

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
& OF THE
ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

May 26, 2026

At approximately 8:11 a.m. Director McClean called the Engineering Committee meeting to order.

Directors MARK MONIN, MIKE GASKINS, KAY HAVENS, KATHRYN FRESHLEY, and WYATT McCLEAN participated.

Also participating were DENNIS P. CAFFERTY, General Manager, GILBERT J. GRANITO, General Counsel, JUDY CIMORELL, Director of Human Resources, VISHAV SHARMA, CFO, HANNAH FORD, Director of Engineering, SCOTT HOPKINS, Operations Superintendent, MIKE MIAZGA, Information Technology Manager (Zoom), VU CHU, Water Resources Supervisor (Zoom), CAROL MOORE, City of Laguna Woods (Zoom), and MARISOL MELENDEZ, Recording Secretary.

Consent Calendar

Director McClean asked for a Motion.

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

Roll Call Vote:

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

Engineering Action Items

Impressed Current Cathodic Protection System Monitoring Program

Ms. Ford reported that the District operates five impressed current cathodic protection systems designed to protect metallic pipes from corrosion caused by soil conditions. Staff plans on seeking help from a consultant to analyze that data collected from the test stations. She further stated that staff is planning a construction project to repair a known discontinuity and recommends that the selected consultant provide advisory and engineering services during construction. Staff issued a request for proposals, received four responses, and is recommending award to Universal Corrosion Services, LLC.

Director McClean asked for a Motion.

Motion: Director Gaskins made a Motion, seconded by Director Monin to authorize the District's General Manager to enter into a contract with Universal Corrosion Services, LLC in the amount of \$137,510.00 for the Impressed Current Cathodic Protection System Monitoring Program 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 Vote:

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

Engineering Information Items

Sewer Force Main Asset Management Program Overview

Ms. Ford presented the Sewer Force Main Asset Management Plan. She explained that the District maintains approximately five miles of sewer force mains,

primarily consisting of asbestos cement pipe, with one force main composed of Techite. Most of the force mains are over 45 years old. Staff and the consultant conducted a likelihood of failure analysis based on based on material, age, and corrosion as well as consequence of failure based on loss of service, damage, and restoration impacts. Ms. Ford noted that the Westline Reach 2 has the highest likelihood of failure score due to its Techite composition while Aliso Creek and Northline have the highest consequence of failure score due to their high capacity. She added that the District's 10-year capital improvement plan includes replacing the highest risk force mains, with design for Westline force main replacement budgeted to begin in the next fiscal year. The total estimated replacement cost for all sewer force mains exceeds \$22 million.

EI Toro Water District Operations Report

There were no comments.

EI Toro Water District Capital Project Status Report

Headworks and Secondary Clarifier No. 1 Rehabilitation Project

Mr. Harnisch reported that the contractor has begun concrete work and yard piping installations.

Freeway Electrical Equipment Replacement

Mr. Harnisch reported that staff is coordinating with SCE to convert overhead electrical service to underground conduit. Staff are also working with Carollo on structural design modifications to raise the canopy structure at the Freeway lift station.

R-6 Reservoir Southern Slope Repair Project

Mr. Harnisch reported that the project is nearing the end of the four-month landscaping phase, which is expected to conclude in early July, closing out the project.

Moulton/EI Toro Cathodic Repair Project

Mr. Harnisch reported that staff is currently working through the submittal phase with the contractor and are preparing for an upcoming preconstruction meeting.

SOCWA Effluent Transmission Main (ETM) Reach B Techite Replacement

Ms. Ford reported that District staff is managing the project due to its high cost to the District. She noted that staff met with the golf course regarding their preferred alignments and identified a mutually beneficial alignment option. The agreed upon alignment will be presented to Third and GRF in the coming weeks.

Aliso Creek Lift Station Improvement Project

Ms. Ford stated that staff is waiting on feedback from GRF and United on proposed language related to temporary construction and easement agreements. She noted that final design work is on hold until the easement agreements are complete.

Battery Projects

Ms. Ford reported that the District received six letters of interest for the public private partnership agreement, three vendors were interviewed, and two were shortlisted following interviews. She noted that the package includes a table summarizing the projected savings estimates the vendors provided, along with TerraVerde's third-party verification. She explained that projected savings varied based on vendor assumptions regarding battery dispatch strategies. Estimated savings range from \$183,000 to \$581,000 over the 15-year project term.

Mr. Cafferty added that the proposed arrangement is similar to the District's existing agreement with STEM. While the proposed arrangement avoided major upfront capital investment, projected benefits were dependent on future battery performance and realization of anticipated savings. Risks included the potential for reduced savings upon final design detailing, the need to re-route the existing cellular conduit at the P-1

site, long-term encumbrance of District property, limited staff time, and potential fire-safety considerations. After discussion of the projected savings, long-term site commitments, implementation risks, and competing District priorities, the Board determined that the anticipated benefits did not justify moving forward with the project at this time.

Comments Regarding Non-Agenda Engineering Committee Items

Director Gaskins stated that he attended Major General Mark Toy's presentation at the ACWA conference, which was insightful.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the Engineering Committee meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:25 a.m.

Attorney Report

Mr. Granito reported that there is no need for a Closed Session today.

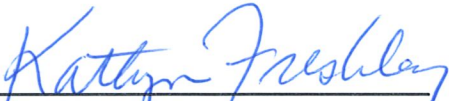
Adjournment


There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


MARISOL MELENDEZ
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