



## **TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | APRIL 1, 2020**

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### **DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Edward Mandich, Committee Chair  
Stephen Dopudja, Committee Member

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Fernando Paludi, General Manager  
Michael Perea, District Secretary  
Lorrie Lausten, Principal Engineer  
Gary Kessler, Water Department Superintendent  
Jason Stroud, Maintenance Department Superintendent  
Karen Warner, Senior Accountant  
Lisa Sangi, Administrative Assistant

### **PUBLIC PRESENT**

None

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Director Mandich called the April 1, 2020 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting via Conference Call to order at 7:00 AM.

### **VISITOR PARTICIPATION**

No comments were received.

### **ORAL COMMUNICATION**

No comments were received.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Director Dopudja expressed his wish that District staff and their families were safe and healthy.

Director Mandich echoed Director Dopudja's comments.

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

Mr. Paludi expressed his gratitude to the Committee for accommodating the conference call and expressed his appreciation for District staff efforts during this period of uncertainty.

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

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Mr. Paludi presented the Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap for Committee review in accordance with the agenda.

### **RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee recommended that the Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap be forwarded to the Board of Directors for approval (Consent Calendar).

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**ITEM 2: RIDGELINE BOOSTER PUMP STATION IMPROVEMENTS AND CAPACITY INCREASE PROJECT**

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Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee review, and he mentioned that project was making good progress. Ms. Lausten provided a brief project update, and she reported that the Backup Power Generator Automatic Transfer Switch (ATS) and other related appurtenances were installed. Ms. Lausten mentioned that the District's Quality Assurance consultant had completed the required notification to Southern California Edison (SCE) for the onsite inspection. Ms. Lausten presented a contract change order submitted by Pacific Hydrotech (Contractor) for an epoxy flooring upgrade. Discussion occurred concerning the proposed upgrade and timeline for completion. Mr. Paludi provided a brief update on a recent meeting with the developer to review the project schedule of value; Director Mandich recused himself from the discussion concerning this matter.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee recommended forwarding Contract Change Order No. 5 for the epoxy flooring upgrade from Pacific Hydrotech to the Board of Directors for consideration (Action Calendar).

**ITEM 3: DOVE AND ROBINSON RANCH RECYCLED WATER PUMP STATION REHABILITATION PROJECT**

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Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee review. Ms. Lausten provided a project update, and she mentioned that District staff has met with SCE to inspect the new onsite electrical service. Ms. Lausten added that Ferreira Construction (Contractor) will completing the replacement of the inlet piping to the facility which will include coordination with an independent, third-party diving team. Ms. Lausten provided a review of the project schedule for the Committee. Discussion occurred concerning the total project budget costs to date; Director Mandich requested the staff report be updated to include the additional costs.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the information concerning the matter.

**ITEM 4: BELL CANYON SEWER LIFT STATION REHABILITATION PROJECT**

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Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee review, and he commended District staff for their work related to this project. Ms. Lausten provided a project update, and she reported that JIG Consultants has submitted the final project design plans for this project. Discussion occurred concerning the project schedule and physical challenges and constraints.

Mr. Paludi provided a brief update concerning his discussion with the neighboring resident, and he highlighted the project schedule impacts. Discussion occurred concerning the planned facility aesthetic improvements.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee recommended forwarding the information to the Board of Directors (Action Calendar).

**ITEM 5: GROUNDWATER RESOURCES FEASIBILITY STUDY**

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Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee review, and he mentioned that District staff recommends the finalization of the technical memoranda prepared by Woodard and Curran based on discussion with the Committee the prior month. Discussion occurred concerning certain findings in the technical memoranda and the District's future plans for groundwater resources evaluation.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee recommended forwarding the information to the Board of Directors (Action Calendar).

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**ITEM 6: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECTS**

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**1. Urban Water & Stormwater Runoff Conveyance Structure to Dove Lake (Spillway)**

Mr. Paludi mentioned this is now an active construction project. Ms. Lausten provided a brief project update, and she reported that the project site will be prepared for excavation after the anticipated rain events later in the week.

**2. SCADA Upgrade Project – Radio Field Study and Software Evaluation**

Ms. Lausten provided a brief project update, and she reported that District staff was working with TESCO Controls on the Radio Field Study which included changing the antenna at Joplin Tanks to a repeater mast. Discussion occurred concerning ongoing coordination with Orange County Public Works (OCPW) concerning the preparation of their onsite reservoir tanks related to the conversion of Joplin Youth Camp as a County homeless population staging facility.

**3. 2018 Water Audit Results (Year Four)**

Ms. Lausten provided a brief review of the final 2018 Water Audit Report results, and she mentioned that the District’s domestic water distribution system reported low water loss results.

