



TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | JANUARY 3, 2018

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Edward Mandich, Committee Chair
Don Chadd, Committee Alternate

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Stephen Dopudja, Committee Member

STAFF PRESENT

Hector Ruiz, General Manager
Lorrie Lausten, Principal Engineer
Lisa Sangi, Administrative Assistant
Kris Hanberg, Wastewater Department Superintendent
Gary Kessler, Water Department Superintendent
Jason Stroud, Maintenance Department Superintendent
Mark Gim, Engineering Support Intern

STAFF ABSENT

Michael Perea, District Secretary

PUBLIC PRESENT

There were no members of the public present.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Director Mandich called the January 3, 2018, 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 comments were received.

REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Mr. Ruiz commented that Mr. Perea was not in attendance due to being on vacation, and that Ms. Sangi would be assisting in his absence.

ITEM 1: ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP

Mr. Ruiz presented the December 6, 2017, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap for Committee review, but mentioned that both he and Director Dopudja were not in attendance at that meeting and that Mr. Perea was not in attendance to approve the Recap. Mr. Ruiz recommended that the Recap be forwarded to the following Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting.

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RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Committee recommended that the December 6, 2017, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap be presented for approval at the February 7, 2018, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting.

ITEM 2: DOVE & ROBINSON RANCH RECYCLED WATER PUMP STATIONS REPLACEMENT PROJECT – PHASE 1

Ms. Lausten provided an update on this project, and mentioned that there was no action required. Ms. Lausten commented that JIG Consultants is currently finalizing the project Technical Memorandum, which includes an alternative pump station (and reservoirs) location at the end of Plano Trabuco Road. Ms. Lausten added that JIG Consultants will be updating the project design schedule, and that the Technical Memorandum is scheduled to be completed in mid February 2018. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that this matter will be scheduled for review with the District Properties Ad Hoc Committee. Director Mandich inquired about the approximate proposed project costs; Ms. Lausten reviewed the general project costs, and highlighted the costs associated with project-related materials. Director Chadd asked about the location of the facility pumps with respect to past noise pollution complaints by local residents, and cautioned District staff to consider sound dampening during the construction process.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

ITEM 3: VIA ALLEGRE WET WELL EXPANSION PROJECT

Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on this project, and provided a brief review of the design changes since the initial project design. Mr. Ruiz provided an overview of project design included as an exhibit. Discussion occurred concerning possible design considerations and alternatives. Ms. Lausten stated that the design specifications have been finalized, and that District staff plan to go to bid later this month. Ms. Lausten added that District staff plans to agendize the project award at the February 21, 2017 Regular Board Meeting. Discussion occurred concerning project design and material lead times. Ms. Lausten mentioned that the existing wet well will be converted to a manhole, and that a new valve vault and sewer main improvements have been added to the design which has increased the project budget. Discussion occurred concerning the facility challenges and the planned upgrades to improve wastewater flowrates to the facility. Mr. Ruiz commented on the adverse impact of the existing wet well which has very low capacity and the potential for sewage back-up with the flat sewer main leading to the wet well. Discussion occurred concerning possible access improvements to the facility; Mr. Ruiz mentioned that District staff will coordinate with the City of Rancho Santa Margarita and Dove Canyon Master Association to evaluate access from Plano Trabuco Road at a future date.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

ITEM 4: ROBINSON RANCH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SERVICE ROAD REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Ruiz provided an update on this project that was approved by Special Board Meeting last month, and reported that project construction has started. Ms. Lausten added that the Contractor has started project-related potholing. Mr. Ruiz commented that the project is scheduled to be completed by approximately late-February/early-March depending on the weather and concrete curing times. Ms. Lausten stated the total project time is approximately thirty-five (35) days.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

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ITEM 5: GOREN WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PERMIT MODIFICATIONS

Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on this project, and stated that he is currently working with Wastewater Operations to restart facility operations. Mr. Hanberg commented that Wastewater Operations were ensuring that the tank was operational and without leaks, evaluating the electrical components, and testing the onsite power generator. Mr. Ruiz provided an update on the permitting process, and mentioned that District staff has met with and reviewed the facility permit application with South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) staff.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Committee received the status update. No action was taken.

