

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
& OF THE
ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

February 22, 2022

At approximately 8:30 a.m. Director Vergara called the Engineering Committee meeting to order.

Committee Members KATHRYN FRESHLEY, KAY HAVENS, MIKE GASKINS, JOSE VERGARA, and MARK MONIN participated.

Also participating were DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, General Manager, JUDY CIMORELL, Human Resources Manager, JASON HAYDEN, CFO, GILBERT J. GRANITO, General Counsel, SCOTT HOPKINS, Operations Superintendent, HANNAH FORD, Engineering Manager, and POLLY WELSCH, Recording Secretary.

Consent Calendar

Director Vergara asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Monin made a Motion, seconded by Vice President Havens and carried across the Board to approve the Consent Calendar.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Engineering Action Items

WRP Effluent Pump Station Rehabilitation Project

Ms. Ford stated that the Effluent Pump Station routes secondary effluent to the Holding Pond when flow exceeds capacity in the Effluent Transmission Main. She further stated that the pumps, motors, and valves are old and need replacing.

Ms. Ford stated that originally this project was estimated at \$150,000, but all of the 3 bids the District received came in a lot higher. She further stated that the higher bids are due to equipment costs that have more than doubled since the original cost estimate.

President Freshley asked what would happen if the pump was not working. Mr. Cafferty replied that if the pump were to fail at a time when the Effluent Transmission Main failed, we would have a spill.

Director Vergara asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Gaskins made a Motion, seconded by Vice President Havens and carried across the Board to authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with J.R. Filanc Construction Company, Inc. in the amount of \$387,000 for the construction of the Water Recycling Plant Effluent Pump Station Rehabilitation Project.

Roll Call Vote:

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

R-6 Reservoir Floating Cover and Liner Replacement Project Valve Pre-Purchase

Contract

Ms. Ford stated that staff is requesting to pre-purchase several valves to reduce the R-6 Reservoir outage by two months.

Director Freshley asked if pricing escalation would occur due to potential schedule delays, as the District has observed on other projects. Ms. Ford responded that the prepurchase agreement stipulates both pricing and a two-week window during which the vendor must deliver the valves.

Mr. Cafferty stated that taxes are added on top of the original estimate for a total cost of \$197,273.

Director Vergara asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Monin made a Motion, seconded by Director Gaskins and unanimously carried across the Board to authorize the General Manager to issue a purchase order to Henry Pratt in the amount of \$183,084 plus taxes of \$14,189 for a total cost of \$197,273 for the purchase of several valves to be replaced as a component of the R-6 Reservoir Floating Cover and Liner Replacement Project.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Master Plan Update

Ms. Ford stated that the District's current Water and Sewer Master Plan is out of date. She further stated that the hydraulic modeling software is obsolete and needs to be converted to a supported platform.

Ms. Ford stated that the District received three proposals and after staff review, Carollo was selected with their proposed cost of \$349,951. She further stated that our budget for this project is \$350,000.

Director Vergara asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Gaskins made a Motion, seconded by Vice President Havens and unanimously carried across the Board to authorize the General Manager to enter into a contract with Carollo Engineers, Inc. in the amount of \$349,951 for the update of the District's Water and Sewer Master Plan.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Engineering General Information Items

Board Room Expansion Project

Mr. Cafferty stated that the Board room lacks sufficient space for social distancing and requires a technology update to better facilitate electronic presentations for virtual meetings. He further stated that staff met with Jeff Katz, architect for the Filter Plant Site, and determined a preliminary conservative cost estimate of \$650,000.

Mr. Cafferty stated that, if the Board feels there is a need for this project, staff will proceed with a more detailed analysis of the required modifications and their impact to existing support systems.

Mr. Cafferty stated that expansion of the Board room could make it more available to host other meetings.

Discussion with the Board members ensued resulting in direction to staff to obtain additional information on the costs of this project.

Energy Efficiency Analysis Update

Ms. Ford stated that staff is working with SoCal REN to evaluate the WRP and pump stations for potential energy savings opportunities. She further stated that staff received a free evaluation and reviewed the shortlist of preliminary measures for potential inclusion in the 5-year Capital Replacement and Refurbishment Program budget.

