



## **TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | DECEMBER 4, 2024**

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### **DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Mike Safranski, Committee Chair  
Don Chadd, Committee Member Alternate

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Fernando Paludi, General Manager  
Lorrie Lausten, District Engineer  
Gary Kessler, Water Superintendent  
Oscar Ulloa, Wastewater Superintendent  
Jason Stroud, Maintenance Superintendent  
Roseann Lejsek, Executive Assistant

### **STAFF ABSENT**

Michael Perea, Assistant General Manager

### **PUBLIC PRESENT**

None

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Director Safranski called the December 4, 2024 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting to order at 7:00 a.m.

### **VISITOR PARTICIPATION**

No comments were received.

### **ORAL COMMUNICATION**

No comments were received.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

None

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

None

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

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

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

**ITEM 2: DOVE RECYCLED WATER PUMP STATION IMPROVEMENTS DESIGN AWARD**

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Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration. Ms. Lausten provided a summary of Phase 1 of the project, and she provided an overview of the RFP process for phase 2. Mr. Lausten stated that the District solicited proposals from eight firms for Design Engineering Services and received two bids. Ms. Lausten provided a proposal comparison and discussion occurred regarding the difference in bid amounts. Ms. Lausten stated that staff is recommending that the project be awarded to JIG Consultants for Design Engineering Services.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Recommend the Board of Directors award a professional services agreement for the Dove Recycled Pump Station Improvements for Engineering Design to JIG Consultants in the amount of \$253,450, plus a 10% contingency of \$25,345, for a not-to-exceed amount of \$278,795 (Action Calendar).

**ITEM 3: ROBINSON RANCH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT EFFLUENT RESERVOIR OUTLET GATE SYSTEM REPAIR**

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Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration, and he reported that this project has been completed. Ms. Lausten provided an overview of the project, and she stated that the Division of Safety of Dams has been notified of the repair. Ms. Lausten noted that this project was completed under budget.

**RECOMMENDATION:** None – Informational item only.

**ITEM 4: ROBINSON RANCH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT BLOWER MODIFICATIONS PROJECT – SOUND STUDY RESULTS**

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Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration, and he reported that the design is being finalized for this project. Ms. Lausten provided a summary of the sound study results, and she stated that Scenario 4 would be the best option. Discussion occurred regarding unforeseen noise issues and potential solutions. Mr. Ulloa added that having the blowers outside will be a huge improvement for aeration during the summer months. The Committee requested that this item be added to the Regular Board Meeting agenda as an information item.

**RECOMMENDATION:** The Committee recommended forwarding this matter to the Board of Directors for informational purposes only (Action Calendar)

**ITEM 5: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECT UPDATES**

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**1. Golf Club SLS Improvement Project**

Ms. Lausten provided an update on this matter, and she reported that this project will be completed at the end of the week. Ms. Lausten reported that although the project had a couple of change orders, the project came under budget of the projected CIP costs. Ms. Lausten added that staff will set up a tour for the Board of Directors in January.

**2. Heritage SLS Improvement Project**

Ms. Lausten provided an update on this matter, and she reported that this project is scheduled to be completed before the holidays. Ms. Lausten provided a brief overview of Phase 1 of the project, and she stated that she is working on plans for Phase 2. Ms. Lausten noted that completion of the project will be approximately two years, partly due to procurement lead times.

**3. Other Projects**

Dove/Tick Creek Improvements - Mr. Paludi reported that the Dove/Tick Creek Pump Station Improvements design RFP will be issued in the near future, and he stated that the District has received two grants which should cover the design costs.

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Dove Dam Improvements - Mr. Paludi reported that staff is waiting to hear back on its grant application for Dove Dam Outlet Structure Improvements, and that staff is working on putting the RFP together.

SCADA Project - Mr. Paludi reported that the District's contractor, W.M. Lyles Co., has provided recommendations in Phase 1 of the project and that Phase 2 will include the implementation of these recommendations. Mr. Paludi stated that staff will bring an amendment to the current agreement for final integration to the January Engineering/Operational Committee meeting. Mr. Paludi noted that the cost will be approximately within the \$400,000 that had been originally budgeted in FY 2023-24 for TESCO to finish this project.

**RECOMMENDATION:** None – Informational item only.

**ITEM 6: WATER SYSTEM UPDATES**

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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 and worked with contractor to repair 10" main break on Live Oak Canyon Road.
2. Reassembled filters 1 – 3 at Dimension Water Treatment Plant (DWTP) in an effort to get the plant back in service.
3. Responded again to major line break on 16" main transmission line leaving DWTP.

Mr. Kessler presented the Water System Summary for Committee review. Mr. Kessler reported that the 16" main transmission line has experienced four-line breaks, and he stated that more breaks can be expected on this very old pipeline. Mr. Kessler suggested slip-lining the pipe in critical areas as a more cost-effective solution than complete replacement. Discussion occurred regarding potential options to repair the pipeline in the short-term and long-term. Ms. Lausten added that the pipeline replacement was identified in Hazen Sawyer's asset condition assessment. Mr. Paludi stated that the District will need to plan for this level of expense. Discussion also occurred regarding the District's capacity at the Baker Treatment facility and District's current water supply costs.

**RECOMMENDATION:** None – Informational item only.

**ITEM 7: WASTEWATER SYSTEM UPDATES**

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

1. Repaired a 3" air vent for Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Reservoir valve.
2. Assisted divers in the repairs and operation of the sluice gate at the WWTP Reservoir.
3. Made repairs and cleaning of polymer pump for the belt press at the WWTP.
4. Bypassed Golf Club Lift Station and assisted with the installation of a flowmeter assembly on the force main.

Mr. Ulloa presented the Recycled Water System Summary for Committee review, and he reported that the Reservoir was at elevation 1,262 feet and Dove Lake had approximately 12 feet of freeboard. Mr. Ulloa reported that the pump at Dove Lake has been shut off, and he noted that a "turning-over" of the lake occurred but that the lake is healthy in terms of water quality.

**RECOMMENDATION:** None – Informational item only.

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**ITEM 8: MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

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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. High wind event 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>. Setup mobile emergency generator at Field Office Pump Station.
2. Preventative Maintenance (PM) tasks on DWTP electric motors, grease zerk fitting, and replacing a small ROTRON blower.
3. PMs on Ridgeline Booster Pump Station (BPS) electric motors, grease zerk fittings.
4. Electrical Manual Transfer Switch installed at Falcon BPS with contractor Hydrotech Electric.
5. Meeting with Orange County Public Works, County Department of Health and Water Emergency Response of Orange County (WERO) at the Groundwater Treatment Facility to discuss potential flooding and debris flow strategies.

**Wastewater Operations**

1. Divers at WWTP recycled water reservoir.

**District Fleet Upgrades & Other Projects**

1. ARC flash re-labeling with contractor P2S.
2. PMs on brush/weed abatement equipment.
3. Attended the WERO Water Distribution Emergency Meeting at the Emergency Operations Center.
4. Attended the Quarterly WERO meeting at Municipal Water District of Orange County.

**RECOMMENDATION:** None – Informational item only.

**ITEM 9: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS**

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Mr. Paludi reported that the County has been proactive in responding to the berm reinforcement in front of the Groundwater Treatment Facility, and he stated that the County has drawn up plans and will complete the project. A brief discussion occurred regarding the submission of a reimbursement claim through the County.

Director Safranski thanked Director Chadd for his many years of service to the District and wished him all the best.

Director Chadd thanked Director Safranski for his comments.

**RECOMMENDATION:** None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Director Safranski adjourned the December 4, 2024 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 7:58 a.m.