

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT  
ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP  
SEPTEMBER 2, 2015**

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**DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Edward Mandich, Committee Chair  
Stephen Dopudja, Committee Member

**STAFF PRESENT**

Hector Ruiz, General Manager  
Michael Perea, District Secretary  
Lorrie Lausten, Engineer  
Kris Hanberg, Wastewater Department Chief Plant Operator  
Gary Kessler, Water Department Chief Plant Operator  
Bob Beck, Maintenance Department Mechanical Technologist  
Lisa Carmouche, Administrative Assistant

**PUBLIC PRESENT**

There were no members of the public present.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Director Mandich called the September 2, 2015, 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**

Director Dopudja had no comments.

Director Mandich commented on his attendance at the Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD) Impacts of El Nino Meeting, and mentioned that the event was well attended. Discussion occurred concerning the possible impacts of an El Nino event, including flooding and mud slides.

**REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER**

Mr. Ruiz reported that the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) and the Water Emergency Response of Orange County (WEROC) have notified member agencies concerning participation with the Army Corps of Engineers Emergency Power Facility Assessment Tool (EPFAT). Mr. Ruiz added that additional information will be presented at the Regular Board Meeting.

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

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Mr. Ruiz presented the August 5, 2015, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap for Committee review. There were no comments received.

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee recommended that the Board receive and file the August 5, 2015, Engineering/ Operational Committee Meeting Recap (Consent Calendar).

**ITEM 2: ALTERNATE RAW WATER TRANSMISSION LINE - PW79**

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Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on this project, and mentioned that District staff has received the DRAFT Letter of Consent from Southern California Edison (SCE). Mr. Ruiz added that District staff will provide SCE feedback on the Letter by the end of the week, and present the final version at the Regular Board Meeting for Board review. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that District staff was currently working with Tetra Tech (Consultant) on the 90% Design for the project and coordinating with the appraiser. Mr. Ruiz reviewed Exhibit No.1 - Updated Preliminary Alignment – Serrano Creek Area with the Committee, and highlighted the location of the SCE easement. Discussion occurred concerning project challenges and timeline for completion.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 3: BAKER WATER TREATMENT FACILITY**

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Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on this project, and presented the Baker Water Treatment Plant Construction Report for August 2015 for Committee review. Mr. Ruiz reviewed the project change orders and variances to date, and mentioned that Carollo Engineers has been contracted to perform additional support services for the project. Mr. Ruiz reviewed the project change order approval process per the multi-agency agreement with the Committee. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that following the Baker Water Treatment Plant Project Committee's review and approval, the variance will be submitted to Irvine Ranch Water District's (IRWD) Engineering Committee and Board of Directors.

Mr. Ruiz noted that the proposed variance is for engineering work related to the review and approval of improvements, changes in equipment, or modifications to the membrane and ultraviolet systems from the original pre-selection design and procurement several years ago. Mr. Ruiz also mentioned that additional engineering work related to an increase in submittals and request for information by the Contractor are also included. Director Dopudja inquired about the engineering costs per submitted and RFI. Mr. Ruiz responded that the original cost estimates submitted by Carollo budgeted about 1,050 submittals at \$1,200 per submittal, however, actual costs have been averaging lower and Carollo has completed over 1,250 submittals. The requested variance includes an additional 250 submittals at the lower amount of about \$765 per submittal. Discussion occurred concerning project budget and the impacts of the change orders to the overall project schedule.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 4: DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION CONCERNING THE DEVELOPMENT OF TCWD'S TEN YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM**

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Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on this matter to the Committee, and mentioned that the projects listed in the District's Ten Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) have not changed since the prior month. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that a column which designates whether the listed project is a Replacement (R) or New (N) project has been included in the CIP table for the purpose of the development of the District's Financial Plan. Mr. Ruiz reviewed the CIP by Department and highlighted the following specific projects:

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**Water**

- Reservoir Replacement
  - Harris Grade Reservoir No. 2 – Mr. Ruiz mentioned that this project is marked as a replacement and is tied to specific development growth (\$1,000,000).
- Two Million Gallon Reservoir – Mr. Ruiz mentioned that this project is new and is funded by the District’s Water Reliability and Emergency Storage Fund (WRESF) (\$2,500,00)
- Ridgeline Booster Pump Station Emergency Generator - Mr. Ruiz mentioned that this project is marked as a new project(\$150,000)
- Ridgeline Booster Pump Station Electrical VFDs and Controls/Telemetry –Mr. Ruiz mentioned that this project is marked as a replacement project (\$150,000)
- Fire Pump Upgrades – Mr. Ruiz mentioned that this project is marked as a replacement project (\$100,000)

**Wastewater**

- Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant – Aeration System – Mr. Ruiz mentioned that this project is marked as a replacement tied to growth (\$800,000).
- Wet Well (New Development) – Mr. Ruiz mentioned that this project is marked new and is tied to growth (\$150,000).
- El Toro Sewer Lift Station Pump Replacement – Mr. Ruiz mentioned that this project is marked as a replacement (\$108,000), and that the costs for this project are shared with Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) and Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD).

