



TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | SEPTEMBER 4, 2024

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Mike Safranski, Committee Chair
Stephen Dopudja, Committee Member

STAFF PRESENT

Fernando Paludi, General Manager
Michael Perea, Assistant General Manager
Lorrie Lausten, District Engineer
Gary Kessler, Water Superintendent
Oscar Ulloa, Wastewater Superintendent
Jason Stroud, Maintenance Superintendent
Phil Serpas, CMMS/SCADA Administrator
Roseann Lejsek, Executive Assistant

STAFF ABSENT

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

None

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Director Safranski called the September 4, 2024 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting to order at 7:01 a.m.

VISITOR PARTICIPATION

No comments were received.

ORAL COMMUNICATION

No comments were received.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

Director Dopudja wished everyone in attendance a happy belated Labor Day.

REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Mr. Paludi reported that the next Chat with TCWD Public Forum would be held on September 5, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

ITEM 1: ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP

Mr. Paludi presented the Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap for Committee review in accordance with the agenda. Director Safranski commented on the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Blower Relocation project, and he recommended that staff diligently review the noise mitigation efforts.

RECOMMENDATION: The Committee recommended forwarding this matter to the Board of Directors (Consent Calendar).

ITEM 2: DOVE RECYCLED PUMP STATION IMPROVEMENTS DESIGN AWARD

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration. Ms. Lausten reported that the District sent out a Request for Proposals (RFP) to seven firms. Ms. Lausten stated that five firms attended the pre-bid meeting, however, the District only received one bid. Ms. Lausten stated that she is not comfortable moving forward due to the high cost of the electrical components in the bid. Ms. Lausten stated that she would like to re-evaluate the electrical component before moving forward with the project. Discussion occurred regarding extending the bidding period for firms to possibly increase responsivity and the overall project scope of work.

RECOMMENDATION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 3: HERITAGE SEWER LIFT STATION DESIGN COMPLETION

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration, and he stated that this project was temporarily delayed but restarted. Ms. Lausten provided a brief background of the project, and she stated that the design for full upgrade was started in 2021. Ms. Lausten reported that during that time, the design was close to completion, however, due to the prioritization of the Golf Club Sewer Lift Station improvements, the project was put on hold and the plans were not completed. Ms. Lausten reported that staff solicited proposals from the original design engineers, and she stated that the scope of the project has been revised to address the asset condition information from the conditional assessment performed by Hazen Sawyer. Ms. Lausten provided a handout with information regarding the original project scope and proposed amendments.

- RECOMMENDATION:**
1. Recommend the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to execute Amendment No. 3 to JIG Consultants for the Heritage Sewer Lift Station Mechanical Improvements in the not-to-exceed amount of \$66,050 (Action Calendar)
 2. Recommend the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to execute Amendment No. 2 to DMc Engineering for the Heritage Sewer Lift Station Site Improvements in the not-to-exceed amount of \$23,580 (Action Calendar).

ITEM 4: QUARTERLY CIP UPDATE

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration. Ms. Lausten provided a CIP Summary handout, and she presented updates to various CIP projects. Ms. Lausten reported on new projects added to the CIP FY24-25 budget due to reliability, end-of-service life, and safety issues. Discussion occurred regarding extended lead times for equipment and how that may affect project timelines.

RECOMMENDATION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 5: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECT UPDATES

1. **Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant Blower Replacement Project-Sound Study**
Ms. Lausten provided an update on this matter, and she reported that although staff performed initial sound testing and found there to be no issues, a sound study will provide a thorough evaluation and offer possible recommendations for improvements. Discussion occurred regarding the prudence of completing a sound study to ensure minimal noise impact to residents.
2. **Barneburg Manhole and Wet Well Recoating Summary**
Mr. Ulloa provided an update on this matter, and he reported that both the manhole and wet well required re-coating to maintain the integrity of the wet well. Mr. Ulloa provided a summary of the work that was completed, including setting up the bypass and using an electrical pump to minimize the noise impact to

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residents. Mr. Perea added that this asset has been added into Cartegraph for tracking of costs and future maintenance.

3. Golf Club Sewer Lift Station Construction Report

Ms. Lausten provided an update on this matter, and she reported that the project experienced downtime due to the procurement of bypass equipment but is moving along for the expected October completion date. Ms. Lausten also noted that staff is working with the Dove Canyon Golf Club on parking lot repairs.

4. Santa Margarita Parkway Force Main Rehabilitation

Ms. Lausten provided an update on this matter, and she reported that staff received a preliminary budgetary estimate of \$1.2 to \$1.4 million for the slip lining of both pipes. Discussion occurred regarding the scope of the necessary repairs. Director Dopudja commented that this is a more cost-effective solution than replacing the line. Ms. Lausten added that District staff will be meeting with pipeline slip-line vendor later in the week; Director Safranski requested to attend the meeting to learn more about the process.

