



TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP | AUGUST 7, 2024

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Mike Safranski, Committee Chair
Stephen Dopudja, Committee Member

STAFF PRESENT

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

STAFF ABSENT

None

PUBLIC PRESENT

None

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Director Safranski called the August 7, 2024 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting to order at 7:01 a.m.

VISITOR PARTICIPATION

No comments were received.

ORAL COMMUNICATION

No comments were received.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

None

REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Mr. Paludi reported that an emergency line break of the 16" potable water transmission pipeline occurred the prior week near the Dimension Water Treatment Plant (DWTP). Mr. Paludi reported that the break occurred in a commercial center parking lot near an auto repair shop and a Montessori Preschool. Mr. Paludi reported that District staff and Ferreira Construction (contractor) was on-site quickly and repaired the pipeline. Mr. Paludi commended staff for their assistance in the site clean-up, and that both he and Mr. Perea met with a school representative to assess potential damage. Discussion occurred regarding the possible causes for the line break as well as cost-estimating a plan for reinforcing the interior of the pipeline, starting with the most critical segments in order to avoid property damage in the future. Director Dopudja commended Operations for their quick response and clean up.

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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: DOVE RECYCLED WATER PUMP STATION IMPROVEMENTS – RFP ISSUED

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration. Ms. Lausten provided a brief background of phase 1 portion of this project, and she stated that the District is ready to begin the second phase, which includes project design. Ms. Lausten stated that a Request for Proposals (RFP) was sent to 8 firms, and she provided a brief overview of the planned improvements which were included in the RFP. Ms. Lausten noted that cost increases have been accounted for in the budget.

- MOTION:** None – Informational item only.

ITEM 3: ROBINSON RANCH WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT (RRWWTP) BLOWER ROOM RE-DESIGN

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration. Ms. Lausten reported that Engineering and Operations have collaborated for the modified design for the blower replacements, which will include placing the blowers outside of the building. Ms. Lausten provided the blower design budget, the Motor Control Center (MCC) replacement budget, and budgetary estimates for the construction of each. Ms. Lausten provided information on the conceptual layout of the modifications, and she reported that noise-testing found almost no noise. Ms. Lausten added that placing the blowers outside of the building will improve access for maintenance of the blowers. Mr. Ulloa commented that placing the blowers outside will relieve the electrical components from heat stress and will also allow the MCC to have a dedicated building. Ms. Lausten noted that the quote did not include flow meters, which will cost an additional approximate \$13,000. Mr. Paludi stated that long-term energy cost-savings should be realized from the design improvements and energy improvements.

- MOTION:** Recommend the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to Amendment No. 1 to JIG Consultants for the Blower Room Improvements in the not-to-exceed amount of \$81,985 (Action Calendar) – Director Dopudja
- SECOND:** Director Safranski
- AYES:** Directors Dopudja & Safranski
- NOES:** None
- ABSTAIN:** None
- MOTION PASSED/FAILED:** Passed 2 – 0

ITEM 4: DIMENSION WATER TREATMENT PLANT (DWTP) OFFICE TRAILER REHAB PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration, and he reported that the Dimension Water Treatment Plant (DWTP) office rehabilitation project has been completed. Ms. Lausten provided a summary of

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the improvements with photos of the exterior and interior of the building. Discussion occurred regarding security improvements at the facility.

MOTION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 5: THE OAKS AT TRABUCO DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration, and he reported that the District contracted with Hazen & Sawyer to perform a cost-of-service study of the plant's operation and replacement. Mr. Paludi reported that staff is working with General Counsel on the best way to assess the condition ahead of the District's acceptance of the facility. Discussion occurred regarding possible changes to reduce operating costs.

MOTION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 6: LEAD AND COPPER RULE REVISIONS (LCRR) SERVICE LINE INVENTORIES PROJECT

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration. Ms. Lausten reported that the District has completed the field verification testing as required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Ms. Lausten stated that although service connections installed after January 1, 1986 are assumed not to contain lead, the rule requires agencies to complete an inventory of each service. Ms. Lausten reported that the District worked with the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) on a shared services contract with other Orange County agencies on the project and that MWDOC selected Hazen & Sawyer to perform the LCRR field work. Ms. Lausten reported that the District opted to do the field verification with internal staff as a cost-saving effort. Ms. Lausten reported that staff conducted 247 field inspections and that no lead was found on either the utility or owner side of services. Ms. Lausten stated that Hazen & Sawyer will summarize the District's compliance efforts in a report and submit it to the State in time for the October 16, 2024 submission deadline. Ms. Lausten noted that as a result of performing the field verifications in-house, the District saved \$65,000 on the contract.

MOTION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 7: BELL CANYON AND BARNEBURG SEWER LIFT STATION EASEMENTS

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration, and he commended Ms. Lausten for discovering the lack of easements for both Bell Canyon and Barneburg Sewer Lift Stations. Ms. Lausten reported that both Grants of Easement have been completed and that with the Committee's recommendation, staff will bring these items to the Board for receipt and execution.

MOTION: Recommend that the Board of Directors receive the Grants of Easement to the Trabuco Canyon Water District by Dove Canyon Master Association for the Bell Canyon and Barneburg Sewer Lift Stations and authorize the District Secretary to execute said Grants of Easement (Action Calendar)
– Director Dopudja

SECOND: Director Safranski

AYES: Directors Dopudja & Safranski

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

MOTION PASSED/FAILED: Passed 2 – 0

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ITEM 8: TCWD BUSINESS SYSTEM SERVER REPLACEMENT PROJECT – PHASE ONE

Mr. Paludi presented this matter for Committee consideration. Mr. Perea reported that the District’s servers were last updated in 2016, and he stated that the District has fully maximized the storage expansion capacity since that time, with approximately ten percent of storage capacity remaining. Mr. Perea reported that staff has been working with the District’s independent contract IT manager, Highroad IT, to budget for a two-phased upgrade approach for this project, which has been built into the CIP budget. Mr. Perea also reported that the State of California has released Cybersecurity Grant Program funding, and he stated that he has started a dialogue with Soto Resources to explore possible grant funding opportunities to offset project costs.

