle M. Lewis, Secretary of the District

APPROVED: May 24, 2016

Frank Mellon, President of the Board

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