MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
& OF THE
ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

October 23, 2023

At approximately 7:57 a.m. Director Freshley called the Engineering Committee meeting to order.

Committee Members KAY HAVENS, KATHRYN FRESHLEY, MIKE GASKINS, MARK MONIN, and FRED ADJARIAN participated.

Also participating were DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, General Manager, JUDY CIMORELL, Human Resources Manager, HANNAH FORD, Engineering Manager, RORY HARNISCH, Senior Engineer, GILBERT J. GRANITO, General Counsel, VISHAV SHARMA, CFO, SCOTT HOPKINS, Operations Superintendent, SHERRI SEITZ, Public Relations Manager, VU CHU, Water Use Efficiency Analyst, VICKI TANIOUS, Payroll, (Zoom), MIKE MIAZGA, IT Manager (Zoom), CAROL MOORE, Laguna Woods City Council member (Zoom), and POLLY WELSCH, Recording Secretary.

Consent Calendar

Director Freshley asked for a Motion.

Motion: President Havens made a Motion, seconded by Director Gaskins to approve the Consent Calendar.

Roll Call Vote:

Director Adjarian	abstain (not in attendance at the meeting)
Director Gaskins	aye
Director Freshley	aye
Vice President Monin	aye
President Havens	aye

Engineering Action Items

Resolution No. 23-10-2 Direct Potable Reuse Strategic Plan Study Grant Application

Ms. Ford stated that in November 2021 staff did a study with Tetra Tech on what it would take to expand our non-potable recycled water system. She further stated that when the costs came back higher than expected, the results were presented to the Board to determine next steps for diversifying the District's water supply portfolio.

Ms. Ford stated that the District would like to pursue the WaterSMART Planning Grant to fund a DPR (Direct Potable Reuse) Strategic Plan. She further stated that the scope of work is structured to meet the grant requirements.

Ms. Ford stated that staff included flow charts in the Board package that illustrate the types of Potable Reuse as defined by the California Code of Regulations. She further stated that, because the District does not have a groundwater basin, surface water Reservoir, or Water Treatment Plant, we would pursue Treated Water Augmentation.

Ms. Ford further stated that this means treating wastewater to introduce directly into the distribution system with our other potable supplies. She further stated that the Study will also look at talking to neighboring agencies to explore potential collaboration, including partnership with Orange County Public Works to explore stormwater augmentation.

Ms. Ford stated that included in the report is some flow information that shows how potable water demands would consume all potentially generated through potable while still maintaining our Baker commitment. She further stated that we will also continue to do non-potable reuse, but further expanding the non-potable reuse system may not make sense given the limited additional supply, restricted use associated with

that type of supply (i.e., for irrigation), and potential for increased salinity.

Vice President Monin asked if staff discussed with neighboring agencies ideas on the grant side being successful in obtaining a grant. Ms. Ford replied that MWDOC wrote a letter of support citing their Water Supply Reliability Study, which encourages local agencies to pursue projects like this and have developed comparable unit cost of water to avoid a shortage.

Director Adjarian suggested letters of support from our neighboring agencies. Ms. Ford replied that staff has reached out to our neighboring agencies, and we have received several letters of support.

Director Freshley asked who will do the scope of work. Ms. Ford replied that if we get this grant, the contract would be awarded in July 2024 so we would issue an RFP to qualified technical consultants at that time.

Director Freshley asked which consultants are capable of doing this kind of analysis. Ms. Ford replied that Carollo Engineers, Black & Veatch, and Hazen and Sawyer are examples of who could perform this analysis.

Ms. Ford stated that this grant requires a 50% cost share, the majority of which would be covered through staff time, but there would still be some portion we would fund through our capital budget or additional grant funding.

Director Freshley asked for a Motion.

Motion: President Havens made a Motion, seconded by Director Adjarian to adopt Resolution No. 23-10-2 authorizing the General Manager or designee to apply for receive, enter into a cooperative agreement, and administer a grant for the WaterSMART Planning and Project Design for Fiscal Year FY 2023 and FY 2024.

Roll Call Vote:

Director Adjarian	aye
Director Gaskins	aye
Director Freshley	aye
Vice President Monin	aye
President Havens	aye

Mathis Lift Station Inlet Piping Improvement Project

Mr. Harnisch stated that this is not a budgeted project. He further stated that, in May, Operations found a pipe section break at the inlet lower drop section at the entrance to the wet well.

Mr. Harnisch stated that staff worked with a contractor to gather potential solutions and found the best course of action at the time was to install two manholes. He further stated that staff reached out to Dudek to design construction documents for the project.

