



## TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | MARCH 5, 2025

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### **DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Glenn Acosta, Committee Chair  
Mark Anderson, 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  
Roseann Lejsek, Executive Assistant

### **STAFF ABSENT**

None

### **DISTRICT CONSULTANTS**

None

### **PUBLIC PRESENT**

None

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Director Acosta called the March 5, 2025 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. and he reminded staff that Director Anderson would become Committee Chair starting next month.

### **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.

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

**ITEM 2: DISCUSSION REGARDING MOBILE BACKUP GENERATOR POWER SUPPLY AUGMENTATION**

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Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration. Mr. Perea reported that he has been working with Operations staff to perform an internal analysis of all backup generator power equipment and energy demands at all District operated facilities to identify vulnerabilities and areas for improvement. Mr. Perea stated that he has updated the summary sheet to identify facilities with critical backup generator needs, as requested by the Committee. Mr. Perea provided a summary of two proposals for mobile generators for discussion purposes. Mr. Stroud reported that staff is in the process of disposing of equipment that is no longer South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) compliant. Discussion occurred regarding potential improvements at the Canyon Creek site to allow for better flexibility and access to the site for generator power.

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

**ITEM 3: UPDATE ON STATE WATER BOARD CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL PLAN HANDBOOK (CCCPH) REQUIREMENTS AND PLAN ADOPTION**

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Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration, and he noted that these new requirements may impact the District’s Meter Downsizing Program. Mr. Perea reported that the State Water Board has adopted a Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH), and he stated that the District is participating in an inter-agency joint effort with other Orange County water agencies and cities to develop a CCCP tailored to each agency’s needs. Mr. Perea reported that as a part of the meter downsizing review, staff is completing a hazard assessment on properties to evaluate the potential requirement for installation of a backflow device. Mr. Perea noted that properties with an Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) meter installed may allow for an exception if other conditions are met. Mr. Perea added that CCCPH is linked in the staff report for the Committee’s review.

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

**ITEM 4: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECT UPDATES**

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**1. Orange County Public Works (OCPW) Trabuco Creek Bridge Project Status**

Ms. Lausten reported that OCPW will start construction at the end of 2026. Discussion occurred regarding protection or relocation of the District’s pipeline, and possible encroachment into District property. Ms. Lausten stated that she will set up a meeting to discuss all potential impacts to the District. Discussion occurred regarding the County’s cost for this project. Ms. Lausten stated that she will research and provide those numbers.

**2. 16” Transmission Main Line Repair**

Mr. Paludi reported that staff has received preliminary cost estimates and that staff will schedule a Source of Supply Ad Hoc Committee meeting for discussion and direction on this project. Ms. Lausten stated that she will have better project cost numbers next week.

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

**ITEM 5: 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:

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1. Repaired leak that flooded Admin.
2. Serviced 64 valves in the Rancho Cielo and Walden Homes area.
3. Flushed 21 dead end hydrants in Dove Canyon.
4. Replaced all copper tubing on pumps and flow control valve at the Field Office.
5. Worked with the Meter Dept. to replace 1" angle stop on Pennington in Robinson Ranch.

Mr. Kessler presented the Water System Summary for Committee review.

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

**ITEM 6: 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. Assisted in the replacement and programming of two VFD's at Dove Recycle Pump Station.
2. Assisted in the fiber optic work at the WWTP.
3. Assisted in the cutover to the new SCADA system at Dove Recycle Pump Station.
4. Installed a new emergency dialer at Barneburg Lift Station.
5. Completed annual maintenance on Recycle System Cla-Val's.

Mr. Ulloa presented the Recycled Water System Summary for Committee review. A brief discussion occurred regarding the increase in production due to rain, as well as a discussion regarding the Dove/Tick Creek Improvement project. Mr. Paludi reported that the District has received approximately \$1 million in grant funding, and that a design RFP would be going out in the near future.

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

**ITEM 7: 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. Job walk with Engineering at Canyon Creek for mobile diesel parking/setup.
2. Job walk with Engineering and JES at Res one for culvert repair.
3. EOC meeting to talk about mud/debris flow in Holy Jim/Trabuco Creek.
4. New Dimension job walk at Field Office

**Wastewater Operations**

1. Maint/Electrical room clean up and organization.
2. Beavans Systems at WWTP for fiber optic install.
3. VFD swap out at Dove Canyon Recycle station.
4. Reclaim res/dam V-Ditch job walk with JES.
5. Aluminum platform built inside WWTP SBR dry pit for PLC control box.

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**District Fleet Upgrades & Other Projects**

1. New 800-gallon water trailer delivered.
2. Haaker meetup at WWTP to look over Vactor truck.
3. Dropped off Ford Explorer for body repair and paint.
4. Water Dept. service truck #4 sent to Specialty Equipment for HD lock upgrade.
5. New tires on service truck #29.

Director Acosta suggested that staff prepare a document with a list of projects that have been completed by staff along with cost comparisons of actual in-house costs versus projected contractor costs.

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

**ITEM 8: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS**

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Director Anderson stated that a large mound of sandy material is available for free in San Juan Capistrano if the District has any applications for it, and he mentioned that it can be delivered if needed.

**RECOMMENDATION:** None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Director Acosta adjourned the March 5, 2025 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 8:48 a.m.