ITEM 6: DIMENSION WATER TREATMENT PLANT TRUCK DELIVERY ACCESS IMPROVEMENTS

Ms. Lausten provided a status update on this project, and mentioned that District staff is currently finalizing the contract documents with Adam Streeter (Consultant). Ms. Lausten mentioned that the project Kick-Off Meeting is scheduled for the following week. Discussion occurred concerning the project timeline for completion.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

ITEM 7: TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT'S SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND DATA ACQUISITION (SCADA) SYSTEM – PHASE I

Ms. Lausten presented this project for Committee review, and reported that District staff has received the Technical Summary Report from TESCO, and plans to meet with both TESCO and Beavens Control Systems to review the District's needs for SCADA improvements in more detail. Director Mandich asked why there was a significant increase in proposed project costs of \$2.6M in comparison to the approved budget of \$750K; Mr. Ruiz commented the report is preliminary and addresses various items not required in the next phase, and that staff will return with a revised report that has updated project costs. Mr. Ruiz cited the District's recent Network Server Upgrade Project as a similar example in concept, as TESCO proposes the implementation of new server components to replace the existing server that uses the unsupported Windows XP operating system. Discussion occurred concerning overall project costs due to the replacement. Director Chadd asked how District staff planned to introduce redundancy measures in the design and ongoing maintenance of this new SCADA system; Mr. Ruiz commented that both TESCO and Beavens Control Systems will collaborate together to design the new SCADA system. Discussion occurred concerning staff development and training related to SCADA systems and telemetry.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

ITEM 8: TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT'S WATER AUDIT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2016

Mr. Ruiz presented the project for Committee review, and commented that Ms. Lausten has been working for the past two years on the District's Water Audit. Mr. Ruiz added that the Water Audit was submitted for review in October 2017. Ms. Lausten briefly reviewed the Water Audit methodology, and mentioned that water agencies no longer use a percentage as a water loss indicator, but instead use a gallons per service connection per day loss unit. Ms. Lausten reported that the District's water loss decreased from 43 to 18 gallons per service connection per day from Fiscal Year 2014/2015 to the Calendar Year 2016 Water Audit, and mentioned that this result is an indication of a efficient system. Ms. Lausten added that the Water Audit incorporated a random sample of water meter testing and the rehabilitation of the District Pressure Reducing Valve (PRV) stations. Ms.

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Lausten mentioned that she participated in the North American Water Loss Conference in San Diego in which she discussed the District's Water Audit development process and overall results. Director Mandich inquired if large meter testing was part of the Water Audit process; Ms. Lausten mentioned that the District participated in the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) Water Audit Choice Program and that the large water meters were tested onsite by Westerly Meter Testing Co, and that District staff removed and replace the randomly selected small water meters for testing purposes. Ms. Lausten commented that based on the Water Audit Water Meter Testing results the District needs to randomly test large and small water meters on a regular basis. Mr. Ruiz added that using an independent third-party testing company for water meter testing has been an efficient option for the District due to the use of their testing facilities and cost effectiveness. Director Chadd inquired how the District's results compared with other neighboring agencies; Ms. Lausten stated that the District's overall water loss results were very low in comparison to other agencies.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

ITEM 9: ALTERNATE RAW WATER TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT – PW79

Ms. Lausten provided a status update on this project, and reported that a portion of a water main was relocated outside of the existing easement. Ms. Lausten briefly highlighted the exhibits included for Committee review, and described the several reasons for the pipeline relocation included the relocation of a Southern California Edison (SCE) power pole as the existing slope had eroded, and potholing during construction revealed that IRWD's recycled water pipeline was in conflict with the alignment of the District's pipeline Mr. Ruiz indicated that due to the new development adjacent to the Baker Water Treatment Plant, a portion of the District's pipeline will need to be relocated, but approximately three hundred lineal feet will be left in place. Mr. Kessler commented that the condition of the existing pipeline is satisfactory. Discussion occurred concerning the planned removal of the District's pipeline as indicated in the exhibit; Ms. Lausten confirmed that the pipeline will be relocated, and that District staff will bring a Grant of Easement to the Board for their review and approval.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

ITEM 10: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECTS

1. Activated Sludge System, Aeration Headers Replacement Project.

Mr. Ruiz commented that Mr. Hanberg and Mr. Gim have been working together on this project, including the preparation of the project design drawings. Mr. Hanberg provided a project update, and indicated that District staff has fully exposed the airline in four sections. Discussion occurred concerning recent equipment failures and facility challenges. Mr. Hanberg expressed his appreciation for Mr. Gim's assistance with the design of the airlines rerouting. Mr. Hanberg briefly reviewed project photographs with the Committee.