Mr. Harnisch stated that staff anticipated construction costs to be approximately $300,000 so staff looked for a more cost-effective way to do this project. He further stated that staff suggested taking the exterior drop section and putting it on the inside of the wet well.

Mr. Harnisch stated that we would patch the lower wet well penetration so the sewage would no longer enter and then install a liner from the manhole in the street to the wet well to close off the lower section. He further stated that staff would also attempt to rescue the hose that was stuck in the inlet as a result of the initial blockage.

Mr. Harnisch stated that staff reached out to Tunnel Works, Inc., who is a contractor that our Collections Supervisor has worked with on many projects, to develop a cost for installing the bowl, passing the lower section, and lining the pipe from the manhole in the street to the wet well. He further stated that Tunnel Works, Inc. quoted

$33,510 for this work, which also included working with both the City and the County for traffic control.

Mr. Harnisch stated that this work will be done at night when flows are lower.

Director Freshley asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Gaskins made a Motion, seconded by Director Adjarian to authorize the General Manager to issue a contract to Tunnel Works Inc. in the amount of $33,510 for construction of the Mathis Lift Station Inlet Piping Improvement Project.

Roll Call Vote:

Director Adjarian	aye
Director Gaskins	aye
Director Freshley	aye
Vice President Monin	aye
President Havens	aye

Recess

At approximately 8:30 a.m. the Board took a short recess.

Regular Session

At approximately 8:40 a.m. the Board returned to regular session.

Engineering Information Items

Update on AB 1572

Ms. Seitz stated that the Governor signed AB 1572 on October 13th, and this bill prohibits the use of potable water to irrigate non-functional turf on certain properties. She further stated that the bill excludes turf irrigated by recycled water.

Ms. Seitz stated that this bill includes HOAs and common interest developments, but excludes multifamily residential properties, cemeteries, and tree health. She further stated that it does not apply to single family residential property.

Ms. Seitz stated that recreational use is defined as an area designated by a property owner or a governmental agency to accommodate human foot traffic for recreation, including sports fields, golf courses, playgrounds, picnic grounds or pet exercise areas.

Ms. Seitz stated that functional turf is defined as a ground cover surface of turf located in a recreational use area or community gathering space, while non-functional turf is defined as any turf that is not functional turf, and includes turf located within streets rights-of-way and parking lots.

Ms. Seitz stated that all public water systems must revise regulations, ordinances or policies governing water service.

Ms. Seitz stated that non-compliance shall be subject to civil liability and penalties imposed by an urban retail water supplier pursuant to their locally adopted ordinance or policy.

Making Conservation a California Way of Life Regulation

Mr. Chu provided an overview of regulation history of water conservation and the effects current regulations will have on our District. He further stated that there are more than 400 suppliers that provide water to 95% of California.

Mr. Chu stated that included in the Urban Water Use Objective is residential indoor and outdoor use, commercial landscapes with dedicated irrigation meters (DIMs), and real water losses. He further stated that excluded from the Objective is commercial indoor use, commercial outdoor use without DIMS, other uses, and apparent water losses.

Mr. Chu reviewed the basic formula for calculating objectives based on efficiency standards and supplier-specific data, reviewed the Residential Indoor Budget, Water Loss Budget, Residential Outdoor Budget, Commercial Landscapes with DIM Outdoor Budget, Commercial Performance Measures, Reporting Requirements, and State Board Enforcement's timeline.

Director Adjarian stated that the first public comment period is August 18th through October 17th, and asked if there will be additional opportunities to provide public comment, and if so when will the State provide a revised schedule. Mr. Chu replied that another workshop is anticipated before summer of 2024.

ETWD Operations Report

Mr. Cafferty stated that this report will show the work performed per month, per calendar year, and the targets and benchmarks for the Operations projects.

Mr. Hopkins stated that he gets regular updates on the projects and he will update the report as he receives the data.

Director Freshley stated that she was concerned about the level of savings shown in the Battery Report.

Capital Projects Status Report

R-6 Reservoir Floating Cover and Liner Replacement Project

Ms. Ford stated that staff have completed filling of the Reservoir on Monday, October 2nd. She further stated that the District is still monitoring total trihalomethane (TTHM) and carbon tetrachloride (CCI4), which are higher than their regulated maximum contaminant level (MCL). She further stated that staff has informed DDW and they approved our use of the water in the reservoir.

President Havens asked if we are venting. Ms. Ford replied that there are vents on the reservoir but no active mechanism to encourage volatile compounds to exit the reservoir through the vents.

