

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT  
ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP  
JULY 8, 2014**

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**DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Edward Mandich, Committee Chair  
Michael Safranski, Committee Member

**STAFF PRESENT**

Hector Ruiz, General Manager  
Michael Perea, District Secretary  
Lorrie Lausten, Engineer  
Kris Hanberg, Wastewater Department Superintendent  
Neil McKenna, Water Department Superintendent  
Bob Beck, Maintenance Department Superintendent

**PUBLIC PRESENT**

There were members of the public present.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Mr. Mandich called the July 8, 2014, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting to order at 7:00 AM.

**VISITOR PARTICIPATION**

No comments were received.

**ORAL COMMUNICATION**

No comments were received.

**COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Safranski commented on his attendance and participation at the Nominating Committee for the MET Representative. Mr. Safranski mentioned that the Committee met to interview eight candidates. The Committee shortlisted the prospective candidates to the following three candidates: Ms. Mary Jane Foley, Ms. Betty Olson, Mr. Larry McKenney, and that candidate interviews are scheduled for July 21<sup>st</sup>. Discussion occurred concerning the selection process and timeline.

Mr. Mandich had no comments.

**REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER**

Mr. Ruiz had no comments.

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

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Mr. Ruiz presented the June 10, 2014, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap for Committee review.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee recommended that the Board receive and file the June 10, 2014, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap (Consent Calendar).

**ITEM 2: SHADOW ROCK DETENTION BASIN FACILITY PROJECT**

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Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on this project, and commented on the following project-related matters:

- Army Corps of Engineers – Mr. Ruiz commented that District Staff received the letter of permission to proceed with the project.
- City of Rancho Santa Margarita – Mr. Ruiz mentioned that District staff are awaiting for the permit from City Staff.
- Southern California Edison (SCE) – Mr. Ruiz mentioned that a Project Kick-Off Meeting has been scheduled with SCE.
- Labor Compliance Program (LCP) – Mr. Ruiz informed the Committee that the District’s LCP Consultant CVL Consulting has closed their business, and that District Staff are preparing a Request for Proposal for another LCP Consultant. Discussion occurred concerning LCP incurred costs to date; Mr. Ruiz commented that there have been no LCP costs to date on this project.

Discussion occurred concerning project schedule and timeline for completion.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 3: ALTERNATE RAW WATER TRANSMISSION LINE - PW79**

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Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on this project, and reviewed the project tasks completed to date, which included the following matters:

- Tetra Tech/Project Design – Mr. Ruiz commented that Tetra Tech (Consultant) has completed the 50% design for submittal, and are beginning coordination efforts with the property owners for easement acquisition. Mr. Ruiz added that Tetra Tech has prepared design cut sheets for plan views that will be submitted to the County of Orange and SCE.

Discussion occurred concerning the review of preliminary design plans and project timeline. Mr. Safranski commented on the significance of the project, and offered any assistance which could be provided to proceed on the project. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that his continued assistance with contacting SCE would be appreciated.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

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**ITEM 4: BAKER WATER TREATMENT FACILITY**

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Mr. Ruiz commented that there was no update on this project and that he would be attending a Project Committee Meeting that week and expected to receive the monthly Project Construction Report. Mr. Ruiz added that the Project Construction Report will be presented at the July 16, 2014, Regular Board Meeting for review.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 5: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECTS**

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1. Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant Sodium Hypochlorite Solution Tank Replacement  
Ms. Lausten commented that District Staff has finalized the tank specifications, and received updated quotes. Discussion occurred concerning the range of quote costs for the planned tank and project timeline; Ms. Lausten mentioned that the quotes range from \$27,000 to \$28,000, and that once the tank is ordered, it will take approximately six to eight weeks for delivery.

