



TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Mark Anderson, Committee Chair
Glenn Acosta, 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
Karen Warner, Principal Accountant
Phil Serpas, CMMS/SCADA Administrator

STAFF ABSENT

None

DISTRICT CONSULTANTS

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

None

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Director Anderson called the September 3, 2025 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting to order at 8:00 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

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).

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**ITEM 2: ROBINSON RANCH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT BLOWER MODIFICATION PROJECT
CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT CONTRACT AWARD**

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration. Ms. Lausten reported that construction of this project was awarded to SS Mechanical, and that staff solicited proposals from five firms for Construction Management and Inspection services. Ms. Lausten stated that three firms attended the pre-proposal meeting, and one firm submitted a proposal. Ms. Lausten reviewed the pre-proposal evaluation and recommended that a Construction Management and Inspection Services contract be awarded to MCM Consulting.

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend the Board of Directors award a Construction Management Service contract for the WWTP Blower Modification Project to MCM Consulting for a fee not-to-exceed \$118,310 with a 10% contingency, for a total not-to-exceed amount of \$130,141 (Action Calendar).

ITEM 3: ROBINSON RANCH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT BLOWER STATION EQUIPMENT PURCHASE

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration. Ms. Lausten reported that the existing Hoffman blower has reached the end of its useful life, and that it is no longer reliable for essential plant operations. Mr. Ulloa reported that the existing blowers have been rebuilt multiple times, and that they have experienced critical failures. Ms. Lausten provided photos of the existing equipment, and Mr. Ulloa reviewed the photos, highlighting areas of wear and inefficiencies.

RECOMMENDATION: Recommend that the Board of Directors ratify the purchase of two blower/motor assemblies and one blower only from Lone Star Blower in the amount of \$177,635 (Action Calendar).

ITEM 4: DOVE RESERVOIR MAINTENANCE ROAD ASPHALT RESURFACING PROJECT

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration, and he reported that this paving project is a cost-sharing effort with Dove Canyon Master Association (DCMA) related to the access road leading to Dove Reservoir. Mr. Perea reported that he discussed this matter with DCMA's property manager, and that their Board has requested a 50/50 split of the paving costs. Mr. Perea added that although the amount falls within the General Manager's signing authority, the matter was being presented to the Committee for transparency purposes.

RECOMMENDATION: Forward to the Board of Directors for consideration (Action Calendar).

ITEM 5: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECT UPDATES

1. Dimension Water Treatment Plant Pipeline Rehabilitation and Filter 4 Seismic Retrofit

Ms. Lausten reported that the contractor for the pipeline rehabilitation project mobilized on September 2, and Mr. Kessler reported on the contractor's preliminary findings upon opening the pipeline. Director Acosta requested that staff share project photos with the Board. Ms. Lausten extended an invitation to the Board for a tour of the project site. Ms. Lausten also noted that the Filter 4 seismic retrofit was scheduled to begin October 6.

2. Saddle Crest Inlet Pipeline Improvement Project

Ms. Lausten reported that staff was preparing to send the plans out to bid. Ms. Lausten also provided a brief overview of the original design and its challenges, along with the planned improvements.

3. Other Projects

None

RECOMMENDATION: None – Informational item only.

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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. Worked with Meter Tech to replace 1" curb stop on Cimmaron in Robinson Ranch.
2. Repaired 10" line break on Bell Canyon in Dove Canyon.
3. Installed sump pump in vault at the Saddle Crest PS.
4. Finished putting Filter #4 together at DWTP.
5. Installed effluent valve on Filter #1 at DWTP.
6. Repaired struck hydrant in the Trabuco Market Place parking lot.

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

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. Performed weed abatement at Dove Creek Dry Season Recovery Pump Station.
2. Performed manhole inspections after paving on Robinson Ranch Rd.
3. Maintenance was completed on 2" recycled water Cla-Val on Plano.
4. Maintenance was completed on 8" recycled water Cla-Val on Robinson Ranch Rd.
5. The backwash tank was cleaned at the WWTP.
6. New level indicators installed at Heritage and Plano Lift Stations.

Mr. Ulloa presented the Recycled Water System Summary for Committee review, and he reported that the reservoir was at 1,257 feet and Dove Lake had 7.5 feet of freeboard.

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. Remove mobile generator from Canyon Creek BPS used for emergency operations during heat wave.

Wastewater Operations

1. Assist Wastewater Dept. with Dove Creek bypass to prep for major landscape work.
2. Assist with the removal and replacement of Dove Lake Pump.

District Fleet Upgrades & Other Projects

1. Met with Verizon Mobile representatives on cell sites, Push to Talk (PTT) phones, and emergency mobile cell/wifi trailer.

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2. Start EMASS with Hydrotech Electric.
3. Complete emergency backup generator test and inspections.
4. HAZMAT inspection with OC Health on hazardous chemical storage.

Mr. Perea commended Mr. Stroud for his efforts in facilitating an onsite meeting with the Water Emergency Response Organization of Orange County (WEROC) in relation to emergency equipment.

RECOMMENDATION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 9: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS

No other matters were reported.

RECOMMENDATION: None

ADJOURNMENT

Director Anderson adjourned the September 3, 2025 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 8:35 a.m.