

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
& OF THE
ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

July 24, 2023

At approximately 7:30 a.m. President Havens called the Engineering Committee meeting to order.

Director Vergara led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

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

Also participating were DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, General Manager, HANNAH FORD, Engineering Manager, GILBERT J. GRANITO, General Counsel, RORY HARNISCH, Project Engineer (8:25 a.m.), VISHAV SHARMA, CFO, SCOTT HOPKINS, Operations Superintendent, MIKE MIAZGA, IT Manager (Zoom), VICKI TANIOUS, Senior Accountant/Payroll (Zoom), RICHARD BABBE, CAMP Representative, JEFF MOSHER, SAWPA General Manager, CAROL MOORE, Laguna Woods City Council member (Zoom), and POLLY WELSCH, Recording Secretary.

Determination of a Quorum

Roll Call:

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

All five Board members are present for the meeting, therefore a quorum was determined.

Oral Communications/Public Comments

There were no comments.

Items Received Too Late to be Agendized

President Havens asked if there were any items received too late to be agendized. Mr. Cafferty replied no.

SAWPA Cloud Seeding Project

Mr. Cafferty introduced Mr. Jeff Mosher, General Manager of Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA).

Mr. Mosher made a presentation to the Board regarding the Santa Ana River Watershed Weather Modification Pilot Project.

Mr. Cafferty stated that staff is recommending that the Board authorize the General Manager to execute the Right of Entry Agreement between the District, SAWPA and North American Weather Consultants to permit SAWPA and North American Weather Consultants to locate and operate cloud seeding equipment at the R-6 Reservoir site.

Director Freshley asked if the emitters would make noise when seeding. Mr. Mosher replied that it could emit a slight humming noise. He further stated that some of their investors have suggested putting together a brochure that can be given to residents notifying them of this project.

Director Monin asked when is the season for cloud seeding. Mr. Mosher replied that it is November 15th through April 15th.

Director Monin asked how often the cloud seeding equipment would go off. Mr. Mosher replied that the feasibility study reviewed storms over the last 20 years and determined that it would be between 8 and 12 storms a year.

Vice President Vergara asked if there have been any concerns on the use of acetone as a transport of this element. Mr. Mosher replied that it has been addressed in the CEQA and in discussions with other water agencies.

Vice President Vergara asked if they received any input from MET's use of similar equipment. Mr. Mosher replied that their Project Manager has been in touch with MET's Project Manager during the feasibility study.

President Havens asked that given its location near the Reservoir, will the video be monitoring in case of any embers. Mr. Mosher replied yes.

President Havens asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Freshley made a Motion, seconded by Director Gaskins to authorize the General Manager to execute the Right of Entry Agreement between the District, SAWPA and North American Weather Consultants to permit SAWPA and North American Weather Consultants to locate and operate cloud seeding equipment at the R-6 Reservoir site.

Roll Call Vote:

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

At approximately 8:08 a.m. Mr. Mosher left the meeting.

CAMP

Mr. Babbe provided an update to the Board on the District's investment holdings and philosophy based on an economic outlook.

At approximately 8:25 a.m. Mr. Babbe left the meeting.

Engineering Committee Meeting

At approximately 8:25 a.m. Director Freshley called the Engineering Committee meeting to order.

Consent Calendar

Director Freshley asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Monin made a Motion, seconded by Vice President Vergara 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

DAF Unit No. 2 Rehabilitation and Retrofit Project

Mr. Harnisch stated that the DAF Unit No. 2 thickens Waste Activated Sludge (WAS) prior to hauling it off to SOCWA. He further stated that, for this rehabilitation project, several mechanical components had been pre-purchased previously.

Mr. Harnisch stated that staff performed interim repair work at the end of 2022, and remaining rehabilitation work includes replacing the recirculation pump and DAF mechanical components.

Mr. Harnisch stated that staff published the invitation to bid on PlanetBids to a short list of four contractors. Three contractors attended the mandatory pre-bid meeting on June 9th. He further stated that there would have been three bids, but one of the contractors was unable to submit their documents on time, so they backed out.

Mr. Harnisch stated that the bids received were from SS Mechanical and J.R. Filanc Construction, with SS Mechanical being the lower bid which was under the engineer's estimate. He further stated that the cost of the repairs, installation, pre-purchased equipment, pump, and contingency, are under budget 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 SS Mechanical Construction in the amount of \$37,715.00 for the construction of the DAF Unit No. 2 Rehabilitation Project.

Roll Call Vote:

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

WRP Asset Management Plan

Ms. Ford stated that last year the Board approved award of a contract to Hazen and Sawyer to develop an Asset Management Plan (AMP) for the assets the Pump Station manages (pump stations, lift stations, reservoirs, and pressure reducing valves) as well as associated electrical and instrumentation equipment. She further stated that the purpose of this action item is to recommend award of the WRP AMP to Hazen who will help the District assess and prioritize assets, develop dashboards, and influence capital budgeting for WRP assets similar to the Pump Station AMP.