Ms. Ford stated that today and tomorrow the divers are installing the cords for the valve open signal, and Layfield's contract is nearing completion so that work can begin on the paving project.

Director Adjarian asked if the divers are videoing their work as they go. Ms. Ford replied yes.

Grit Chamber Rehabilitation Project

Ms. Ford stated that we have finalized the design and the contractor that was on board for the coating project is providing us costing, which District staff will review and decide whether to recommend for award next month.

Headworks and Secondary Clarifier No. 1 Rehabilitation Project

Ms. Ford stated that next month we plan to award design of the Headworks and Secondary Clarifier No. 1 Rehabilitation Project to a consultant. She further stated that this is a combination of recommendations from the Headworks Rehabilitation and WRP Optimization Studies done last year to realize some cost savings.

Ms. Ford stated that the existing climber screen cannot handle the slug from the daily Northline pump down due to rapid screen blinding, so staff opens the bypass channel with the dimminutor to handle the excess flow. She further stated that the dimminutor is aging, and staff prefers its replacement with another bar screen and installation of a true, passive overflow channel. The WRP Optimization Study recommended replacing the existing Secondary Clarifier No. 1 in kind and bypassing the Waste Activated Cell (WAC), but District staff needs to weigh the decision to bypass

the WAC with our frequency of truck trips to SOCWA and need for emergency storage at the WRP. The design contract will establish the basis of design for the Headworks and Secondary Clarifier No. 1 Rehabilitation and will include an evaluation of polymer addition to enhance solids thickening at the WRP.

Director Adjarian asked who is submitting proposals. Ms. Ford replied that it is Carollo, Black & Veatch, Dudek, and Arcadis.

New Warehouse

Mr. Harnisch stated that the pre-engineered metal building is on order and likely to arrive in December. He further stated that footings have been placed, and slabs will be placed this week.

Aliso Creek Lift Station Alternatives Analysis

Mr. Harnisch stated that staff had a kickoff meeting with Tetra Tech and later today we will have our first on-site meeting. He further stated that influent flow monitoring will begin in a few weeks.

DAF Unit 2 Retrofit and Rehabilitation

Mr. Harnisch stated that the equipment is on site. He further stated that SS Mechanical is on board and will schedule a pre-construction meeting for construction to begin in early November.

Director Freshley asked if there will be any other engineering consultants involved in this project. Ms. Ford replied that, no, this was an in-house design project.

Effluent Transmission Main (ETM) Backflow Prevention Project

Mr. Harnisch stated that this project involves a large shutdown to install a check valve. He further stated that the contractor has completed the work and the pipeline has been in service for a few weeks; however there was some additional work done to

close the project, and staff filed a Notice of Completion (NOC) last week.

Effluent Pump Station Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Harnisch stated that the project is complete, and staff filed the NOC.

Asset Management

Ms. Ford stated that staff conducted an extensive workshop where WRP staff reviewed the results of the condition assessment and next will determine consequence of failure assignments for each asset to develop a risk score.

Ms. Ford stated that District staff are also working on an evaluation of our Computerized Maintenance Management System and how it will apply to all departments and communicate with our asset management dashboard.

System Wide Arc Flash and Coordination Study

Ms. Ford stated that we have submitted a request to SCE for data and are working to schedule site visits with the consultants, some of which will require a shutdown. She further stated that we are scheduling the shutdown of the WRP to coincide with when we receive the ATSs which are expected the end of this month.

Lead and Copper Rule Revisions Compliance

Ms. Ford stated that staff is responding to a large data request while MWDOC and Hazen develop the contract agreement and final costing.

Tertiary Disinfection Optimization Project

Ms. Ford stated that staff received comments back last week from DDW and staff will initiate the tracer test upon finalization of the protocol.

Cathodic Protection Repair on Moulton Parkway

Ms. Ford stated that there is no movement on this project pending traffic control in order to perform a survey.

Energy Efficiency Analysis

Ms. Ford stated that we are responding to a data request for InPipe Energy to identify potential opportunities for hydroturbines within the potable and/or recycled water systems.

Engineering Items Discussed at Various Conferences and Meetings

There were no comments.

Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Engineering Committee Items

There were no comments.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Engineering Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:17 a.m.

Attorney Report

Mr. Granito report that there is no need for a Closed Session today and as such, Regular Session resumed.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:17 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

POLLY WELSCH
Recording Secretary

APPROVED:

KAY HAVENS, President
of the El Toro Water District and the
Board of Directors thereof

DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, Secretary
of the El Toro Water District and the
Board of Directors thereof