

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
& OF THE  
ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

September 20, 2021

At approximately 7:50 a.m. Director Vergara called the Engineering Committee meeting to order.

Committee Members MIKE GASKINS (via Zoom), KATHRYN FRESHLEY, JOSE VERGARA, MARK MONIN (via zoom), and KAY HAVENS participated.

Also participating were DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, General Manager, JUDY CIMORELL, Human Resources Manager, JASON HAYDEN, CFO, SHERRI SEITZ, Public Relations/Emergency Preparedness Administrator, GILBERT J. GRANITO, General Counsel, SCOTT HOPKINS, Operations Superintendent, HANNAH FORD, Engineering Manager, CAROL MOORE, Laguna Woods Council Member (via zoom), and POLLY WELSCH, Recording Secretary.

Consent Calendar

Director Vergara asked for a Motion.

Motion: Vice President Freshley made a Motion, seconded by President Gaskins and unanimously carried across the Board to approve the August 23, 2021 Engineering Committee meeting minutes.

Roll Call Vote:

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

## Engineering Action Items

### WRP Forklift Replacement

Mr. Cafferty stated that staff is proposing to procure the new forklift through Sourcewell, which is a self-sustaining government organization with over 40 years of service that offers contract purchasing solutions to member agencies.

President Gaskins asked if the new forklift will be just as useful as the old one was. Mr. Hopkins replied that the new forklift will have more power and be able to handle everything the old one did.

Vice President Freshley asked if the new forklift will use natural gas. Mr. Hopkins replied that staff reviewed several options and went ahead with the diesel due to cost and availability of diesel fuel on-site.

Director Vergara asked for a Motion.

Motion: Vice President Freshley made a Motion, seconded by Director Havens, and unanimously carried across the Board to authorize the District's General Manager to enter into a purchase order with Select Equipment in the amount of \$83,580.59 for the purchase of a replacement forklift for the Water Recycling Plant.

#### Roll Call Vote:

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

## Engineering General Information Items

### IRWD Water Banking Project

Mr. Cafferty stated that this water banking program at Strand Ranch has been ongoing for some time, and more recently IRWD has made an effort to solicit partners.

He further stated that they are going through MWDOC and had a detailed discussion at a recent MWDOC Managers meeting.

Mr. Cafferty stated that this project is designed to capture water that is available in wet years that can be used to augment supply during drought conditions. He further stated that the water is considered extraordinary supply, meaning that it can only be used during a declared allocation period by MET.

Mr. Cafferty stated that according to IRWD, they have invested \$178 million in these facilities of 781 acres of land that can accommodate as much as 45,000 acre feet per year.

Mr. Cafferty stated that they have 13 wells that can withdraw water, and as of June they have 28,000 acre feet in storage. He further stated that they are referring to a Reliability Pilot Program.

Mr. Cafferty stated that IRWD has offered a 7-year term, up to 5,000 acre feet going through MWDOC, at a cost. He further stated that as a participant we would pay \$25 per acre foot for each year, meaning over a 7-year period we would be paying \$175 per acre foot, just for the right to call on the water with no opt out.

Mr. Cafferty stated that, if there is a call on the water, we would then pay the full cost to withdraw the water. He further stated that IRWD has a two-for-one exchange opportunity that they lose if they consume storage space in the aquifer, which they used to calculate the value.

Mr. Cafferty stated that when all the costs are added up, it's approximately \$1900 per acre foot.

Director Havens asked if they are looking at a timeframe. Mr. Cafferty replied that there is not a hard deadline.

Vice President Freshley stated that she does not feel comfortable supporting this project. Director Vergara and President Gaskins stated that they do not feel this project is in the District's best interest.

#### ETWD Capital Project Status Report

#### Oso Lift Station Improvement Project

Ms. Ford stated that we have placed the new generator and are working on commissioning by the end of this month. She further stated that, until the existing generator is removed, staff recommends not parking on the street.

Ms. Ford stated that, although the Cost Summary shows a negative contingency in the "Contract Amount" column, staff does not anticipate expending the full value of all contracts. The "Anticipated Expenditure" column represents that most likely scenario and maintains a positive contingency to keep the project under budget.

#### Filter Plant Building/WEROC EOC

Ms. Ford stated that staff received a proposal from Brady for design engineering and geotechnical services to prepare contract documents for demolition and construction. She further stated that staff met with MWDOC to discuss the proposal and plans to review comments and costs with Brady this month.

