



TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | MAY 1, 2024

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Mike Safranski, Committee Chair
Stephen Dopudja, Committee Member

STAFF PRESENT

Fernando Paludi, General Manager
Michael Perea, District Secretary
Lorrie Lausten, District Engineer
Gary Kessler, Water Superintendent
Oscar Ulloa, Wastewater Superintendent
Jason Stroud, Maintenance Superintendent
Phil Serpas, CMMS/SCADA Administrator
Roseann Lejsek, Administrative Assistant

PUBLIC PRESENT

None

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Director Safranski called the May 1, 2024 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting to order at 7:00 a.m.

VISITOR PARTICIPATION

No comments were received.

ORAL COMMUNICATION

No comments were received.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

None

REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

None

ITEM 1: ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP

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

MOTION: Approve the Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap and recommend that the Board receive and file the same (Consent Calendar) – Director Dopudja

SECOND: Director Safranski

AYES: Directors Dopudja & Safranski

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION PASSED/FAILED: Passed 2 – 0

ITEM 2: ROBINSON RANCH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT BLOWER MODIFICATION PROJECT

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration and review. Ms. Lausten provided an overview of the project, and she reported that District staff solicited bids from six pre-qualified contractors and received two responsive bids. Ms. Lausten presented a bid comparison for Committee review, and she stated that both bids came in significantly higher than the engineer's estimate. Ms. Lausten stated that based on the two bids, staff is considering an alternative solution and is not making any recommendations at this time. Discussion occurred regarding the possible reasons for the cost increase from the original budget and engineer's estimate. Mr. Paludi stated that project costs are increasing industry-wide, and that he asked Mr. Ulloa to propose project alternatives to control the District's costs. Mr. Ulloa provided information regarding various portions of the project that could possibly be completed by District staff to bring down costs. Director Safranski commented that he appreciates staff proactively looking into alternative cost savings. Mr. Paludi recommended a site walk with the Committee in the coming weeks for a better understanding of the project goals.

MOTION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 3: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECT UPDATES

1. Golf Club Sewer Lift Station Construction Update

Mr. Paludi provided a brief update on this matter, and he reported that the new surge tank, which is located on the exterior adjacent to the facility, will have a gate and wall installed to cover the tank. Ms. Lausten provided a construction report covering the months of February and March 2024. Mr. Paludi reported that there have been no change orders on this project to date.

2. DWTP Vault Lid Improvements

Mr. Paludi provided a brief update on this matter, and he reported that three vault lids at the Dimension Water Treatment Plant are failing and in need of replacement. Ms. Lausten reported that one lid has been replaced and that this portion of the project came in under budget.

3. SCADA Project Update

Mr. Paludi provided an update on this matter, and he reported that the District is working with TESCO Controls on any outstanding matters related to this project. Mr. Paludi also reported that staff is working on entering into an agreement with a new contractor to complete the project, and he commended Mr. Phil Serpas for his dedicated work to ensure the project stays on track.

4. LCRR Update

Ms. Lausten provided an update on this matter, and she reported that the District has entered into a cost-sharing agreement with MWDOC for completion of a service line inventory due to the State by October 16, 2024. Ms. Lausten reported on the status of the inventory and the District's next steps. Ms. Lausten stated that the District is completing the required inspection work as a cost savings measure.

5. Oaks at Trabuco Development

Mr. Paludi provided an update on this project, and he reported that the developer is working with their contractor to make the plant operational for District acceptance. Mr. Ulloa reported that certain discrepancies in the information provided by the developer's team concerning wastewater production and facility viability. Mr. Paludi reported that the District has contracted with Hazen to perform a facility conditional assessment to better understand any site challenges and/or deficiencies prior to acceptance.

6. Other Projects – Saddle Crest

Mr. Paludi provided a brief update on this matter.

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ITEM 4: WATER SYSTEM UPDATES

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

1. Worked with Ferreira Construction on Dimension Water Treatment Plant (DWTP) Influent Vault replacement project.
2. Assisted Meter Department with the replacement of 2 residential curb stop valve replacements in the Dove Canyon community.
3. Replaced vault sump pumps at Lindsay, Robinson Ranch, and GWTF.
4. Replaced High Country pressure transducer.
5. Conducted Fire Flow Test on Live Oak Canyon Road for future residential development.
6. Valve Exercise Program Update: Exercised 82 valves in the Dove Canyon and Robinson Ranch communities.

Mr. Kessler presented the Water System Summary for Committee review, and he reported that he did not have the most current numbers due to it being the first of the month. Mr. Kessler reported that the District is meeting 100% of potable demands utilizing the groundwater treatment facility, but that the creek is drying up faster than anticipated. Mr. Kessler provided a history of the District's challenges with utilizing Irvine Lake as a water source. Director Safranski requested to agendaize this matter next month for an update.

MOTION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 5: WASTEWATER SYSTEM UPDATES

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

1. Installed variable frequency drives (VFD) for the East and West SBR Hoffman blowers at WWTP.
2. Repaired the electrical feed wires at Tick Creek Pump Station in preparation for upcoming dry season recovery.
3. Underground field surveying at WWTP for electrical duct bank to feed proposed new MCC at blower building.
4. Jackhammered and removed the old NEQ pump base in preparation to install a new NEQ pump.
5. Worked with Maintenance Dept. on weed abatement at WWTP and surrounding areas for OCFA inspections.
6. Repaired mooring line for reservoir mixer.
7. Started sampling raw influent at The Oaks to better understand the incoming wastewater.
8. Replaced El Toro Sewer Lift Station 12" flowmeter.

Mr. Ulloa presented the Recycled Water System Summary for Committee review, and he reported that he did not have the most current numbers due to it being the first of the month. Mr. Ulloa reported that the reservoir is at capacity and that Dove Lake is spilling. Director Safranski asked staff if there are plans to dredge the recycled water reservoir to increase capacity. Ms. Lausten responded that staff recently completed a bathymetric study of the reservoir which includes the necessary guidance to perform dredging. Mr. Ulloa reported that operations staff maintains the upstream desilting basins to minimize excess soils entering the reservoir.

MOTION: None – Informational item only.

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ITEM 6: MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Mr. Stroud 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. Completed Lyndsay pressure reducing valve (PRV) vault electrical outlet repair.
2. Assisted DMC Engineering with underground utility markings.

Wastewater Operations

1. Assisted with variable frequency drive (VFD) installation in WWTP blower room.
2. Performed job walk with filter vendor for Dove Recycled Water Pump station.
3. Performed job walk with David Rodriguez for handrail project WWTP.
4. Weed abatement at Porter Ranch property and WWTP access road and dam face.

District Fleet Upgrades & Other Projects

1. Prepared #7 for new service body installation.
2. Scheduled Duthie Poer for backup emergency power generator preventative maintenance.
3. Worked with OCFA at Porter Ranch property for USAR Trench Rescue training.

MOTION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 7: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS

There were no other matters reported.

MOTION: None

ADJOURNMENT

Director Safranski adjourned the May 1, 2024 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 8:13 a.m.