2. Easement Relinquishment – Request at 21532 High Country Drive, Trabuco Canyon.

Ms. Lausten presented this matter for Committee review, and presented handouts related to the easement relinquishment request. Ms. Lausten reported that she received a call from homeowner requesting that the District review the twenty (20) foot easement for water and sewer facilities at the rear of his property. Discussion occurred concerning the history related to the easement. Mr. Hanberg stated that there currently was no water or sewer pipeline in the easement area. Director Chadd inquired if the easement area was surveyed in order to confirm if it is actually on the homeowner's property; Ms. Lausten commented that the easement area was not surveyed, but indicated the parcel boundaries as it relates to the easement was drawn in

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based on the parcel and tract map. Discussion occurred related to the District's water and sewer systems in the area in relation to the easement. Director Chadd did not support the relinquishment of the easement. Director Mandich inquired if the easement continues through other adjacent parcels; Ms. Lausten confirmed that the easement continues through three additional parcels. Discussion occurred concerning alternative options. Director Mandich recommended forwarding the matter to the Board for consideration.

3. Department of Water Resources Emergency Action Plan Development for Trabuco Canyon Water District Dams.

Ms. Lausten presented this matter for Committee review, and provided information on the updated classifications of dams in the State. Ms. Lausten reported that the District will need to budget for the costs associated with the required Emergency Action Plan (Plan) which is due by January 1, 2019 for both the Dove & Trabuco Dams.

4. Other Projects –

No other projects were discussed.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Committee received the information, and recommended that the Easement Relinquishment Request at 21532 High Country Drive, Trabuco Canyon be forwarded to the Board (Action Calendar).

ITEM 11: SADDLE CREST DEVELOPMENT (65 DUs | WSL)

Ms. Lausten provided an update on this development, and mentioned that there was no action required. Ms. Lausten reported that District staff has completed the fourth plan check for the onsite pipeline installations and planned reservoir upgrades. Ms. Lausten mentioned that the developer plans to begin construction in February 2018 of the on and offsite pipelines, and in April 2018 on the Reservoir and Pump Station. Ms. Lausten added that District staff will contract for assistance with Construction Management and Inspection Services.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

ITEM 12: WATER SYSTEM UPDATES

Mr. Kessler reviewed the projects and repairs for December, 2017, and provided the additional highlights:

1. Water Department staff painted fifty-seven (57) fire hydrants in the Robinson Ranch community. All of Trabuco Highlands and Robinson Ranch hydrants are done.
2. Water Department staff replaced a fire hydrant bury and fire hydrant at Saint Michael's Abbey.
3. Water Department staff replaced the effluent pumps and motors on Filter Nos. 2 and 3 at the Dimension Water Treatment Plant.
4. Water Department staff removed a three (3) cubic feet per second (CFS) pump from Ridgeline Booster Pump Station for repair, and subsequently, reinstalled the pump and motor. Director Chadd inquired if the new crane truck was used for the project; Mr. Kessler confirmed that the crane truck was used, and it worked great.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

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ITEM 13: WASTEWATER SYSTEM UPDATES

Mr. Hanberg reviewed the projects and repairs for December, 2017, and provided the additional highlights:

1. Wastewater Department staff replaced plastic conduit on the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Recycled Water Reservoir Dam Face with galvanized pipe.
2. Wastewater Department staff assisted the Maintenance Department replace a wet well pump at Golf Club Sewer Lift Station.

Mr. Hanberg briefly reviewed the District's Sewer System Management Plan Annual Report with the Committee, and highlighted a sewer spill which occurred in the Dove Canyon Community which was a result of laundry detergent that solidified in sanitary sewer system. Mr. Hanberg added that the spill was fully contained with a partial amount captured at Dove Lake.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

ITEM 14: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS

Mr. Ruiz commented that AB 746 was passed the State Legislature and approved by the Governor last October, which requires water providers sample school sites for lead in their potable water systems. Mr. Ruiz added that tests at school sites must be completed prior to July 1, 2019. Director Chadd inquired as to the approved testing methods; Mr. Ruiz commented that District staff will coordinate with the schools in its service area. Discussion occurred concerning the sampling locations and associated costs.

Mr. Ruiz expressed his appreciation for Ms. Sangi filling in for Mr. Perea.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

There was no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Director Mandich adjourned the January 3, 2018, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 8:20 AM.