Ms. Ford stated that there are some suggestions that staff would like to consider; one is a control modification to improve pumping return activated sludge from the secondary clarifiers. She further stated that providing air to the Aeration Basins consumes the most energy at the WRP. Currently, an automated valve throttles air to each basin; at each basin, valves manually adjust airflow to each zone. She stated that a high energy savings recommendation was to automate the zone dropleg valves and/or add an ammonia analyzer to trim aeration addition. Although valve automation is costly adding an ammonia analyzer is relatively inexpensive and recommended for gathering additional air quality information.

Ms. Ford stated that the Waste Activated Cell (WAC) thickens solids upstream of the Dissolved Air Flootation (DAF) Thickeners to minimize the volume trucked to SOCWA. Polymer addition upstream of the DAFs would reduce energy consumption compared to aerating in the WAC. However, polymer addition comes at an additional cost and requires equipment modification, so staff recommends pilot testing the concentration and type of polymer required to achieve the desired solids thickness. Following the pilot test, staff will cost out the polymer addition option and recommend whether to implement a permanent solution.

Director Monin asked if adding polymer adds weight. Ms. Ford replied yes, but not a lot; its purpose is to aid in the flocculation of the solids so that water decants from the process and allows the solids to thicken for disposal.

Capital Projects Status Report

R-6 Reservoir Floating Cover and Liner Replacement Project

Ms. Ford stated that as part of the contingency plan to maintain supply during the time the R-6 Reservoir is out of service, staff met with MWDOC, IRWD, and MNWD to discuss how to continue supply and potentially use interconnections with neighboring agencies. She further stated that staff is working on an operational test plan to confirm interconnection operation during the outage.

JTM Pump Station Project

Ms. Ford stated that the design is moving forward, and staff plans to meet with South Coast Water District to confirm control strategy.

OOPS Generator Replacement Project

Ms. Ford stated that the District received a Change Order Request in the amount of \$23,000 to cover materials. She further stated that the generator is expected to arrive in April.

Aeration Basin Diffuser Project

Ms. Ford stated that we have received one invoice so far for the work Filanc has done. She further stated that the diffusers are expected in April.

Aliso Creek Emergency Generator Replacement Project

Ms. Ford stated that staff invited five contractors to bid, and three attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting. She further stated that bids are due in March.

Mr. Cafferty stated that staff looked into the possibility of a natural gas generator, but this alternative is costlier.

Filter Plant Site Use/WEROC EOC

Ms. Ford stated that recent market conditions have driven cost higher.

Mr. Cafferty stated that AQMD currently has a small amount of equipment in the building which they will need to relocate. He further stated that MWDOC is still pursuing funding for the WEROC construction.

Wash Press System at Headworks

Ms. Ford stated that staff is reviewing the submittals.

Grit Chamber Rehabilitation Project

Ms. Ford stated that staff is reviewing the submittals.

R-2 Reservoir Interior Recoating Project

Ms. Ford stated that there is some submittal review, but no real work because we are hoping to get the DWR grant award in March.

Main Office HVAC Replacement and Improvement Project

Ms. Ford stated that staff is working on getting estimates for this project. She further stated that there are no grant opportunities available.

WRP Main Electrical Power Breakers Replacement Project

Ms. Ford stated that delivery is expected at the end of March.

Oso Lift Station Improvement Project

Ms. Ford stated that staff is awaiting final billing from the design engineer to close out this project.

Mr. Cafferty stated that the Lot Line Adjustment has been recorded with the County.

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 10:10 a.m.

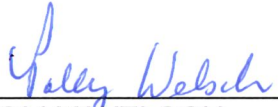
Attorney Report

Mr. Granito reported that there is no need for a Closed Session at today's meeting. As such, the Regular Session continued.

Adjournment


At approximately 10:10 a.m. the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

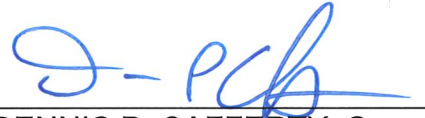


POLLY WELSCH
Recording Secretary

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