**Recycled Water**

- Dove Creek & Tick Creek Pump Stations – Pump Replacements – Mr. Ruiz mentioned that this project is marked as a replacement due to the corrosive nature of the water (\$80,000)
- Dove Recycled Water Pump Station and Pump Replacement –Mr. Ruiz mentioned that this project is marked as replacement due to the need to overhaul the facility (\$535,000)

Discussion occurred concerning CIP handout design and layout for clarity purposes.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, and recommended that the updated District’s Ten Year Capital Improvement Program be forwarded to the Board of Directors for review (Action Calendar).

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

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**1. Recycled Water Conversion Project Opportunities**

Mr. Ruiz provided a status update for this project, and provided a handout which included an aerial view of the Nursery properties in the District’s service area. Ms. Lausten reviewed the proposed recycled water conversion project for the property, and highlighted certain pipeline specifications and design aspects. Discussion occurred concerning recycled water quality and design challenges due to the parcel’s location.

**2. Urban Water Management Plan**

Ms. Lausten provided a status update for this project, and mentioned that District staff attended a project kickoff meeting at MWDOC with the project consultant. Ms. Lausten added that the project consultant will be meeting with participating agencies on an individual basis, and are scheduled to meet with District staff in late September.

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**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update(s), no action taken.

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

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Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on this development, and presented the development Tract Map to the Committee for review. Mr. Ruiz recommended that the Tract Map be forwarded to the Board for approval and execution. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that the Interagency Agreement has been forwarded to SMWD for review. Discussion occurred concerning the development's construction status and timeline for completion.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, and recommended that Tract Map No. 17392 be forwarded to the Board of Directors (Action Calendar).

**ITEM 7: SADDLE CREST DEVELOPMENT**

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Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on this development, and presented a handout of the development's proposed water and sewer infrastructure for Committee review. Mr. Ruiz reviewed the planned domestic water system with an onsite reservoir, and reviewed the impacts of the planned development's water demand and a proposed 2 million gallon reservoir that would be evaluated for partially meeting other District storage requirements. Discussion occurred concerning planned indoor and outdoor water demands; Mr. Ruiz mentioned that this development will be subject to the new outdoor landscape requirements due to the new Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance requirements. Mr. Ruiz reviewed the development's planned wastewater collection system and highlighted the design challenges due to the site's topography and elevations. Discussion occurred concerning the point of connection for the development's wastewater collection system.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 8: ACTIVE DEVELOPMENTS**

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1. Plano Trabuco Development, William Lyon Homes, Inc., City of Rancho Santa Margarita (36 Unit Triplex Building Design)

Ms. Lausten commented that the Will Serve Letter has been submitted to the Developer, and that District staff are reviewing the planned facility improvements to the Via Allegre Sewer Lift Station to accommodate the increased sewer flows.

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

Ms. Lausten commented that this development is under construction at this time.

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

Ms. Lausten commented that there was no update on this development.

4. Other Active Developments

Ms. Lausten commented that there were no other active developments.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

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**ITEM 9: WATER SYSTEM STATUS**

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Mr. Kessler presented the Water System Status Update through August, 2015, and reported on the following matters:

- Water Department staff replaced the hardware on three 8-inch gate valves with new stainless steel bolts due to leaks.
- Water Department staff repaired a 1-inch leaking service line on Silent Spring in Robinson Ranch.
- Water Department staff collected samples for Lead and Copper testing and filed the report with the State Water Board. The results for all samples were within compliance levels.

Mr. Kessler provided an updated Monthly Water System Operations Summary report for August, 2015, for Committee review, and provided additional information for calendar year 2013 for comparison purposes. Discussion occurred concerning the current conservation efforts of District customers; Mr. Kessler mentioned that the District's customers have reduced their use by approximately 41% for the month of August 2015 in comparison with August 2013. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that he provided an update at the prior month's Community Associations of Rancho (CAR) Meeting on the State Water Board's report of agency compliance with the emergency regulations. Discussion occurred concerning the potential impact of a significant El Nino rain event on groundwater production.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 10: WASTEWATER SYSTEM STATUS**

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Mr. Hanberg presented the Wastewater System Status Update through August, 2015, and reported on the following matters:

- Wastewater Department staff purchased aerators for the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant Reclaimed Water Reservoir.
- Wastewater Department staff re-graded Tick Creek Pump Station with road base due to erosion.
- Wastewater Department staff dredged the pond at Tick Creek Pump Station.

Mr. Hanberg provided an updated Monthly Recycled Water System Operations Summary for August, 2015, for Committee review, and mentioned that the freeboard level for Dove Lake was currently at 13.1 feet. Discussion occurred concerning odor complaints pertaining to recycled water usage; Mr. Hanberg mentioned that there has been an increase in odor complaints due to the decreased usage of recycled water and that Operations is temporarily increasing chlorine dosages to reduce odors.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Committee received the status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 11: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS**

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Mr. Ruiz had not other matters to report.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Mandich adjourned the September 2, 2015, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 8:34 AM.