

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
& OF THE
ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

August 21, 2023

At approximately 9:37 a.m. Director Freshley called the Engineering Committee meeting to order.

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

Also participating were DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, General Manager, JUDY CIMORELL, Human Resources Manager, HANNAH FORD, Engineering Manager, GILBERT J. GRANITO, General Counsel, VISHAV SHARMA, CFO, SHERRI SEITZ, Public Affairs Manager, JOSH PEREZ, Electrical Systems/SCADA Supervisor, RORY HARNISCH, Senior Engineer, CAROL MOORE, Laguna Woods City Council member (Zoom), and POLLY WELSCH, Recording Secretary.

Consent Calendar

Director Freshley asked for a Motion.

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Engineering Action Items

System Wide Arc Flash and Coordination Study

Ms. Ford stated that compliance with the regulations is integral to safeguarding the well-being of our personnel. She further stated that staff invited nine firms to respond to a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a System-Wide Arc Flash and Coordination Study.

Ms. Ford stated that the District received five proposals for the Study, and the spread between the high and low fee is approximately 74%. She further stated that staff is recommending to eliminate training and electrical system evaluations, and provide by an alternate vendor at a later date.

Mr. Perez stated that some electrical contractors will not work on our equipment without the Arc Flash labeling showing we are Arc Flash compliant.

Director Freshley asked for a Motion.

Motion: President Havens made a Motion, seconded by Director Freshley to authorize the General Manager to issue a contract to Hazen and Sawyer in the amount of \$179,550.00 for engineering services to develop the System Wide Arc Flash and Coordination Study.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Freeway Lift Station Electrical Equipment Replacement

Mr. Cafferty stated that staff received updated information on this Lift Station project after the agenda was posted. He further stated that due to this new information, staff is amending their recommendation.

Ms. Ford stated that the Freeway Lift Station conveys gravity flow from a 513-acre basin and pumped from the Delta and La Paz Lift Stations to the Northline Lift Station. She further stated that the replacement of this equipment will bring the Lift Station up to compliance and we will add a safety switch to be able to operate our portable generator on-site.

Ms. Ford stated that staff is re-evaluating the inventory and re-ranking our electrical equipment to have higher risk factors if it is not currently Arc Flash compliant. She further stated that this project cost will affect next year's budget due to the long lead times of 18 months.

Ms. Ford stated that the cost will be \$173,00 and not the \$153,000 as written in the staff paper. Mr. Cafferty stated that we will put in the Purchase Order, not to exceed \$180,000 for this project.

Director Freshley asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Monin made a Motion, seconded by Director Gaskins to authorize the General Manager to issue a contract to Western Switches in the amount not to exceed \$180,000 for the purchase of a new service entrance switchboard, motor control center, and safety switch.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Grit Chamber Rehabilitation Project VFD Prepurchase

Ms. Ford stated that the District has been modifying the scope of work to improve maintainability, longevity, and energy efficiency of the grit removal system. She further stated that this will ultimately be issued as a Change Order to SS Mechanical's current recoating contract.

Ms. Ford stated that during the design process we discovered that there is a need to change the current constant speed system to a Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) because the blower serves two functions; it provides air for the grit tank, and also provides air for the air lift pumps that do not operate continuously.

Ms. Ford stated that this action is to purchase the VFD in advance of the construction work due to a long lead time.

Director Freshley asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Monin made a Motion, seconded by Vice President Vergara to authorize the General Manager to issue a contract to Aerzen USA Corp in the amount of \$62,350.00 for purchase of a new VFD refurbishing the existing grit blower and associated parts, warranty, and field support services.

Roll Call Vote:

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

P-4 Pump Replacement

Ms. Ford stated that the P-4 Pump Station contains four pumps, two 40-horsepower pumps and two 200-horsepower pumps.

Ms. Ford stated that the two smaller pumps operate under normal conditions while the larger pumps would only be activated in a fire flow condition.

Ms. Ford stated that as part of Asset Management, the two smaller pumps were identified as high risk and also underwent catastrophic failure several years ago which caused damage to the interior volute.

Director Freshley asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Monin made a Motion, seconded by President Havens to authorize the General Manager to issue a contract to John Lisee Pumps, Inc. in the amount of \$73,701.00 for the purchase of two 40 HP pumps.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Engineering Information Items

Capital Projects Status Report

R-6 Reservoir Floating Cover and Liner Replacement Project

Ms. Ford stated that a fire broke out, likely caused by a blower or fan electrical failure under the floating cover. She further stated that the contractor was able to extinguish the fire using water from the on-site cover flush system to quench the flames in five minutes prior to the fire department arriving on site.

