



TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | AUGUST 4, 2021

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Ed Mandich, Committee Chair
Stephen Dopudja, Committee Member

STAFF PRESENT

Fernando Paludi, General Manager
Michael Perea, Assistant General Manager
Lorrie Lausten, District Engineer
Karen Warner, Principal Accountant
Gary Kessler, Water Department Superintendent
Jason Stroud, Maintenance Superintendent
Oscar Ulloa, Wastewater Chief Plant Operator
Lisa Marie Sangi, Executive Assistant

PUBLIC PRESENT

None

PUBLIC PRESENT VIA CONFERENCE CALL

There were members of the public on the conference call

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Director Mandich called the August 4, 2021 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting to order at 7:00 AM. Public access to the meeting was made available by video broadcast.

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. Paludi reported that a South Orange County Integrated Regional Watershed Management Executive Committee was scheduled for the following day.

ITEM 1: ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP

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(s) be forwarded to the Board of Directors for approval (Consent Calendar).

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ITEM 2: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION(S) CONCERNING BELL CANYON SEWER LIFT STATION REHABILITATION PROJECT

Ms. Lausten provided brief project status update to the Committee, and she mentioned that the project was complete and operational as of July 14, 2021. Ms. Lausten reported that District staff has received community feedback concerning the facility screening specifically related to the onsite backup generator. Discussion occurred regarding community concerns related to the security gate and screening. Ms. Lausten reported that Dove Canyon Master Association expressed support in changing the gate screening, and she reviewed the proposed options with the Committee.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

There was no action taken.

ITEM 3: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION(S) CONCERNING DIMENSION WATER TREATMENT PLANT BACKWASH TANK REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Mr. Paludi introduced this matter to the Committee. Ms. Lausten provided a brief project status update, and she reviewed current project status photos with the Committee. Discussion occurred concerning contractor findings during demolition of the existing tank.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

There was no action taken.

ITEM 4: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION(S) CONCERNING THE SURGE TANK REPLACEMENT AT EL TORO SEWER LIFT STATION

Mr. Paludi introduced this action item to the Committee. Mr. Perea reviewed the project location map, and he reported that the facility was currently offline and bypassed downstream to an Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) facility. Mr. Perea reported that District staff has contracted with JIG Engineering to prepare a surge analysis to design the appropriate surge tank for the facility, and he added that District staff are waiting for a proposal from the contractor for the improvements. Discussion occurred concerning the potential cost of the improvements. Mr. Perea recommended the Committee approve a not to exceed budget of \$100,000 with subsequent Board ratification, and if the proposal exceeds \$100,000, then the matter is to be reviewed and approved by the Board at the next regular board meeting.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The Committee approved a not to exceed budget of \$100,000 with subsequent Board approval and any proposal that exceeds \$100,000 requires Board review and approval at the next regular board meeting (Action Calendar).

ITEM 5: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECTS

1. Master Plan and Condition Assessment Update

Ms. Lausten provided a brief overview of the areas of focus, including the preparation of a sewer model, and she highlighted certain areas of concern identified by Wastewater Operations. Discussion occurred concerning sanitary sewer system design principles.

2. Heritage Sewer Lift Station Improvements

Ms. Lausten reported District staff is currently working with JIG Engineering on the facility improvement plans, including station bypass and sewer main improvements. Discussion occurred concerning the recent sanitary sewer overflow upstream and increased monitoring frequency. Ms. Lausten reported that more information will be presented at the next Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting.

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3. Other Projects

None

RECOMMENDED ACTION

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

ITEM 6: WATER SYSTEM UPDATES

Mr. Kessler reviewed the projects and repairs for July 2021, and he provided the additional highlights:

1. Water Operations staff installed a new flow totalizer on the Trabuco Pressure Regulator Valve (PRV) located at the Wells Facility.
2. Water Operations staff conducted Lead and Copper sampling (required every 3 years by EPA).
3. Water Operations staff worked with Meter Department to replace a broken curb stop on Morningstar in the Dove Canyon Community.
4. Water Operations staff installed two (2) cooling fans and two (2) exhaust vents in the filter building at the Dimension Water Treatment Plant.
5. Water Operations staff worked with the Orange County Rescue Mission to locate an existing water line and water valves.
6. Water Operations staff worked with Superior Tank on the construction of the new Backwash Recovery Tank.
7. Water Operations staff worked with the Maintenance Department to remove and rebuild Booster #3 at Dimension Water Treatment Plant.
8. Water Operations staff redesigned and rebuilt the chlorine room chemical feed manifold at the Dimension Water Treatment Plant.

Mr. Kessler mentioned that system demand was approximately 4 CFS.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

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

ITEM 7: WASTEWATER SYSTEM UPDATES

Mr. Perea reviewed the projects and repairs for July 2021, and he reported that Wastewater Operations staff had completed the following tasks:

1. Worked with SS Mechanical to install a safety handrail at the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant.
2. Cleaned and graded the drying bed at the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant with fresh sand.
3. Replaced a waste valve at the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant.
4. Worked with the Maintenance Department to repair a Waste Activated Sludge (WAS) pump #2 check valve and a de-ragged pump at the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant.
5. Wastewater staff was onsite for the Bell Canyon Lift Station start-up.
6. Worked with the Maintenance Department to set up a temporary pump at Dove Lake in the Dove Canyon community.

Mr. Perea introduced Mr. Oscar Ulloa, Wastewater Chief Plant Operator, to the Committee, and he commended him for his hard work.

Mr. Perea reported that non-domestic water demand was higher due to the warmer weather and that Operations staff have implemented rental equipment which is similar to the planned pump improvements. Mr. Perea reported that after reviewing the Dove Canyon Golf Course (DCGC) system demands with the DCGC General

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Manager, they have committed to reducing their overall use during the next few months. Discussion occurred concerning future non-domestic water storage opportunities.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

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

ITEM 8: MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Mr. Stroud reviewed the projects and repairs for July 2021, and he provided the additional highlights:

1. Maintenance Department staff assist Wastewater Operations with the temporary Dove Lake pump.
2. Maintenance Department staff assist Water Operations with the 3CFS booster pump removal for repair.
3. Maintenance Department staff was onsite with the Bell Canyon Lift Station startup.
4. Maintenance Department staff assisted Hydrotech Electric with the SCADA upgrade work at Dove Tank in the Dove Canyon Community.
5. Maintenance Department staff assisted Duthie Power Services with the generator repairs at the Via Alegre Lift Station.
6. Maintenance Department staff assisted Water Operations with the emergency generator and ATS rental install at the Field Office/Booster One.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

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

ITEM 9: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS

Mr. Paludi reported that Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MET) has highlighted the impacts of the persistent drought conditions throughout the service area, including TCWD. Mr. Paludi added that water shortages are impacting potential responses.

Mr. Paludi provided a brief report on the challenges that Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) is experiencing in meeting the Conservation Framework requirements, and that they are currently reviewing options for contracting this work and/or utilizing internal staff to meet this requirement.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

There was no action taken.

ADJOURNMENT

Director Mandich adjourned the August 4, 2021 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 8:01 AM.