

MINUTES

Tuesday, January 23, 2024
East Bay Municipal Utility District
Board of Directors
375 Eleventh Street
Oakland, California

Special Meeting

President Lesa R. McIntosh called to order the Special Meeting of the Board of Directors at 9:30 a.m. in the Administration Building Boardroom. The Board met in workshop session to receive a presentation on updates to the District's Climate Action Plan, the state of the science related to climate change, relevant regulations and laws, and specific actions the District is taking to achieve carbon neutrality and adapt to climate change.

ROLL CALL

Directors April Chan, John A. Coleman, Doug A. Linney, William B. Patterson, Marguerite Young (remote), and President Lesa R. McIntosh were present at roll call. Director Andy Katz arrived at 9:43 a.m.

Staff participants included General Manager Clifford C. Chan, General Counsel Derek T. McDonald, Director of Operations and Maintenance David A. Briggs, Director of Wastewater Amit K. Mutsuddy, Engineering Manager Elizabeth Z. Bialek, Environmental Affairs Officer Alice E. Towey, and Secretary of the District Rischa S. Cole.

Public Comment. Addressing the committee was Ivette Rivera who commented on three documents she provided to the Committee.

Presentations/Documentation. 1) Presentation entitled "Climate Action Plan Workshop," dated January 23, 2024; 2) Charge of Discrimination document regarding EEOC Charge No. 555-2023-02181, dated January 17, 2024; 3) Document titled Rules of Professional Conduct; and 4) Spreadsheet titled Liebert Cassidy Whitmore (undated).

General Manager Clifford C. Chan introduced the workshop. Director of Operations and Maintenance David A. Briggs introduced the workshop speakers and said the Draft 2024 Climate Action Plan Update includes a review of the science on how climate change may affect the District's operations and customers; identifies mitigation actions to meet greenhouse gas reduction goals; and describes adaptation plans to ensure resilience of District services over time. He reviewed state and federal policies and regulations on climate change mitigation and adaptation; actions the state is taking and investments being made to meet its climate change goals; and current District policies that are relevant to the workshop discussion. Mr. Briggs and Mr. Chan responded to Board questions on the District's ability to adapt if there are shifts in federal policies after the November 2024 elections or potential judicial actions around climate change, and the District's dependency on federal policies or subsidies.

Environmental Affairs Officer Alice E. Towey discussed findings from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change Sixth Assessment report; the US Fifth National Climate Assessment (NCA5); predicted impacts of climate change; and observed impacts at the District level around water supply variability, runoff patterns, and sea level rise.

Mr. Briggs highlighted the District's mitigation goals and efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) and achieve carbon neutrality by 2030 as well as the District's historical and projected GHG emissions from 2010 to 2040. The District's 2022 emissions goal was 24,611 Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide equivalent (MT CO_{2e}) and actual 2022 emissions were 23,968 MT CO_{2e}. Some mitigation actions and projects include purchasing low or emissions-free energy; minimizing energy use; developing renewable energy projects; and transitioning to renewable diesel. He reviewed the timeline to convert the District's light duty/passenger and medium- and heavy-duty vehicles to zero-emissions vehicles (ZEVs). The District currently has 14 ZEVs in service and nine on order. Staff successfully piloted the use of an electric front-end loader and are continuously reviewing the market and vendors for new products as well as the opportunity to pilot additional medium- or heavy-duty equipment. Mr. Briggs discussed some challenges and impacts to fully converting the District's fleet and noted federal support could also affect the availability of ZEVs and California's ability to set independent emission standards. Additionally, maintaining ZEVs will require new equipment, training, and service contracts. There was Board discussion about the need for the District to still purchase gas powered vehicles for its fleet. Manager of Maintenance and Construction/Water Operations Crystal J. Yezman and Manager of Fleet and Construction Support Steven A. Kekki responded to Board questions about the continued need to purchase gas powered vehicles and the immediate availability of electric medium- or heavy-duty equipment. The Board asked about plans for charging infrastructure upcountry and the potential use of solid-state batteries. Staff was asked to consider accepting local food waste to reduce methane GHG emissions and to provide additional information on the District's replacement plan for light duty/passenger vehicles.

Next, Ms. Towey discussed the District's adaptation activities. Some key actions include diversification of water supply development; advancements in forecasting and reservoir operations by funding research and providing technical assistance for advanced quantitative precipitation information; installing high-definition radar on Rocky Ridge in the East Bay hills; evaluating ways to optimize flood control operations at Pardee and Camanche reservoirs; improving predictions of intensity and runoff from individual atmospheric rivers to support daily operations; improving predictions of seasonal runoff from snowpack and rainfall to support water supply planning; and ongoing efforts to protect wildlife and natural resources through adaptive management, habitat restoration, temperature management on the lower Mokelumne River, and fire management plans for the East Bay and Mokelumne watershed.

Engineering Manager Elizabeth Z. Bialek discussed how climate change can impact water quality. She highlighted the District's five-year Capital Improvement Program which includes about \$613 million for projects or portions of projects that directly help the District adapt to climate change; how the District is analyzing new probable maximum flood conditions to assess capacity of District dam spillways; and other adaptation strategies.

Director of Wastewater Amit K. Mutsuddy reviewed sea level rise effects on wastewater infrastructure and actions the District is taking to address sea level rise. He explained how reducing inflow/infiltration can assist with managing atmospheric river events; the benefits of ensuring District facilities have reliable power supplies; and developing processes to reduce nutrient discharges in the San Francisco Bay.

Ms. Towey discussed financial resilience, use of the District's Green Bond Guidance for four Green Bond issuances for the Water System and one for the Wastewater System, and upcoming Green Bond issuances for both systems planned in 2024. The District's Investments Policy (Policy 4.07) includes primary investment objectives for safety, liquidity, yield, and diversification, with the intent to align

District investment decisions with its policies, mission, and values. She closed out with an overview of research and innovation activities, a summary of mitigation and adaptation activities that are completed, planned or in progress and said staff will continue to monitor the science of climate change. Uncertainty remains around the timing of climate change impacts and while the District has mitigation and adaptation plans, much work remains. Staff will highlight additional costs that may need to be budgeted during Fiscal Years 2026/2027 budget discussions.

- Addressing the Board was Ivette Rivera who commented on grant funding for fire mitigation on the watersheds.

ADJOURNMENT

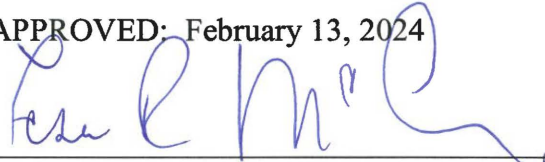
President McIntosh adjourned the Special Meeting at 11:17 a.m.

SUBMITTED BY:



Rischa S. Cole, Secretary of the District

APPROVED: February 13, 2024



Lesla R. McIntosh, President of the Board