



## **TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | OCTOBER 6, 2021**

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### **DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Ed Mandich, Committee Chair  
Stephen Dopudja, Committee Member

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Fernando Paludi, General Manager  
Michael Perea, Assistant General Manager  
Lorrie Lausten, District Engineer  
Karen Warner, Principal Accountant  
Gary Kessler, Water Superintendent  
Jason Stroud, Maintenance Superintendent  
Oscar Ulloa, Wastewater Chief Plant Operator  
Lisa Marie Sangi, Executive Assistant

### **PUBLIC PRESENT**

None

### **PUBLIC PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL**

There were members of the public on the conference call.

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Director Mandich called the October 6, 2021 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting to order at 7:00 AM. Public access to the meeting was made available by teleconference broadcast.

### **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. Paludi expressed his appreciation for the Directors' participation at the Special Board Meeting the prior evening.

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

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Mr. Perea presented the Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap for Committee review in accordance with the agenda.

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Director Mandich and Mr. Perea recommended that the Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap(s) be forwarded to the Board of Directors for approval (Consent Calendar).

**ITEM 2: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION(S) CONCERNING THE CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER NO. 2 TO BELL CANYON SEWER LIFT STATION REHABILITATION PROJECT**

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Mr. Paludi introduced this matter to the Committee for consideration, and he reported that this project is functionally complete. Ms. Lausten presented a contract change order for Committee review which included certain project costs and a proposed improvement for facility security fence. Ms. Lausten reviewed the proposed improvement design and dimensions. Discussion occurred concerning certain facility screening challenges and costs associated with the security fence improvements.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The Committee recommended the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to execute Contract Change Order No. 2 with Ferreira Construction in the amount of \$53,883.00. (Action Calendar).

**ITEM 3: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION(S) CONCERNING PARTICIPATION IN THE COUNTY OF ORANGE JOINT AGREEMENT FOR 800MHz COUNTYWIDE COORDINATED COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM**

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Mr. Perea presented this matter for Committee consideration, and he provided a brief overview of the benefits associated with the WEROC radio communication system which uses the Orange County Sheriff's Department 800 MHz system. Mr. Perea reported that the County of Orange has updated the joint agreement for participation in the system with associated nominal annual costs. Mr. Perea recommended that Board of Directors approve the joint agreement for continued participation in the communication system.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The Committee recommended the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to execute the County of Orange Joint Agreement for the Orange County 800 MHz Emergency Communications System (Action Calendar).

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

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**1. *Trabuco Creek Wells Facility***

Mr. Paludi introduced this matter for Committee consideration, and he provided a brief review of the current condition of the facility. Discussion occurred concerning planned improvements to the pump equipment and wells.

**2. *Saddleback Meadows Development***

Ms. Lausten provided an update on the Sub-Area Master Plan (SAMP), and she provided a handout which highlighted the onsite potable water distribution system. Discussion occurred concerning certain system improvements.

**3. *Saddlecrest Development***

Mr. Paludi reported that District staff will be meeting with the developer and their team to review the facility start-up plan and schedule.

**4. *Heritage Sewer Lift Station***

Ms. Lausten provided a brief update on the planned improvements to this facility, and she reported that staff will review the rehabilitation design.

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***5. El Toro Sewer Lift Station***

Mr. Perea reported that District staff are working with an independent, third-party surge tank manufacturer for the appropriate surge tank for the facility. Mr. Perea added that District staff will coordinate with its electrical and mechanical contractors for the planned improvements.

***5. Dimension Water Treatment Plant Backwash Tank Replacement Project***

Ms. Lausten provided a brief project update for Committee review, and she highlighted the benefits of the single backwash tank at the facility. Ms. Lausten provided a brief update on the budgeted improvements to the onsite office trailer improvements.

***6. Other Projects***

Mr. Paludi provided a brief update on the City of Rancho Santa Margarita (City) street improvement project delays and the impact to the District's previous pipeline repairs on Silvertree Lane. Discussion occurred concerning the City's requirements on street improvements post-emergency pipeline repairs; Ms. Lausten reported that the District has satisfied the City's requirements on this matter. The Committee recommended that District staff follow up with City staff to confirm the timeline for planned street improvements.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status updates. There was no action taken.

**ITEM 5: WATER SYSTEM UPDATES**

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Mr. Kessler reviewed the projects and repairs for September 2021, and he provided the additional highlights:

1. Responded to an emergency leak and subsequent repair at the Orange County Fire Authority (OCFA) Station 18 two-inch domestic water service lateral.
2. Responded to an emergency eight-inch line break on Live Oak Canyon Road and worked with Ferreira Construction to repair the pipeline and install an additional eight-inch isolation valve.
3. Restarted the Dimension Water Treatment Plant on September 15<sup>th</sup> after the completion of the Backwash Tank Replacement Project
4. Continued with the Dead-End Flushing Program in the District's service area.

Mr. Kessler reported that operations has completed the required lead & copper sampling the prior month. Mr. Kessler provided a review of the Monthly Water System Operations System Summary for September 2021, and he reported that supplemental domestic water had been provided to the reclaimed water reservoir to meet system demands.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update. There was no action taken.

**ITEM 6: WASTEWATER SYSTEM UPDATES**

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Mr. Perea reviewed the projects and repairs for September 2021, and he reported that Wastewater Operations staff had completed the following tasks:

1. Annual maintenance for the District's Non-Domestic Water Cla-Vals for the Dove Canyon service connections.
2. Replaced four valves on the secondary effluent filter system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)
3. Met with GMU & JES to discuss options for dredging the recycled water reservoir at the WWTP.
4. Worked with Maintenance staff to replace discharge side check valve at Plano Sewer Lift Station.

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5. Worked with Maintenance staff and Xylem Pumping to install a backup pump solution at Golf Club Sewer Lift Station.

Mr. Perea provided a review of the Monthly Non-Domestic Water (NDW) System Summary report for September 2021, and he reported that operations is currently supplementing the reclaimed water reservoir with domestic water to system demands. Mr. Perea added that District staff will track total user demands and supplementally invoice users in accordance with the Board adopted NDW allocation policy.

Mr. Ulloa provided an update on the potential dredging of the reclaimed water reservoir, and he reported that that District staff met with GMU Engineering and JES Construction to evaluate the current challenges with the reservoir. Discussion occurred concerning the budgetary order of magnitude and planning efforts for this work, and the potential for dredging Dove Lake.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update. There was no action taken.

**ITEM 7: MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

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Mr. Stroud reviewed the projects and repairs for September 2021, and he provided the additional highlights:

1. Performed backup generator preventative maintenance and repairs at booster pump stations and sewer lift stations.
2. Worked with Wastewater Operations staff to replace the secondary effluent filter system valves at the Wastewater Treatment Plant.
3. Worked with Wastewater Operations to replace discharge side check valve at Plano Sewer Lift Station.
4. Assisted the Customer Service Field Technician with annual backflow device testing and repairs in the District's service area.
5. Worked with TESCO Controls with the SCADA upgrade project at the Dimension Water Treatment Plant and WWTP.
6. Worked with Wastewater Operations and Xylem Pumping to install a backup pump solution at Golf Club Sewer Lift Station.

Mr. Stroud provided a brief update concerning facility and vehicle fire extinguisher servicing and employee fire extinguisher use training.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update. There was no action taken.

**ITEM 8: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS**

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There were no other matters or reports received.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

There was no action taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Director Mandich adjourned the October 6, 2021 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 8:05 AM.