

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
& OF THE
ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

August 25, 2025

At approximately 7:30 a.m. President Gaskins called the regular meeting to order.

Director Havens led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

Committee Members MARK MONIN (Zoom), MIKE GASKINS, KAY HAVENS, KATHRYN FRESHLEY (Zoom), and WYATT McCLEAN participated.

Also participating were DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, General Manager, GILBERT J. GRANITO, General Counsel, VISHAV SHARMA, CFO, HANNAH FORD, Director of Engineering, JUDY CIMORELL, Director of Human Resources, SCOTT HOPKINS, Operations Superintendent, MIKE MIAZGA, IT Manager (Zoom), SHERRI SEITZ, Public Affairs Manager (Zoom, 7:42 a.m.), VU CHU, Water Resources Supervisor (Zoom), RORY HARNISCH, Senior Engineer (7:41 a.m.), VICKI TANIOUS, Senior Accountant (Zoom), ABEL ESTRADA, Billing & Customer Service Supervisor (Zoom, 7:41 a.m.), ROBERT MONTOYA, PFM Asset Management LLC., KEITH STRIBLING, PFM Asset Management LLC., CAROL MOORE, Laguna Woods City Council Member (Zoom), JANET FORDUNSKI, Member of the Public (Zoom), and MARISOL MELENDEZ, Recording Secretary.

Determination of a Quorum

Roll Call:

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

Vice President Freshley and Director Monin participated in the meeting via teleconferencing as noted in today's agenda and the remaining Board Members were present. Therefore, a Quorum was determined.

Oral Communications/Public Comment

There were no comments.

Items Too Late to be Agendized

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

Engineering Committee Meeting

At approximately 7:32 a.m. Director McClean called the Engineering Committee meeting to order.

Consent Calendar

Director McClean asked for a Motion.

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

Roll Call:

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

Engineering Action Items

Resolution No. 25-8-1 El Toro Water District Aliso Creek Lift Station – Utility and Infrastructure Protection Project FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program Application

Match Commitment Documentation

Ms. Ford stated that the sub application is due next month. She explained that the Resolution commits the District to the required 25% project match. The project is

already budgeted in the 10-year plan without grant funding and the match commitment is within the budgeted amount but it is scheduled for a couple of years out, which aligns with the anticipated timing of FEMA funding.

Director McClean asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Havens made a Motion, seconded by President Gaskins to adopt Resolution No. 25-8-1, documenting the District's commitment to the matching funds requirement for the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Grant Program application for the Aliso Creek Lift Station Utility and Infrastructure Protection Project.

Roll Call:

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

Shenandoah Booster Station Pump and Motor Replacement

Ms. Ford stated that last month, the Board authorized award of a contract to PowerFlo. However, PowerFlo cannot supply pumps to municipal buyers. The pump manufacturer, Aurora, authorizes sales through PowerFlo only to the industrial sector. Brax Company, which had also submitted a quote, is authorized to supply pumps to municipalities and was able to lower the cost from their original quote. This item ratifies the General Manager's approval to reflect the manufacturer change from the Board's prior action.

Director McClean asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Havens made a Motion, seconded by President Gaskins to (1) rescind the action from July authorizing a purchase order to Powerflo Products, Inc. in the amount of \$132,236.19 to furnish new pumps and motors for the Shenandoah Booster Pump Station; and (2) ratify the purchase of new pumps and motors for the

Shenandoah Booster Pump Station from Brax Company, Inc. in the amount of \$132,042.44 and to authorize the General Manager to fund the project costs from the District's Capital Reserves as recommended by staff in accordance with the District's adopted Capital Reserve Policy.

Freeway Electrical Equipment Replacement Project

Ms. Ford reported that the final component of the previously purchased electrical equipment has been received. Staff developed an in-house design and solicited contractor quotes for installation, recommending award to the lowest bidder, Baker Electric. Construction is expected to begin in November and will be sequenced with the Westline project.

Director McClean asked for a Motion.

Motion: President Gaskins made a Motion, seconded by Director Havens to authorize the District's General Manager to enter into a contract with Baker Electric, Inc. in the amount of \$85,215.00 for electrical installation services in connection with the Freeway Electrical Equipment Replacement Project and to authorize the General Manager to fund the project costs from the District's Capital Reserves as recommended by staff in accordance with the District's adopted Capital Reserve Policy.

Roll Call:

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

City of Laguna Hills Pavement Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Harnisch stated that the City of Laguna Hills recently conducted a pavement project on Paseo De Valencia between Alicia Parkway and Avenida De Carlota. He explained that this project required the adjustment of 32 manholes and 32 water valve

cans to grade, for which the District is financially responsible since the facilities are located in the public right of way.