5. WWTP Handrailing Improvements

Ms. Lausten provided an update on this matter, and she reported that Engineering and Operations are working together to find cost-effective solutions to replace and repair various handrails at the WWTP. Ms. Lausten also reported that there are two segments that will need handrails installed as a safety measure. Discussion occurred regarding the importance of the project to ensure the District is in compliance for the upcoming State Water Board safety inspection. Mr. Ulloa stated that staff would like to purchase the rails and complete the installation to mitigate costs. Mr. Ulloa added that Operations is looking for cost-savings ideas while maintaining safety.

RECOMMENDATION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 6: WATER SYSTEM UPDATES

Mr. Kessler reviewed the projects and repairs for the prior month, and he reported that Water Operations staff had completed the following tasks:

1. Responded to 16" main break across from Dimension Water Treatment Plant (DWTP) along with Maintenance and Wastewater Departments.
2. Worked with contractor to repair 16" main and add a blow off on bike trail.
3. Repaired stuck hydrant on Flannigan Road.
4. Replaced broken hydrant auxiliary valve on Banstead in Dove Canyon.
5. Worked with the Maintenance Department to install a new 8" meter at Topanga Booster Pump Station.
6. Worked with developer to repair struck Air Vac in Saddle Crest development.
7. Worked with Hazen & Sawyer to investigate/diagnose the causes of the physical shifting of Filter #4 at DWTP.

Mr. Kessler presented the Water System Summary for Committee review, and he reported that he did not have the most current numbers yet, but that the DWTP was operating at 3 CFS. Mr. Kessler also reported filter # 4 was found to be bound with organics after shifting from its foundation after the recent earthquake. Mr. Kessler stated that Operations took the plant offline to clean out the filter. Director Dopudja commented that the District needs an analysis on what the cost will be to complete a sizeable retrofit of the facility. Discussion occurred regarding the cost of shutting down the plant and purchasing treated water, as well as the District's ability to utilize the Baker Treatment Plant as a source. Mr. Paludi stated that he will continue to have discussions with Irvine Ranch Water District concerning Baker Water Treatment Plant (BWTP) operations and their source water.

RECOMMENDATION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 7: WASTEWATER SYSTEM UPDATES

Mr. Ulloa reviewed the projects and repairs for the prior month, and he reported that Wastewater Operations staff had completed the following tasks:

1. Set up a bypass at Heritage Lift Station during SCE repairs to electrical feed to the station.
2. Set up bypass at Barneburg Lift Station to recoat wet well and manhole.
3. Installed a backup level control system to Via Allegre Lift Station.
4. Repaired two check valves at O’Neill Lift Station.
5. Assisted in the bypass for Golf Club Lift Station.

Mr. Ulloa presented the Recycled Water System Summary for Committee review, and he reported that he did not have the most current numbers yet, but he reported that Dove Lake had 6 feet of freeboard. Ms. Lausten reported that contractors were currently diving the dam to inspect the condition of the previously completed repairs. Mr. Ulloa added that there is adequate supply in Dove Lake in anticipation of the pending heatwave.

RECOMMENDATION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 8: MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Mr. Stroud reviewed the projects and repairs for the prior month, and he reported that Maintenance staff completed the following tasks:

Projects and Repairs

Maintenance staff performed and/or completed the following tasks and projects:

Water Operations

1. Worked with Operations and Ferreira Construction on the 16” potable water transmission line break across from the Dimension Water Treatment Plant. Assisted with post-repair cleanup at the impacted Montessori Pre-School.
2. Investigated issues with hydro-pneumatic system air compressor at Canyon Creek Booster Pump Station.
3. Booster #3 and Blower #2 issues at Dimension Water Treatment Plant. Hydrotech Electric troubleshooting and sourcing parts. MCC is outdated and obsolete.
4. Flowmeter installation at Topanga Booster Pump Station.

Wastewater Operations

1. Attended meeting with Operations and Pacific Hydrotech (contractor) to review the Golf Club Sewer Lift Station bypass.
2. New transformer pad and transformer install with Southern California Edison (SCE) at Heritage Sewer Lift Station.
3. Barneburg Sewer Lift Station bypass for wet well coating.
4. Job walk with Ferreira Construction (contractor) at Heritage Sewer Lift Station.

District Fleet Upgrades & Other Projects

1. Coyote Flats cleanup
2. LOF truck #2 Toyota Tundra

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3. New front tires installed on Vactor truck with Daniel's Tire Service (vendor)

RECOMMENDATION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 9: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS

There were no other matters reported.

RECOMMENDATION: None

ADJOURNMENT

Director Safranski adjourned the September 4, 2024 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 8:21 a.m.