2. Other Projects

Mr. Ruiz commented there were no other engineering and operations projects.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 6: SKYRIDGE DEVELOPMENT (84 DUs)**

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Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on this development, and reviewed the remaining major project tasks, which included the following matters:

- Recycled Water Study – Mr. Ruiz commented that Psomas (Consultant) has prepared and submitted the Draft Study Technical Memorandum to Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD) for their review. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that SMWD will review the Study to determine any upgrades to the Recycled Water Reservoir and pump station. At a minimum, an approximate 4,000 feet of pipeline, at developer cost, is planned.

Mr. Ruiz mentioned that District staff is reviewing current sewer capacity for the El Toro Road Trunk Sewer System, as it has been affected by property transfers and sales. Mr. Ruiz reviewed the exhibit which showed District Capacity Ownership in the El Toro Road Trunk Sewer System. Discussion occurred concerning the potential impacts the development could have on the sewer infrastructure. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that the project's Final Draft Water and Sewer Improvement Plans prepared by the developer's Engineer have been submitted.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

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**ITEM 7: ACTIVE DEVELOPMENTS**

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1. Summerfield Homes, County of Orange – Tract 15800 (5 DUs | WSL)

Mr. Ruiz commented that District Staff is coordinating with the developer to add the necessary sewer manhole and infrastructure improvements.

2. Plano Trabuco Development, William Lyon Homes, Inc., City of Rancho Santa Margarita (36 unit triplex building design)

Mr. Ruiz presented information concerning this new development to the Committee, and commented that this was located at the parcel formerly known as Toro Plaza. Mr. Ruiz added that the planned development is a 36 unit triplex building design, and that the developer plans to coordinate with Trabuco Marketplace for the easements required to connect the sewer and water. Ms. Lausten mentioned that she is working with the developer to prepare a Sub-Area Master Plan with assistance from a consultant.

3. Oaks at Trabuco, County of Orange (9 DUs | WSL)

Mr. Ruiz mentioned that the developer is investigating inflow and infiltration issues at the wastewater treatment facility. Discussion occurred concerning the number of units in the development; Mr. Ruiz mentioned that there are two active units in the development.

4. Johnson Residence, County of Orange (1 DU)

Mr. Ruiz presented information concerning this new single home development on Trabuco Oaks, and that District Staff is coordinating with the developer for water service. Mr. Ruiz added that a Will Serve Letter will be presented for Board approval at the July 16<sup>th</sup> Regular Board Meeting.

5. Upper Oso Habitat Restoration, City of Rancho Santa Margarita

Mr. Ruiz presented this matter for Committee review, and mentioned that this development is led by the City of Rancho Santa Margarita and impacts both the District and SMWD. Mr. Ruiz added that SMWD is providing recycled water for the project, and that the City can potentially receive recycled water credits from the District as result of its participation in the Shadow Rock Detention Basin Facility Project. Discussion occurred concerning the project planned restoration and timeline for completion.

6. Other Active Developments

Mr. Ruiz commented there were no other developments for discussion.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 8: WATER SYSTEM STATUS**

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Mr. McKenna presented the Water System Status Update through June, 2014, reported on the following matters:

- Water Department staff completed two hydrant conversions on Hunky Dory Street in the Canyon.

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- Water Department staff removed and submitted for repair the 3 CFS booster pump at the Ridgeline Booster Pump Station due to mechanical vibration.

Mr. McKenna reviewed the Monthly Water System Operations Summary with the Committee. Discussion occurred concerning the impact of the Statewide Drought on the District's groundwater supplies.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 9: WASTEWATER SYSTEM STATUS**

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Mr. Hanberg presented the Wastewater System Status Update through June, 2014, reported on the following matters:

- Wastewater Department staff installed three new six-inch valves for the filters at the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant.
- Wastewater Department Staff worked with Administrative Staff in reviewing the applicants for employment in the Wastewater Department.
- Wastewater Department staff implemented the SCE Time of Use procedures for the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant.

