



## **TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | MARCH 1, 2017**

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### **DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Edward Mandich, Committee Chair  
Stephen Dopudja, Committee Member

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Hector Ruiz, General Manager  
Michael Perea, District Secretary  
Lorrie Lausten, Principal Engineer  
Lisa Sangi, Administrative Assistant  
Kris Hanberg, Wastewater Department Superintendent  
Gary Kessler, Water Department Superintendent  
Jason Stroud, Maintenance Superintendent

### **PUBLIC PRESENT**

None

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Director Mandich called the March 1, 2017, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting to order at 7:00 AM.

### **VISITOR PARTICIPATION**

No comments were received.

### **ORAL COMMUNICATION**

No comments were received.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

No Committee Member comments were received.

### **REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER**

Mr. Ruiz commended both the Operations and Maintenance Departments for their response to the recent storm events and the associated electrical power outages. Mr. Ruiz expressed appreciation for the support provided by Administrative Services staff by ensuring that the all contracted work as a result of the storm events was compliant with Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) requirements.

### **ITEM 1: ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP**

The February 1, 2017, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap was presented to the Committee.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee approved, and recommended that the Board receive and file the February 1, 2017, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap (Consent Calendar).

### **ITEM 2: ALTERNATE RAW WATER TRANSMISSION LINE - PW79**

Ms. Lausten provided a status update on this project for Committee review, and mentioned that District staff held a kick-off meeting with the contractor and sub-contractors. Ms. Lausten added that a Pre-Construction Meeting is scheduled for the following day. Discussion occurred concerning the project schedule; Ms. Lausten

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mentioned that an updated schedule will be presented at next month's Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting, and that Michael Baker International is scheduled to conduct the project preliminary bird survey. Discussion occurred concerning coordination with the City of Lake Forest.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 3: BAKER WATER TREATMENT FACILITY**

Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on this project for Committee review, and mentioned that the Project Committee meeting scheduled for March 9, 2017 was cancelled. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) is conducting facility tests and that they are currently using water from Irvine Lake. Discussion occurred concerning operational challenges due to higher turbidity levels in Irvine Lake's water. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that IRWD is currently working on facility sound mitigation due to increased noise from the onsite pumps and equipment. Mr. Ruiz reported that he has met with City of San Clemente staff to develop Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) language related to the sale of Baker water. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that the City of San Clemente is reviewing its current rates structure and their ability to include the Baker water in the current Proposition 218 approved rates if the purchase cost is higher than MET water. Director Dopudja mentioned that the rate structure and its methodology should be reviewed. Mr. Ruiz added that the District has coordinated through Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) for Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD) to purchase first month of District's unused portion of Baker water. Discussion occurred concerning the MWDOC billing process for inter-agency water transfers and future options for the sale of the District's unused portion of Baker water.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 4: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECTS**

**1. Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System – Phase 1**

Ms. Lausten provided a status update on this project, and mentioned that TESCO has reviewed the systems and that a final report will be provided to District staff later this month.

**2. Plano Sewage Lift Station and Plano Water Booster Pump Station Facility Site Security Improvements**

Ms. Lausten provided a status update on this project, and mentioned that the facility gate was picked up today and that District staff is currently waiting for an installation date.

**3. Existing Network Infrastructure Upgrade**

Mr. Perea provided a status update on this project, and reported that the new Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) Battery failed at installation. Mr. Perea added that Synoptek (the District's IT Manager) coordinated with the replacement of the failed UPS, and will install the new device upon receipt. Discussion occurred concerning the relocation of the server equipment; Mr. Ruiz stated the new location for the server equipment is better suited for heat displacement, maintenance, and access.

**4. Ridgeline Booster Pump Station Upgrades and Improvements Phase I**

Mr. Ruiz provided a brief status update on this project, and mentioned that District staff is waiting for the developer to provide additional information related to this project.

**5. Cooks Reservoir Tank and Site Improvements**

Ms. Lausten delivered a brief PowerPoint presentation on this project, and highlighted the tank rehabilitation and proposed site improvements. Ms. Lausten reviewed the project budget was \$85,000, and mentioned that

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the final associated costs totaled \$81,000. Ms. Lausten mentioned that additional site improvements were made at a cost of \$13,900.00 to perform repairs to the service entry road that were restricting access to the tank site. Mr. Ruiz commented that a separate project is underway to raise the facility security fence by eight feet and modified to include an anti-climb feature. Mr. Ruiz added that the security fence will be constructed at the site, and will be connected to rear of the facility in order to control costs. Discussion occurred concerning the tank's emergency overflow design based on images in the presentation. Ms. Lausten mentioned that she will follow up on this matter.

