



## **TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT**

### **ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | OCTOBER 4, 2017**

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#### **DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Edward Mandich, Committee Chair  
Stephen Dopudja, Committee Member

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

Hector Ruiz, General Manager  
Michael Perea, District Secretary  
Kris Hanberg, Wastewater Department Superintendent  
Gary Kessler, Water Department Superintendent  
Jason Stroud, Maintenance Superintendent

#### **PUBLIC PRESENT**

None

#### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Director Mandich called the October 4, 2017, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting to order at 7:00 AM.

#### **VISITOR PARTICIPATION**

No comments were received.

#### **ORAL COMMUNICATION**

No comments were received.

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

No comments were received.

#### **REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER**

- Mr. Ruiz reported that the District's Customer Service Department has two new temporary staff members.

#### **ITEM 1: ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP**

The September 6, 2017, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap was presented to the Committee.

#### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee approved, and recommended that the Board receive and file the September 6, 2017, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap (Consent Calendar).

#### **ITEM 2: BAKER WATER TREATMENT FACILITY**

Mr. Ruiz provided a project status update, and mentioned that District staff is scheduled to meet with the other Baker Water Treatment Plant (BWTP) member agencies to review the facility's operation and maintenance costs. Discussion occurred concerning inviting City of San Clemente staff to be involved in the process; Mr. Ruiz confirmed that he has extended an invitation to the City of San Clemente to participate in the meeting. Director Dopudja asked Mr. Ruiz if Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) had proposed any changes to the original cost projections; Mr. Ruiz said that the first year of costs are projected to be higher than future years due to start-up tests an operator training requirements. Mr. Ruiz reported that performance testing of the facility is continuing

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT  
ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | OCTOBER 4, 2017**

through November. Mr. Ruiz presented the DRAFT Agreement for the sale of excess/unused BWTP water to the City of San Clemente for Committee review, and mentioned that District staff is working with the City staff and District Legal Counsel to prepare the exhibits for the agreement.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 3: DOVE & ROBINSON RANCH RECYCLED WATER PUMP STATIONS REPLACEMENT PROJECT – PHASE 1**

Ms. Lausten provided a status update on this project, and mentioned that District staff is currently working with PSOMAS (Consultant) and JIG Consultants on this project. Ms. Lausten provided a project schedule for Committee review, and highlighted certain sections of the Technical Memorandum being prepared by JIG Consultants. Ms. Lausten reviewed the Hydraulic Modeling Diagram of the existing recycled water system and highlighted recycled water system pressures from the modeling results calculated by PSOMAS. Discussion occurred concerning possible scenarios for future recycled water infrastructure improvements in the District's service area and associated costs. Director Dopudja requested that PSOMAS evaluate potential recycled water reservoir locations and pump station requirements that take advantage of the reclaimed reservoir's hydraulic elevation, in addition to the replacement of the pump station at the existing location.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, and directed District staff to request that PSOMAS and JIG Consultants evaluate the recycled water system improvements beyond the existing locations.

**ITEM 4: VIA ALLEGRE WET WELL EXPANSION PROJECT**

Ms. Lausten provided a status update on this project, and mentioned that District staff is currently preparing a site survey for the facility. Discussion occurred concerning operational challenges at the facility, including the high frequency pump cycling. Ms. Lausten highlighted the Notice of Exemption filed with the County of Orange County Clerk, and reviewed the Report of Geological Investigation and Review prepared by GMU (Consultant). Ms. Lausten commented that District staff plans to replace the existing wet well with a larger, or deeper, wet well with more capacity. Discussion occurred concerning the possible impacts from surrounding developments on the planned improvements to the facility.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 5: ROBINSON RANCH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SERVICE ROAD REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS**

Ms. Lausten presented this matter for Committee review, and mentioned that District staff is planning the reconstruction and improvement of the service road to the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). Ms. Lausten presented the Pavement Evaluation for the WWTP Access Road Report and Specifications for the WWTP Access Road Pavement Reconstruction Report prepared by GMU for Committee review. Ms. Lausten reviewed the planned improvements, and mentioned that District staff is considering improvements to the entry gate at Heritage Drive to facilitate access issues related to Operations and Maintenance, as well as, vendor access. Ms. Lausten added that District staff plans to bring back additional information related to the project, including bid numbers, for Committee review. Discussion occurred concerning project-related challenges, including seasonal challenges associated with wet weather, the need for quick setting concrete, and coordination with neighboring communities on access related issues during project improvements.