Mr. Hanberg reviewed the Monthly Recycled Water System Operations Summary with the Committee, which included the following matters:

- The recycled water reservoir at the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant had received supplemental potable water to meet system demand.
- The District has been pumping Dove Lake water to supplement the Recycled Water Reservoir, as well as deliver 4 acre-feet of SMWD's share of dry-season run-off.

Mr. Hanberg presented the Sewer System Management Plan 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarterly Report for Committee review. Discussion occurred concerning the Dove Canyon Golf Course (DCGC) recycled water demand and the need to supplement the recycled water reservoir with potable water. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that the DCGC is invoiced for the cost of the supplemental potable water as it is used to meet the demand that their usage places on the system. Discussion occurred concerning possible mandated cutbacks by the Governor's Office concerning water used for irrigation.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

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**ITEM 10: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING THE SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY EASEMENT REQUEST FOR INSTALLATION OF ADVANCED METER INFRASTRUCTURE (AMI) AT THE DOVE RESERVOIR PARCEL**

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Mr. Ruiz presented this matter for Committee review and discussed the background of the Southern California Gas Company's (SoCalGas) AMI Project, and introduced Mr. Dennis Lord, Mr. Juan Gonzalez, and Mr. Paul Simond, the Representatives from SoCalGas. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that delegates from Dove Canyon and District customers were present in the audience to speak on this agenda item. Mr. Ruiz presented a letter from the Dove Canyon Master Association (DCMA) which requested the District's participation in the project. Mr. Ruiz provided photographic examples of the Data Collector Units (DCUs), SoCalGas DCU Radio Frequency Output Comparison Analysis, and highlighted the proposed DCU installation locations. Discussion occurred concerning the number of installation locations throughout the City of Rancho Santa Margarita and the District's service area. Mr. Ruiz highlighted SoCalGas' request for a proposed DCU installation adjacent to the District's Dove Reservoir on District property.

Ms. Patti Gentile, Dove Canyon resident and delegate representing areas in the Dove Canyon Community, addressed the Committee concerning the matter, and expressed her concern for the potential adverse impacts that the installation will have on the residents on Field Point in Dove Canyon. Ms. Gentile mentioned that after some discussion with SoCalGas Representative Mr. Dennis Lord that a tentative agreement concerning the lowering of the solar panels on the pole at the installation had been reached, but that she requested that SoCalGas consider alternate locations within the District's service for installation. Discussion occurred concerning the additional DCU installation sites in the District's service area, including in the Trabuco Highlands Community and at the entrance of the Dove Center.

Mr. Dennis Lord, SoCalGas Representative, addressed the Committee concerning the matter, and provided background concerning the selection of the location and the significance of the AMI project. Mr. Lord added that SoCalGas agreed to lower the solar panels to an approximate height of 15 feet and the antenna at the top of the 26-foot pole per the concerns expressed by the residents on Field Point. Discussion occurred concerning the total number of DCUs installed throughout the City of Rancho Santa Margarita. Mr. Safranski commended SoCalGas for their cooperation with the residents on Field Point, and expressed concern for potential costs to the District concerning this matter. Discussion occurred concerning possible costs to the District. Mr. Lord assured the Committee that SoCalGas will pay for the easement and absorb costs associated with the recording documents related to the installation of the DCU. Mr. Ruiz added that District Staff will coordinate with the District Legal Counsel to draft an Easement Agreement for SoCalGas, and will present to the Board for review and approval. Mr. Mandich commended SoCalGas for their public outreach with the residents on Field Point, and discussed the necessity of the AMI project for SoCalGas. Discussion occurred concerning the challenges of the SoCalGas AMI project and installation requirements. Mr. Lord also mentioned that SoCalGas is working to have the pole colored green to better blend with the background environment, and that the pole location would be in the top area shown in the exhibit.

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The Committee received the information concerning the matter, and recommended that District Staff coordinate with District Legal Counsel for the Draft Easement Agreement.

**ITEM 11: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS**

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Mr. Ruiz commented that there were no other matters or reports for discussion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Mandich adjourned the July 8, 2014, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 7:53 AM.