Ms. Ford stated that Layfield worked quickly to repair the burn area with minimal impact to the project schedule. She further stated that we are on track to complete inflation the remainder of this week.

Ms. Ford stated that staff received the valve control panels, and cords for the valve open/close switches are shipping this week.

Ms. Ford stated that staff is working with LaBelle Marvin to develop the final design of the perimeter road repair, however due to the fires in Maui affecting the Project Managers vacation, we are working to rectify the schedule for potential award contract in September.

Effluent Transmission Main (ETM) Backflow Prevention Project

Mr. Harnisch stated that while Don Peterson Contracting was exposing the existing ETM pipeline, a segment of Techite pipe failed, causing secondary effluent to fill the trench and continue to rise. He further stated that staff immediately contacted IRWD to discontinue pumping water through the ETM.

Mr. Harnisch stated that staff deployed vacuor trucks and mobilized a portable pump to convey secondary effluent into the Effluent Pump Station Wet Well where it was then pumped into the Holding Pond. He further stated that staff notified SOCWA who reported the spill to the Regional Water Control Board.

Mr. Harnisch stated that water quality samples were taken in the area and nothing downstream was impacted. He further stated that the construction crew obtained a repair coupling and installed it in the same day.

Mr. Harnisch stated that the unanticipated discharge lasted approximately an hour and is estimated at approximately 60,000 gallons.

Mathis Lift Station Inlet Repair

Mr. Harnisch stated that design is 100% finalized and staff provided the City of Laguna Hills and the Orange County Public Works the opportunity to review and comment.

Mr. Harnisch stated that staff invited eight contractors to bid and directed Dudek to hire a geotechnical firm to determine the groundwater elevation at the site to determine if dewatering is required.

Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project

Mr. Harnisch stated that staff continued the RFP process by providing historical data and answering questions posed by the proposers. He further stated that the RFP is scheduled to close August 23rd and staff is recommending award at the September Board meeting.

New Warehouse

Mr. Harnisch stated that staff continues working with the contractor on the submittal phase of the project. He further stated that mobilization is scheduled for the week after Labor Day to begin construction activities.

Mr. Harnisch stated that the Pre-Engineered Metal Building construction is scheduled to be complete mid-January before the nesting season begins. He further stated that when the electrical components arrive, the contractor will return to the site and install them.

Asset Management

Ms. Ford stated that we are kicking off WRP scope of work and scheduling a kickoff meeting, staff interviews, and condition assessments. She further stated that the interviews will be to determine the appropriate path forward as part of the Computerized

Maintenance Management System and integration with the dashboards.

Lead and Copper Rule Revisions – Lead Service Line Inventory

Mr. Cafferty stated that the Lead and Copper Rule has been part of the Safe Drinking Water Act. He further stated that staff does sampling every three years to determine whether or not there is lead in the water at the customers tap.

Mr. Cafferty stated that the District has never had a problem with Lead and Copper in the drinking water, but the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions now require that public agencies prepare a detailed inventory of their service lines and the private service line from the meter to the home. He further stated that this must be done by October of 2024.

Mr. Cafferty stated that MWDOC is coordinating a regional approach, put out an RFP, and identifying a scope of work for multiple agencies to participate in helping make this happen.

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 10:26 a.m.

Attorney Report

Mr. Granito report that there is a need for a Closed Session today as agendized in today's Closed Session agenda.

Closed Session

At approximately 10:32 a.m. the Board went into Closed Session. Also at this time everyone left the meeting except the Board, General Manager, and General Counsel.

Regular Session

At approximately 10:45 a.m. the Board returned to Regular Session. Also at this time, Ms. Welsch returned to the meeting.

Report on Closed Session

Mr. Granito reported that the Board went into Closed Session with regard to Item #1 of today's Closed Session agenda during which the Board consulted with the District's litigation counsel, Walter F. Wendelstein. The Board of Directors in Closed Session voted unanimously to deny the Request for Leave to Present a Late Claim filed by the parties noted in Item #1 of today's Closed Session agenda which relates to the litigation referenced in said agenda. A copy of said Request will be available for public review pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.5.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:47 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