

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
& OF THE
ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

July 20, 2026

At approximately 8:32 a.m. Director McClean called the Engineering Committee meeting to order.

Directors MARK MONIN, MIKE GASKINS, KAY HAVENS, KATHRYN FRESHLEY, and WYATT McCLEAN participated.

Also participating were DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, General Manager, GILBERT J. GRANITO, General Counsel, JUDY CIMORELL, Director of Human Resources, VISHAV SHARMA, CFO, HANNAH FORD, Director of Engineering, SCOTT HOPKINS, Operations Superintendent, MIKE MIAZGA, Information Technology Manager (Zoom), VU CHU, Water Resources Supervisor (Zoom), CAROL MOORE, City of Laguna Woods (Zoom), and MARISOL MELENDEZ, Recording Secretary.

Consent Calendar

Director McClean asked for a Motion.

Motion: Vice President Havens made a Motion, seconded by President Freshley to approve the Consent Calendar.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Engineering Information Items

El Toro Water District Operations Report

President Freshley inquired about the increase in potable water use in the Recycled Water Storage Tank. Mr. Cafferty stated demand was high during that period. There was also a minor upset which was quickly resolved but it impacted the amount of water production. In addition, the Chlorine Contact Tank was drained and cleaned to improve water quality. Under normal circumstances, cleaning is typically performed in the winter but the coliform results were higher than usual. These circumstances required higher potable water use during that period, although it is not used very often.

El Toro Water District Capital Project Status Report

Low 1 Zone Hydraulic Modifications Project

Ms. Ford reported that after receiving customer complaints about low water pressure at the South end of the District's service area, staff took action by placing recorders on the nearby hydrants to monitor the pressure trends. The results indicated very low pressure at night when irrigation demand is highest. Staff recalibrated the hydraulic model with the intense irrigation demand and discovered that pressure is lower than preferred. Staff found that the best long-term solution is to connect the Low 1 Zone to the Gravity Zone. This will involve installing 500 ft of new piping and an above ground pressure reducing station. Staff will present to the Boards of United and Golden Rain Foundation and conduct targeted community outreach. Staff will also meet with the irrigators to possibly coordinate their demand to mitigate the low pressure condition in the interim. Staff anticipates recommending award for the design contract next month.

Headworks and Secondary Clarifier No. 1 Rehabilitation Project

Ms. Ford reported that the project is well underway with yard piping and concrete channel formation. There are small change orders within the General Manager's authority which will be reflected in the report once finalized. She also stated that ENERGYWERX who administers the Department of Energy's federal grant funds for the ITAC program confirmed that the District remains eligible for the \$300,000 grant and reimbursements as long as the project costs for the Waste Activated Cell (WAC) bid item are Build America, Buy America and Davis Bacon Act compliant going forward.

SOCWA Effluent Transmission Main (ETM) Reach B Techite Replacement

Ms. Ford reported that the District met with VMS golf course staff and are waiting for the final comments on the proposed alignment. Staff will also be sending an easement for VMS to review. Ms. Ford reported that staff has pursued a CEQA Notice of Exemption and will be doing targeted studies as documentation.

R-6 Reservoir Southern Slope Repair Project

Ms. Ford reported that this project is nearly complete, and staff are meeting with the contractor to review the plant establishment.

Moulton/El Toro Cathodic Repair Project

Ms. Ford reported that staff are waiting for the deductive change order cost from the contractor that will reflect the consultant's direction to reduce the number of anode ground beds and stations being impacted.

Freeway Electrical Equipment Replacement

Ms. Ford reported that staff recently met with Baker and SCE. Temporary power will be set up when the change order negotiations regarding the canopy adjustments are finalized.

Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvement Project

Ms. Ford reported that staff is working on finalizing the easement agreements with Golden Rain Foundation and United.

Engineering Items Discussed at Various Conferences and Meetings

There were no comments.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Engineering Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:08 a.m.

Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Engineering Committee Items

There were no comments.

Attorney Report

Mr. Granito reported that there is no need for a Closed Session today.

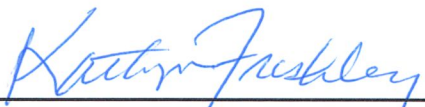
Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


MARISOL MELENDEZ
Recording Secretary

APPROVED:


KATHRYN FRESHLEY, 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