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT  
ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | OCTOBER 4, 2017**

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 6: GOREN WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT PERMIT MODIFICATIONS**

Mr. Ruiz presented this matter for Committee review, and provided background on the development. Mr. Ruiz highlighted Exhibit A which demonstrated the location of the Goren WWTP in the development, and indicated the existing two homes of the total of nine developable parcels. Mr. Ruiz commented that District has not accepted the facility to date due to the less than desired occupied homes required to generate enough sewage to effectively operate the produced wastewater at the facility in compliance with Title 22 Regulations. In the interim, Wastewater Operations frequently pumps out the wet well tank at the facility. Mr. Ruiz said that the WWTP is designed for tertiary treatment, but that District staff recommends converting the facility to a secondary treatment facility due to the low wastewater flow generated, and the complex, costly, and labor-intensive requirements for meeting tertiary treatment requirements. Mr. Ruiz proposed the designation of onsite irrigation of existing landscape for the discharge of the proposed secondary treated effluent from the facility. Discussion occurred concerning easement requirements and existing dedicated irrigation areas on the parcels.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 7: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECTS**

**1. Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) System – Phase 1**

Ms. Lausten reported that District staff met with TESCO the prior month to review interim solution recommendations for the District's SCADA System, and worked with TESCO to resolve identified items which required additional investigation. Ms. Lausten added that TESCO is currently preparing the final report for District staff review.

**2. Aerobic Digester, Belt Press Pump, Decant Pump Replacement Project**

Ms. Lausten reported that District staff is currently reviewing the equipment that has been identified for replacement/improvement.

**3. Activated Sludge System, Aeration Headers Replacement Project**

Mr. Hanberg reported that District Wastewater Operations staff has started working on this project, which includes exposing the existing 140 feet of six-inch pipeline.

**4. Ridgeline Booster Pump Station Improvements/Capacity Increase**

Mr. Ruiz reported that District staff has finalized the Agreement with the Developer, and is currently preparing a Request for Proposal for the facility improvements.

**5. Other Projects**

There were no other projects to report.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT  
ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | OCTOBER 4, 2017**

**ITEM 8: SADDLE CREST DEVELOPMENT (65 DUs | WSL)**

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Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on this project, and mentioned that the Board of Directors approved the Agreement related to the construction of the onsite 1.5 MG reservoir, sewer connection, and onsite booster pump station. Mr. Ruiz added that the District is invoicing the Developer based on the terms of the Agreement, and will maintain a separate escrow account for the deposits. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that District staff coordinated the installation of one fire hydrant for site grading purposes. Discussion occurred concerning development-related environmental challenges. Mr. Ruiz reviewed the Saddle Crest Reservoir Exhibit with the Committee, and highlighted the utility easements and Homeowner Association-owned property. Discussion occurred concerning agreement language and easements related to facility improvements.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 9: ACTIVE DEVELOPMENTS**

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1. Skyridge Development (84 DUs | WSL)

Ms. Lausten reported that the Developer has finalized the punch list items.

2. Saddleback Meadows (184 DUs)

Mr. Ruiz reported that there were no updates for this development.

3. Oaks at Trabuco, County of Orange (9 DUs | WSL)

Ms. Lausten reported that there were no updates for this development other than what was reported earlier on the agenda.

4. Other Active Developments

Discussion occurred concerning the Dahlia Court development; Ms. Lausten reported that the development is complete with full occupancy, but that punch list items remain incomplete.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 10: WATER SYSTEM UPDATES**

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Mr. Kessler presented the Water System Status Update through September, 2017, and reported on the following matters:

1. Water System Department staff converted four Dry Barrel Hydrants to Wet Barrel Hydrants in the lower Robinson Ranch community, and that approximately nine more remain to be converted.
2. Water System Department staff worked with the Maintenance Department and contractors to resolve facility communication problems.
3. Water System Department staff worked with a developer and contractor on the installation of a new hydrant at the Saddle Crest development.

Mr. Kessler reported that Water Operations imported seven acre-feet from Santa Margarita Water District via the South County Pipeline System during September.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT  
ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | OCTOBER 4, 2017**

**ITEM 11: WASTEWATER SYSTEM UPDATES**

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Mr. Hanberg presented the Wastewater System Status update through September, 2017, and reported on the following matters:

1. Wastewater Department staff completed the District's Source Control Program (FOG) by inspecting the grease interceptors at local businesses.
2. Wastewater Department staff started uncovering the Sequencing Batch Reactor Air Lines at the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) for replacement.
3. Wastewater Department staff reviewed, updated as necessary, the Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) for the Wastewater and Maintenance Departments at the WWTP.

Mr. Hanberg presented the Monthly Recycled Water System Operations Summary Report for Committee review, and reported that a significantly less amount of potable water to supplement the recycled water reservoir has been used this year due to lower recycled water demands. Mr. Hanberg highlighted the Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) updates, and presented the SSMP Quarterly Report for Third Quarter 2017 for Committee review.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 12: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS**

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Mr. Ruiz reported that District staff was currently working with County of Orange staff at O'Neill Park related to a pipeline break onsite at the Park. Mr. Ruiz added that County staff has procured a repair proposal that is cost prohibitive due to environmental challenges. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that District staff met with County staff to review their system demands and pressures, and related that the County has had discussions with Santa Margarita Water District to consider the possibility of connecting to their system for domestic water. Mr. Ruiz commented that District staff will continue to work with County staff to identify possible solutions to the predicament.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

There was no action taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Director Mandich adjourned the October 4, 2017, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 8:03 AM.