- MOTION:** Recommend the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to approve the Server Replacement Project Quote No. TCWD24-0726A from Highroad IT in the amount of \$99,648 (Action Calendar) – Director Dopudja
- SECOND:** Director Safranski
- AYES:** Directors Dopudja & Safranski
- NOES:** None
- ABSTAIN:** None
- MOTION PASSED/FAILED:** Passed 2 – 0

ITEM 9: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECT UPDATES

1. **Santa Margarita Parkway Force Main Repair Completion**
Ms. Lausten provided an update on this matter, and she provided a summary of the repairs that were completed. Ms. Lausten reported that the 8” pipeline is in better condition than the 12” pipeline and she stated that a possible solution would be to do a slip line on the transition.
2. **Live Oak Pipeline Design – PDR Received**
Ms. Lausten provided an update on this matter, and she stated that the design contract has been awarded. Ms. Lausten stated that an aerial survey is being conducted and that Engineering will be meeting with Operations to discuss the materials. Ms. Lausten noted that the project is in its early stages and progress is being made.
3. **Other Projects**
Heritage Sewer Lift Station – Mr. Ulloa provided an update on this matter, and he reported that the station lost power last Monday and is currently running on backup generator power. Mr. Ulloa reported that the connections from Southern California Edison’s (SCE) transformer to the station’s junction box were observed to be damaged during ARC Flash inspections. Mr. Ulloa explained that it is believed that the condition is due to tension on the cables and that the SCE transformer needs replacement along with the junction box. Discussion occurred regarding possible reasons for the connection issues. Ms. Lausten reported that she spoke with a representative from SCE and a transformer has been secured and is scheduled to be completed in the next week.

ITEM 10: 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. Conducted Lead and Copper sampling as required every three years.
2. Worked with contractor to replace 2” air vac on Rose Canyon.
3. Worked with Engineering to complete the Lead Line Survey.

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4. Repaired 2” Service on Live Oak Canyon.
5. Worked with resident to replace and raise 2” meter on Hamilton Trail.
6. Started/stopped Dimension Water Treatment Plant.

Mr. Kessler presented the Water System Summary for Committee review, and he reported that the District is utilizing Irvine Lake water via Baker Treatment facility and monitoring the distribution system water quality with the introduction of the source water. Mr. Kessler stated that Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) is operating the facility with a 17/83 percent blend of Irvine Lake Water and untreated MET water, and that no water quality or operating issues have been observed at this time.

MOTION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 11: 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. Replaced a 40HP pump for the equalization basin at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP)
2. Cleaned Barneburg Sewer Lift Station wet well
3. Cleaned sanitary sewer system “hot spots” that lead to Via Allegre Sewer Lift Station
4. Replaced the air solenoids for a backwash filter at the WWTP

Mr. Ulloa presented the Recycled Water System Summary for Committee review, and he reported Dove Lake freeboard was currently 2 feet with the lake pump online. Mr. Ulloa reported that Santa Margarita Water District received 7.7 acre feet on the intertie. Mr. Paludi reported that staff is preparing for inspection of the outlet gate to replace and rehab the outlet gate system. Mr. Paludi stated that the District will contract with divers to re-inspect and assess the gate, and provide us with a quote for the project.

MOTION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 12: 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. Troubleshoot and replaced damaged ROTRON blower at Dimension Water Treatment Plant (DWTP)
2. Worked with Hydrotech Electric to troubleshoot failed #3 booster pump at DWTP

Wastewater Operations

1. Assisted Wastewater Operations, Hydrotech Electric, and WM Lyles at Plano Lift Station with PLC failure.
2. Participated in a field meeting on Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Blower Room project.
3. Participated in a field meeting on Dove Recycle Booster Station.
4. Replaced damaged EQ basin pump at WWTP
5. Golf Club bypass startup job walk with Pacific Hydrotech

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6. Prepped Barneburg Sewer Lift Station for wet well rehab
7. Assisted Hydrotech Electric at Via Allegre Sewer Lift Station with newer dialer upgrade
8. Stage one wet well pump failed at Golf Club Sewer Lift Station. Swapped in new Cornell pump.
9. ARC Flash inspection found failure of electrical distribution bar leading to Heritage Sewer Lift Station. Prepped station for power outage until further notice. Met with Southern California Edison (SCE) representatives to discuss the electrical service repairs needed.
10. VFD lunch and learn meeting at WWTP

District Fleet Upgrades & Other Projects

1. Completed required Sexual Harassment Prevention Training through ACWA JPIA
2. LOF truck #29

MOTION: None – Informational item only.

ITEM 13: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS

Mr. Perea requested that any Directors who have completed their Ethics Training through ACWA JPIA, please provide their certificate to the District Secretary.

Mr. Perea stated that ACWA JPIA sponsored Sexual Harassment Prevention Training for Managers, Supervisors, and Elected Officials will be held virtually on August 27, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the District's administration building, and he extended an invitation to the Directors.

MOTION: None

ADJOURNMENT

Director Safranski adjourned the August 7, 2024 Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 8:21 a.m.