**6. Tick Creek Pump Station – Proposed Slide Weir Gate**

Ms. Lausten delivered a brief PowerPoint presentation on this project, and highlighted the facility inlet structure and the need to install a new slide weir gate at the facility. Ms. Lausten mentioned that the existing redwood panels would be replaced with a stainless steel slide gate. Discussion occurred concerning collaboration efforts and cost sharing with SMWD and the Audobon Society. Ms. Lausten presented draft facility improvement designs for Committee review.

**7. Other Projects**

Ms. Lausten briefly highlighted the County of Orange Live Oak Canyon Road Improvement Project, and mentioned that District staff met with County staff last month to review the project. Ms. Lausten reported that additional potholing will be needed to determine the location of the District's pipeline in certain areas, in the event the relocation of the affected pipelines is necessary. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that this project will be delayed to Fiscal Year 2017/2018 for completion during the summer months, if necessary.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 5: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION(S) CONCERNING SADDLE CREST DEVELOPMENT (65 DUs)**

Mr. Ruiz commented that he had no updates on this matter, as he had not received an executed Will Server Letter from the developer. Mr. Ruiz added that the developer has forty-five days from the WSL issue date for execution.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 6: ACTIVE DEVELOPMENTS**

**1. Dahlia Court Development (36 DUs | WSL)**

Ms. Lausten reported that there was no new activity on this development.

**2. Skyridge Development (84 DUs | WSL)**

Ms. Lausten reported that the developer has indicated to District staff their plans to convert one of the existing lots to a community pool.

**3. Oaks at Trabuco, County of Orange (9 DUs | WSL)**

Ms. Lausten reported that District staff had met with the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) and State Water Board to learn more about the facility in order proceed with the reclassification of the facility from a Title 22 Tertiary Treatment to a Secondary Treatment Facility. Mr. Ruiz added that District staff will update the engineering report to indicate the proposed reclassification, and will also determine the costs for additional tests. Discussion occurred concerning facility treatment costs and possible equipment improvement costs.

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4. Other Active Developments

There were no other active developments discussed.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 7: WATER SYSTEM UPDATES**

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Mr. Kessler presented the Water System Status Update through February, 2017, and reported on the following matters:

1. Water Department staff repaired a water main leak on Mountain View Road.
2. Water Department staff repaired a failed Pressure Relief Valve (PRV) at the Robinson Ranch Booster Pump Station.
3. Water Department staff prepared, along with the Maintenance Department, for the start up at the Trabuco Creek Wells Facility.
4. Water Department staff shut down and worked additional hours at the Dimension Water Treatment Plant due to the higher turbidity water received from Irvine Lake, as a result of the Baker Water Treatment Plant performing tests with Irvine Lake water.

Discussion occurred concerning the challenges associated with the start up of the Trabuco Creek Wells Facility; Mr. Kessler commented that District staff experienced difficulty with the pumps at the facility, and explained that the pumps were inoperable and frozen because they are designed to be continuously submerged in water in order to operate properly. Mr. Kessler added that due to the prolonged drought, the pumps needed to be replaced which required the rental of a large crane. Mr. Ruiz briefly reviewed the challenges and repair costs associated with the facility start up, and reported that the facility was operational at the beginning of the prior week.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 8: WASTEWATER SYSTEM UPDATES**

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Mr. Hanberg presented the Wastewater System Status update through February, 2017, and reported on the following matters:

1. Wastewater Department staff prepared for the storm events by placing sand bags around each Sewer Lift Station.
2. Wastewater Department staff prepared for the storm events by covering manholes with plastic to prevent storm water infiltration at certain locations.
3. Wastewater Department staff took the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) East SBR down and cleaned it out to change the aerators, mud valve, and waste valve.
4. Wastewater Department staff responded to a sewer spill on Dove Canyon Drive due to blockage in the gravity sewer. Mr. Hanberg reported that all spilled sewage either flowed to and was contained in Dove Lake, or it was recovered by the District's vector truck.

Mr. Hanberg briefly reviewed the Monthly Recycled Water System Operations Summary, and commented that the recent rain event resulted in approximately three inches of rain over four days. Mr. Hanberg commented that both Dove Lake and the WWTP Recycled Water Reservoir are full due to the recent rain events.

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 9: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS**

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Mr. Ruiz delivered a brief PowerPoint presentation on the current state of the District's property at Trabuco Creek and Holy Jim, and that District staff have received complaints from adjacent property owners regarding camping and littering at the off road entrance. Mr. Ruiz recommended working with the County who has an easement for the road, and their installation of updated signage to better control unlawful dumping and parking at the site, but mentioned that he wants to be sensitive to the community's access to the area. Discussion occurred concerning easement language and parking restrictions. Director Mandich suggested that District staff prepare an aerial map that plots property lines and easements. Discussion occurred concerning similar issues with the District's lower Porter Ranch property.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the information, no action taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Director Mandich adjourned the March 1, 2017, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 7:59 AM.