

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
METROPOLITAN DOMESTIC WATER IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT  
PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA**

**November 27, 2000**

**\*\* Board Room \*\***

**Metropolitan Domestic Water Improvement District  
6265 N. La Cañada Drive  
Tucson, AZ 85704**

**STUDY SESSION – MINUTES**

Board Members Present:	Pete Schlegel, Chair Jim Doyle, Vice-Chair Dennis Polley, Member Sam Ray, Member
Board Member Not Present:	Marlene Wright, Member
District Staff:	Mark Stratton, General Manager Warren Tenney, Clerk of the Board

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

Pete Schlegel, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Domestic Water Improvement District (District) called the Study Session to order at 5:32 p.m. Jim Doyle, Dennis Polley, Sam Ray and Pete Schlegel were present. Marlene Wright was not present.

**II. Discussion of Long-Term Water Resource Management for the District**

Mark Stratton, General Manager, explained that the study session was to review the Southern Arizona Water Regional Management Study (SAWRMS) on recharge and recovery options in the Northwest region and other long-term water resource management issues. Mr. Stratton informed the Board that he would not dwell on the treatment aspect of this report since there were other options to consider and it seemed premature to consider treatment for direct delivery.

Mr. Stratton indicated that the District would eventually use 15,000 acre-feet of water per year. The District is looking at using groundwater and its CAP allocation to eventually meet that need. The SAWRMS report looked at bringing 30,000 acre feet of CAP water to the Northwest entities. The Bureau of Reclamation estimates \$148,550 for direct delivery of CAP water including treatment, but emphasized that the District was focusing on recharge and recovery efforts.

Mr. Stratton discussed various options of size of pipelines, their placement, and gravity feed. He emphasized that a key issue of determining how to proceed with this project is if the CAWCD will provide the water at the postage-stamp rate. He stated that if CAWCD agrees to the same rate as it gives to the City of Tucson, it would be much more favorable for the project to be done.

Mr. Stratton pointed out different pipeline placements in the northwest region, including bypassing the Oro Valley area, alignment along I-10 along Linda Vista and over to the Oasis Reservoir area. He stated that District had significant boosters in the Herb Johnson Reservoir, which would help in moving the water. These options would result in reduced costs to the District. Mr. Stratton stated that ongoing discussions between Brad DeSpain of the Town of Marana and Robert Condit of the Cortaro-Marana Irrigation District concerning recovery and recharge of CAP water in Avra Valley are continuing and present an important option to consider.

Mr. Stratton said that with rampant new growth in the Northwest area, another option would be to have developers help finance new pipelines.

Mr. Stratton stated that the District is in a good position to not be pressured into deciding which alternative it must pursue at this time. He explained that Oro Valley has the greatest need for the CAP pipeline at this time.

Mr. Ray asked if the Town of Oro Valley was pursuing legislation to combine debt services for multiple municipalities. Mr. Stratton replied that based upon a recent meeting, Oro Valley will not pursue legislation for a financing authority at this time but wanted to work with the District during the year to develop such legislation. Mr. Ray asked if legislation was approved and enacted if the District would have to participate. Mr. Stratton responded that issue would have to be presented to voters and the District could campaign against any such action. Mr. Bob Logan added that the jurisdictions would need to approve having such an authority within their boundaries.

Mr. Stratton presented slides projecting cost estimates to the District for the different alternatives listed in the SAWRMS report. He stated that these estimates covered only capital costs, not operating and maintenance costs.

Mr. Stratton explained that his recommendation at this time was to pursue investigation of recovered and recharged water from CMID while constructing a pipeline from that facility. This option should cover the next 5-10 year timeframe. Such a pipeline would allow the District to still participate in other alternatives. The Board members and staff had a continued discussion regarding the different treatment options versus recovery and recharge options and costs associated with all alternatives.

Mr. Stratton reiterated that the storage and recovery option was a doable option for the District for the next 10 years and that during that timeframe, planning can be taking place regarding the District's next steps. He stated that the original bond debt should be paid off during that time

and payment to the City of Tucson settlement can be accelerated which would put the District in a better financial position.

Mr. Stratton stated that the purpose of the joint study session with Oro Valley, Marana, and Flowing Wells Irrigation District was for Eric Holler of the Bureau of Reclamation to present the SAWRMS report in full detail. He said that no action on this report would be taken during the study session, it was merely for information purposes.


Mr. Ray left the meeting at 6:45 p.m.


### **III. General Manager's Report**

Mr. Stratton updated the Board on the drafting of an effluent agreement with the City of Tucson. He said the Marvin Cohen is wanting to finalize the agreement soon.

### **IV. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

  
Chair of the Board

  
Clerk of the Board