Vice President Freshley asked if Brady plans to bid on construction of the project. Mr. Cafferty replied that although Brady has a Contractor's license, staff is not currently inclined to pursue alternative delivery for this project nor use the design team as the contractor.

#### R-6 Floating Cover Replacement & Improvement Project

Ms. Ford stated that staff is contemplating whether or not to replace the liner in addition to the cover, and what materials will be used. She further stated that divers



took several samples of the liner from the floor to perform testing to assess liner condition and the viability of leaving the liner in place.

Director Vergara asked if staff has discussed this project with SMWD and MNWD. Mr. Cafferty replied yes, staff had a meeting with them and Hilts Consulting.

Ms. Ford stated that staff is working on contingency plans to accommodate any supply interruptions when the reservoir is out of service.

#### R-2 Reservoir Interior Recoating Project

Ms. Ford stated that divers noted several areas of coating failure and corrosion and recommend recoating the interior of R-2 to prevent metal loss and corrosion from causing an uncontrollable leak. She further stated that staff reviewed design documents, filed a Notice of Exemption from CEQA, developed bidding documents, and plans to bid this project next month.

#### Grit Chamber Rehabilitation

Ms. Ford stated that the Grit Chamber influent and effluent channels have experienced significant degradation and coating failure and aggregate has been exposed on portions of the Grit Chamber walls. She further stated that Wood Rogers develop design documents and is working with staff to determine work restrictions and whether bypass pumping will be necessary.

Ms. Ford stated that staff reviewed the design documents, filed a Notice of Exemption from CEQA, developed bidding documents, and plans to bid the project next month.

Vice President Freshley asked why CEQA is involved. Ms. Ford replied that we have to file a Notice of Exemption from CEQA with the County Clerk to allow for a 30-day comment period. This project is rehabilitation of an existing structure, which falls

under the categorical exemptions of CEQA.

Mr. Cafferty stated that by filing the Notice of Exemption with the County Clerk, it prevents someone from coming back at a later date and publicly challenging the District's project.

#### Main Office HVAC Replacement & Improvement Project

Ms. Ford stated that staff is working with Scott Wallace Structural Engineers (SWSE) to evaluate structural requirements for replacing the existing 5 air conditioning units on the roof. She further stated that modifications are necessary to support code changes to roof mounted HVAC equipment, and SWSE will determine the extent and cost effectiveness of structural modifications to the roof.

#### Phase III Recycled Water Project

Ms. Ford stated that staff provided demand data for the proposed areas to Tetra Tech which will use the data to estimate demands. She further stated that staff anticipates receipt of a technical memorandum (TM) early November.

#### Joint Transmission Main (JTM) Pump Station Project

Ms. Ford stated that staff anticipates a TM this month from Tetra Tech on a detailed evaluation of costs and benefits at the October Board meeting.

#### Aeration Basin Diffuser Project

Ms. Ford stated that Filanc is working with the vendor for delivery of materials that were delayed due to COVID-19 material supply chain challenges, delivery, and start of work.

#### Ocean Outfall Pump Station (OOPS) Generator Replacement Project

Ms. Ford stated that staff is reviewing project submittals. She further stated that due to COVID-19 supply chain challenges, delivery of the generator has been delayed

until April 2022, and the project is anticipated for completion by May 2022.

#### WRP Main Electrical Power Breakers Replacement Project

Ms. Ford stated that Schneider Electric is coming to the WRP to measure existing panels and will manufacture the second breaker.

Vice President Freshley stated that she understood both circuit breakers rated the same. Mr. Cafferty stated that the main breaker is 3,000 amp and the two sub breakers are 1,600 amp.

#### Phase II Recycled Water Distribution System Expansion Project

Ms. Ford stated that upon receipt of the on-site retrofit rebates, the project will be complete.

#### Energy Efficiency Analysis

Vice President Freshley asked what kind of changes were recommended to be made at the Plant. Mr. Hopkins replied maximizing run times of the most efficient pumps and changing certain operations at the Plant.

Ms. Ford stated that included in the Capital Projects report is a Capital Replacement and Refurbishment Schedule to help track the progress of the Capital Projects.

#### 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 8:35 a.m.

Regular Session

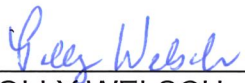
Attorney Report

Mr. Granito stated that there is no need for a Closed Session today, and as such, regular session continued.


Adjournment


At approximately 8:40 a.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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POLLY WELSCH  
Recording Secretary

APPROVED:

  
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MIKE GASKINS, President  
of the El Toro Water District and the  
Board of Directors thereof

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