**4. El Toro Lift Station Improvements and Irvine Ranch Water District Buyout Proposal**

Mr. Paludi provided a brief update on this matter, and he mentioned that District staff met with Hazen & Sawyer (Hazen) concerning the preparation of the technical memorandum. Ms. Lausten reported that Hazen will be working with District staff to evaluate the critical improvements needed to extend the life of the facility for the next twenty years. Director Mandich requested that the Hazen technical memorandum be reviewed by the Engineering/Operational Committee upon completion.

**5. Joplin Youth Camp Onsite Potable Reservoir Tanks and Water System– Orange County Public Works (OCPW)**

This matter was discussed in conjunction with Item 6.2 Scada Upgrade Project – Radio Field Study and Software Evaluation.

**6. Other Projects**

There were no other projects discussed.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the information concerning the matter. There was no action taken.

**ITEM 7: PALOMA SQUARE DEVELOPMENT (120 DUs)**

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Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee review, and he provided a brief update on the City of Rancho Santa Margarita City Council Meeting action related to the adoption of the updated General Plan. Ms. Lausten provided an update on the parking study to the Committee.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the information concerning the matter. There was no action taken.

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**ITEM 8: SADDLEBACK MEADOWS DEVELOPMENT (181 DUs) – HARRIS GRADE RESERVOIR FEASIBILITY STUDY**

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Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee review, and he reported that District staff is coordinating with Hunsaker and Associates and the developer on the terms of a cost sharing agreement for the Harris Grade Reservoir Feasibility Study. Mr. Paludi mentioned that District staff worked with General Legal Counsel to prepare the draft cost sharing agreement.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the information concerning the matter and recommended forwarding the Harris Grade Reservoir Feasibility Study Draft Cost Sharing Agreement to the Board of Directors (Action Calendar).

**ITEM 9: WATER SYSTEM UPDATES**

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Mr. Kessler reviewed the projects and repairs for March 2020, and he provided the additional highlights:

1. Water Operations staff repaired a broken eight-inch (8") water main in the Dove Canyon Community located at the Dove Canyon Golf Course.
2. Water Operations staff prepared the Trabuco Creek Ground Water Treatment Facility for pumping after increased rainfall.
3. Water Operations staff worked with Orange County Public Works on the guidelines to properly disinfect the Joplin tanks so that they may be put back into service.

Mr. Kessler reviewed the Monthly Water System Operations summary, and he provided a brief update on the Water Operations Department alternative shifts and planned workload in response to the spread of COVID-19. Discussion occurred concerning the Dove Canyon Golf Course emergency repair.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update. There was no action taken.

**ITEM 10: WASTEWATER SYSTEM UPDATES**

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Mr. Perea reviewed the projects and repairs for March 2020, and he provided the additional highlights:

1. Wastewater Operations staff worked with Maintenance Department staff on a sewer lateral issues at Orange County Fire Authority Station 42 in Portola Hills.
2. Wastewater Operations staff worked with Maintenance Department staff and Flo-Services (Contractor) at El Toro Sewer Lift Station.
3. Wastewater Operations staff cleaned Heritage Sewer Lift Station.
4. Wastewater Operations staff worked with Brightview Landscape Services for clearing/grubbing at Dove Lake shoreline and boat ramp.
5. Wastewater Operations staff ordered compressor replacement parts for the Dove Lake diffuser equipment (FY 2019/2020 CIP Project).

Mr. Perea reviewed the Monthly Wastewater System Operations Summary and the Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Report with the Committee. Mr. Perea provided a brief update on the Wastewater Operations Department alternative shifts and planned workload in response to the spread of COVID-19.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update. There was no action taken.

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**ITEM 11: MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

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Mr. Stroud reviewed the projects and repairs for March 2020, and he provided the additional highlights:

1. Maintenance Department staff worked with Wastewater Operations on a sewer lateral issue at Orange County Fire Authority Station 42 in Portola Hills.
2. Maintenance Department staff performed scheduled District Fleet Vehicle preventative maintenance, including Department of Transportation BIT Program.
3. Maintenance Department staff worked with Water Operations staff to troubleshoot the high flow pump no. 3 at Topanga Booster Pump Station.
4. Maintenance Department staff coordinated with General Auction Company for the delivery of surplus vehicles approved for public auction.
5. Maintenance Department staff delivered the District's Slide Rail Truck for repairs

Mr. Stroud provided a brief update on the Maintenance Department alternative shifts and planned workload in response to the spread of COVID-19.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update. There was no action taken.

**ITEM 12: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS**

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Discussion occurred concerning the far-reaching impacts of the spread of COVID-19 and the potential impacts to District staff and neighboring agencies. Mr. Paludi mentioned that District staff are currently evaluating staffing impact scenarios and collaborating with other water agencies through weekly Water Emergency Response Organization of Orange County (WEROC) meetings.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

There was no action taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Director Mandich adjourned the April 1, 2020 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 8:09 AM.