



## **TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | JANUARY 3, 2024**

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### **DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Mike Safranski, Committee Chair  
Stephen Dopudja, Committee Member

### **STAFF PRESENT**

Fernando Paludi, General Manager  
Gary Kessler, Water Superintendent  
Oscar Ulloa, Wastewater Superintendent  
Phil Serpas, CMMS/SCADA Administrator  
Roseann Lejsek, Administrative Assistant

### **STAFF ABSENT**

Michael Perea, Assistant General Manager  
Lorrie Lausten, District Engineer  
Jason Stroud, Maintenance Superintendent  
Karen Warner, Principal Accountant

### **PUBLIC PRESENT**

None

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Director Safranski called the January 3, 2024 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting to order at 7:10 a.m.

### **VISITOR PARTICIPATION**

No comments were received.

### **ORAL COMMUNICATION**

No comments were received.

### **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

The Committee wished all in attendance a Happy New Year.

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

Mr. Paludi wished all in attendance a Happy New Year.

### **ITEM 1: GOLF CLUB SEWER LIFT STATION IMPROVEMENTS**

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Mr. Paludi provided a brief update on the proposals received for construction management services, and he reported that Ms. Lausten is concerned with the higher-than-anticipated fees associated with the proposals. Mr. Paludi stated that the District will need to do more due diligence and would bring this matter to the board only if staff was comfortable in making a recommendation. Director Safranski expressed his appreciation for staff's efforts to control costs.

**MOTION:** None – Informational item only.

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**ITEM 2: ROBINSON RANCH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT SCADA IMPROVEMENTS**

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Mr. Paludi provided a brief update on this matter, and he reported that the SCADA system within the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant requires improvements. Mr. Serpas provided background information regarding this project to be performed by Beavins, versus the District-wide SCADA CIP upgrade project performed by TESCO, and he stated that they are two separate projects. Mr. Ulloa provided information regarding the current SCADA system at the facility as it is a stand-alone system that requires improvement. Mr. Ulloa stated that they are still working out total costs before bringing this matter to the Board. Discussion occurred concerning the current CIP budget. Mr. Paludi stated that staff is proposing to reallocate certain project costs to offset the cost of this project. Director Safranski expressed concerns with the proposed strategy. Mr. Paludi stated that staff will have better answers at a future meeting.

**MOTION:** None – Informational item only.

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**ITEM 3: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECT UPDATES**

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**1. Saddle Crest Development update**

Mr. Paludi provided an update on this matter, and he reported that staff is working to address certain engineering and operational challenges at the site. Mr. Kessler provided a status update on the operation challenges of the reservoir and pump station. Discussion occurred concerning certain strategies to address the challenges at the site. Director Dopudja stated for the record that the District sweeps so much under the rug that we have run out of rug.

**2. Other Projects**

None

**MOTION:** None – Informational item only.

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**ITEM 4: WATER SYSTEM UPDATES**

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Mr. Kessler reviewed the projects and repairs for the prior month, and he reported that Water Operations staff has completed the following tasks:

1. Replaced all the copper tubing to the four (4) pumps at the El Toro Field Office Pump Station.
2. Rebuilt the Cla-Vals on filters no. 1, 2, & 4 at the Dimension Water Treatment Plant (DWTP).
3. Attended all onsite training meetings for the Saddle Crest Pump Station.
4. Assisted Wastewater Operations with the installation of the new aeration system in the East SBR at the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP).

Mr. Kessler presented the Water System Summary for Committee review. Mr. Kessler reported that Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) will start their multi-year capital improvement project for Irvine Lake dam and outlet tower in Spring 2024 which includes draining the lake. Discussion occurred concerning the District's potable water supplies and operational systems.

**MOTION:** None – Informational item only.

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**ITEM 5: WASTEWATER SYSTEM UPDATES**

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Mr. Ulloa reviewed the projects and repairs for the prior month, and he reported that Wastewater Operations staff had completed the following tasks:

1. Manhole inspections at Saddle Crest Development.
2. Removed soil and vegetation from v-ditch above WWTP recycled water reservoir.
3. Removed old aeration headers and installed all new aeration headers and diffusers for the West SBR at the WWTP.
4. Bypassed Golf Club Lift Station for emergency repairs to the onsite surge tank with the assistance of DB Sales (contractor).
5. Repaired the West SBR drain valve at the WWTP.

Mr. Ulloa presented the Recycled Water System Summary for Committee review. Mr. Ulloa provided a brief status update on the Dove Canyon Master Association (DCMA) V-Ditch repair, and he indicated that the lower third has been restored but does not have erosion control. Discussion occurred concerning staff meeting with DCMA representatives to address concerns on the project site. Mr. Ulloa stated that line cleaning will start again next week.

**MOTION:** None – Informational item only.

**ITEM 6: MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

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Mr. Ulloa provided updates in Mr. Stroud's absence. Mr. Ulloa reviewed the projects and repairs for the prior month, and he reported that Maintenance staff completed the following tasks:

**Projects and Repairs**

Maintenance staff performed and/or completed the following tasks and projects:

**Water Operations**

1. Attended onsite training at the Saddle Crest pump station.
2. Coordinated the re-keying of Saddle Crest Booster Pump Station facility door locks.

**Wastewater Operations**

1. Assisted operations with the v-ditch clean out at the Dove Canyon Master Association (DCMA) v-ditch.
2. Assisted operations with West SBR aeration system replacement project.
3. Received the spare air blower for the WWTP from Vaughn Industrial.
4. Assisted operations and DB Sales (contractor) to repair the onsite surge tank at Golf Club Sewer Lift Station.

**District Fleet Upgrades & Other Projects**

1. Performed Emergency Backup Generator checks in preparation of a potential SCE Public Safety Power Shutoff (PSPS) event.
2. Performed BIT Program compliance inspections.
3. Performed an oil change and maintenance on truck #28.
4. Installed new brakes and tires on truck #1.

**MOTION:** None – Informational item only.

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**ITEM 7: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS**

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There were no others matter reported.

**MOTION:** None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Director Safranski adjourned the January 3, 2024 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 8:01 a.m.