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 Hazen and Sawyer in the amount of \$113,140.00 for engineering services to develop the WRP Asset Management Plan.

Roll Call Vote:

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

Tertiary Disinfection Optimization Study

Ms. Ford stated that the District would like to reduce our chemical consumption to reduce costs and improve operability of the Tertiary Treatment Plant by implementing an alternative compliance method for recycled water disinfection. She further stated that it would free up available volume in our Recycled Water Storage Tank.

Ms. Ford stated that the District would need to install new free chlorine analyzers and another sodium hypochlorite metering pump for the optional post Recycled Water Storage Tank chlorine boost. She further stated that this low concentration times contact time (CT) free chlorination approach would save on chlorine costs.

Ms. Ford stated that the Division of Drinking Water has required a tracer study prior to considering approval of the alternative compliance method for recycled water disinfection.

Director Freshley asked for a Motion.

Motion: Vice President Vergara made a Motion, seconded by Director Monin to authorize the General Manager to issue a contract to Trussell Technologies, Inc. in the amount of \$48,565.00 for the preparation and execution of a tracer study for the Tertiary Disinfection Optimization Study.

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 all cover panels except for a few located over the bottom middle and upper outlet valves have been completed. She further stated that staff is working with Mueller on when the delayed valve control panel will arrive.

Ms. Ford stated that fill of the Reservoir is anticipated to begin at the end of August and continue through the end of September. She further stated that due to the need to fill the Reservoir quickly, staff is working with MWDOC and MET to waive the capacity reservation charge, which is based on peak flow.

Ms. Ford stated that LaBelle Marvin developed an alternatives analysis report identifying potential solutions for perimeter road repair. She further stated that staff evaluated potential solutions and recommends moving forward with installing 4-inches of asphalt over 8-inches of aggregate base for approximately \$1,294,500 for design and construction.

Ms. Ford stated that staff evaluated other potential alternatives, such as a gravel road, but determined multiple challenges, such as concern over its impacts to water quality in the reservoir. She further stated that staff is recommending a paved solution that would overcome the challenges and best maintain the reservoir's water quality.

Ms. Ford stated that staff has discussed the alternatives with MNWD and SMWD and received concurrence on the recommended approach. She further stated that staff plans to award LaBelle Marvin a design contract for \$3,500 to develop bid documents for potential award of the perimeter road construction contract.

Mathis Lift Station Inlet Repair

Mr. Harnisch stated that staff hired Dudek to produce a design, which staff reviewed, provided comments, and facilitated parallel reviews from the City of Laguna Hills and Orange County Public Works. He further stated that the design includes constructing a manhole in the lift station north of the wet well and second manhole in the sidewalk in front of the lift station.

Mr. Harnisch stated that final design is anticipated by early August for bidding and potential award in September.

Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project

Mr. Harnisch stated that this lift station is one of the oldest in the District and collects sewage from portions of Laguna Hills, Laguna Woods, and Lake Forest including the 4920 Lift Station and Mathis Lift Station. He further stated that the lift station pumps sewage through Laguna Woods Village to the WRP.

Mr. Harnisch stated that staff has several challenges maintaining this lift station including lack of adequate vector truck access to clean the wet well and degraded efficiency despite yearly pump impeller and volute replacements. He further stated that staff issued a Request for Proposals to seven engineering firms for an alternatives analysis.

Mr. Harnisch stated that the objective of the RFP is to determine the most cost-effective approach to achieving the required capacity while improving operations and

maintenance, maintaining service, and protecting neighboring environmentally sensitive areas. He further stated that staff held a pre-proposal meeting in July and expects to recommend award at the September Board meeting.

System-wide Arc Flash and Coordination Study

Ms. Ford stated that staff issued an RFP for consultants to provide engineering services. She further stated that we had five consultants attending the preproposal meeting.

Grit Chamber Rehabilitation Project

Ms. Ford stated that we are developing design of the grit removal process rehabilitation, and staff anticipates awarding the Variable Frequency Drive next month due to its long lead time in order not to cause further project delays.

Engineering Items Discussed at Various Conferences and Meetings

There were no comments.

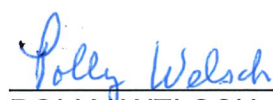
Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Engineering Committee Items

There were no comments.

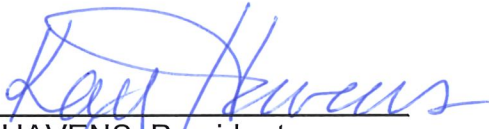
Adjournment

There being no further business, the Engineering Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:16 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