Director Havens inquired about the \$1,250 per adjustment, asking what the work involves and whether the cost is negotiable. Mr. Harnisch outlined the scope of work and Mr. Cafferty explained that the price is non-negotiable as it is included as a line item in the contractor's bid. He added that staff will continue exploring cost-effective approaches for similar future projects and may consider budgeting for them.

Director McClean asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Havens made a Motion, seconded by President Gaskins to authorize the District's General Manager to approve payment of a City of Laguna Hills invoice in the amount of \$80,000.

Roll Call:

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

Engineering Information Items

El Toro Water District Operations Report

Director Havens asked about this month's potable augmentation. Mr. Cafferty explained that demand drove the need to augment the recycled water system with potable, and the potable supplement is intended to address these types of issues. It has only been required twice this year, and staff continues efforts to minimize its use.

Mr. Cafferty reported that STEM reviewed last month's battery system error and confirmed that staff will issue an invoice to STEM for a credit of \$11,365.

El Toro Water District Capital Project Status Report

DAF No. 1 MCC Replacement

Ms. Ford reported that the equipment purchased last year has been received. An in-house design was completed, resulting in significant savings. She added that the MCC was relocated away from the DAF unit to address corrosion issues caused by its previous placement.

Secondary Clarifier No. 4 Drive Replacement Project

Ms. Ford reported that work on Secondary Clarifier No. 3 was completed in response to an emergency failure, while Secondary Clarifier No. 4 is a preventative project. Following dewatering, the bridge was inspected and found to be in worse condition than that of Secondary Clarifier No. 3. As a result, Don Peterson's contract will be amended by approximately \$28,000.00 to refabricate the bridge adapter piece and complete the project.

Moulton/El Toro Cathodic Protection Repair

Ms. Ford reported that implementation includes placement of two 49" deep anode beds adjacent to six test stations along El Toro Road and Moulton Parkway to restore the impressed current Cathodic Protection System on the District's water distribution main. Staff held a pre-bid meeting and will present a recommendation for award in October.

Westline Lift Station Main Switchboard Replacement

Mr. Harnisch reported that staff held a preconstruction meeting last week and the contractor is prepared to begin work. Construction will begin immediately upon SCE approval, and nearby residents will be notified in advance.

Main Office Warehouse Drainage Improvement Project

Mr. Harnisch reported that construction has begun, with most of the precast structure installed. The project is expected to be completed by mid-September, including minor asphalt work on the opposite side of the building to ensure proper water flow and prevent recurrence of last year's incident.

R-6 Reservoir Southern Slope Stabilization Project

Ms. Ford reported that staff has received the 90% design and is currently reviewing it. The plans will be submitted to the City of Mission Viejo for approval, and the project is planned for bidding in October. Staff continue to coordinate with the church to develop a construction agreement for site access.

Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvements Project

Ms. Ford reported that the 90% design is expected by the end of this month. Staff plans to present the materials at upcoming Golden Rain Foundation and United Board meetings.

Tertiary Disinfection Optimization Project

Ms. Ford reported that staff has ordered the equipment and supporting components. The mechanical installation will be completed by District WRP staff using the in-house design followed by the electrical installation. An electrical installation contract for \$13,215 will be awarded to Baker Electric.

Headworks and Secondary Clarifier No. 1 Rehabilitation Project

Ms. Ford stated that Filanc anticipates site mobilization at the end of the year, and the project remains in the submittal phase.

Ocean Outfall Pump Station (OOPS) MCC and Valve Rehabilitation Project

Ms. Ford reported that the final electrical equipment was received this month. Staff will develop an in-house design and solicit bids for the installation.

Battery and Solar Projects

Ms. Ford reported a virtual webinar was conducted with 15 respondents in attendance, and 20 notices of interest were received for the upcoming mandatory site walk. Proposals are expected next month, followed by interviews and a recommendation. In response to Vice President Freshley's inquiry about payback timeframes, Ms. Ford explained that Terra Verde provided estimates, noting that each project has different funding scenarios and varying payback periods.

Mr. Harnisch left the meeting at approximately 8:14 a.m.

Energy Efficiency Update

Ms. Ford reported that a recent change at the R-6 Reservoir Site includes the addition of a rainwater removal system that led to increased power usage from pumping. SCE informed staff that converting the site to a pumping rate schedule would save approximately \$1,700 annually. Staff will proceed with the conversion to the new pumping rate schedule.

Asset Management

Ms. Ford stated that a workshop will be held next month to review scoring for consequence and probability of failure.

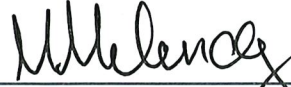
Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Engineering Committee Items

There were no comments.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Engineering Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



MARISOL MELENDEZ
Recording Secretary

APPROVED:



MIKE GASKINS, 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