

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT
ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP
MARCH 11, 2014**

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Ed Mandich, Committee Chair
Mike Safranski, Committee Member

STAFF PRESENT

Hector Ruiz, General Manager
Michael Perea, District Secretary
Lorrie Lausten, Engineer
Travis Jones, Wastewater Department Chief Plant Operator
Neil McKenna, Water Department Superintendent
Bob Beck, Maintenance Department Superintendent

PUBLIC PRESENT

No members of the public were present.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mr. Mandich called the March 11, 2014, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting to order at 7:01 AM.

VISITOR PARTICIPATION

No comments were received.

ORAL COMMUNICATION

No comments were received.

COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS

Mr. Safranski commented on a recent Orange County Register article which reported on water allocations from the Colorado River. Discussion occurred concerning the Colorado River and allocations among the participating states.

Mr. Mandich had no comments.

REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

Mr. Ruiz commented that the Board and staff had been invited to a South Orange County Recycled Water Workshop to be conducted at Santa Margarita Water District's (SMWD) Finance Committee scheduled to be held on March 21, 2014. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that the Workshop was scheduled to review maximizing recycled water use in the local area and South Orange County. Mr. Mandich requested that Mr. Ruiz forward to him the invitation via email.

**ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP
MARCH 11, 2014**

Mr. Ruiz mentioned that the Department of Public Health prepared a guidance document for agencies that require assistance with the preparation of a Drought Contingency Plan.

ITEM 1: ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP

The General Manager, Mr. Hector Ruiz presented the February 11, 2014, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap for Committee review.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Engineering/Operational Committee recommended that the Board receive and file the February 11, 2014, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap (Consent Calendar).

ITEM 2: SHADOW ROCK DETENTION BASIN FACILITY PROJECT

Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on the project and commented that staff has contracted with Bemus Landscape for Basin Maintenance and weed control. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that staff will coordinate with the Trabuco Highlands Community Association (THCA) for the removal of additional plant growth and clearing of weeds at the project site. Discussion occurred concerning public notification of the Basin Management work; Mr. Ruiz commented that staff has coordinated with URS (Consultant) to prepare a flyer for THCA and Real Estate agents for the purpose of explaining the project work. Mr. Ruiz commented that the Consultant has recently completed and submitted to the City of Rancho Santa Margarita the following:

- Hydrology Study
- Water Quality Management Plan
- Erosion Control Plan.

Discussion occurred concerning the completed tasks to date. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that due to the recent rain events, that there is water at the project site but that District Operations has stated pumping down the water. Mr. Ruiz reviewed the remaining project tasks, which included the Army Corps of Engineers Permit and the Southern California Edison (SCE) Site Power Procurement. Discussion occurred concerning coordination with the adjacent land owner for the SCE easement and project timeline for completion.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Received status update, no action taken.

ITEM 3: ALTERNATE RAW WATER TRANSMISSION LINE - PW79

Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on the project and commented that the Army Corps of Engineers has notified staff that the project can continue without a Section 404 Permit. Mr. Ruiz reviewed the Project Jurisdictional Impacts Exhibit with the Committee, and highlighted that the project has a less than de minimis effect on the project site. Mr. Ruiz added that staff is coordinating with the Federal Emergency

**ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP
MARCH 11, 2014**

Management Agency (FEMA) regarding potential tribal nation concerns and the removal of the existing pipeline. Discussion occurred concerning the possible pipeline removal scenarios and the potential impacts. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that Tetra Tech (Consultant) is developing a list of bullet points to address FEMA's concerns, which include the primary concern of pipeline removal. Discussion occurred concerning project timeline and costs.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Received status update, no action taken.

ITEM 4: BAKER WATER TREATMENT FACILITY

Mr. Ruiz commented that the Project Contractor and Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD) staff has mobilized at the project site and onsite tree removal has begun. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that staff has received the first quarterly invoice which provided a detailed breakdown of the project costs. Discussion occurred concerning project costs and timeline for completion.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Received status update, no action taken.

ITEM 5: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECTS

1. Golf Club Sewer Lift Station Upgrades and Rehabilitation

Ms. Lausten provided a status update on the project and commented that Mr. Beck has completed the installation of the mechanical equipment and the necessary piping. Ms. Lausten and Mr. Beck presented and reviewed photos of the completed work at the facility. Discussion occurred concerning the surge tank and piping and pending electrical work.

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)

Mr. Ruiz commented that this development has been an ongoing project which includes collaboration with Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD). Mr. Ruiz mentioned that District staff had met with Psomas (Consultant), and that the Consultant had subsequently met with SMWD staff, in order to provide comments and feedback to the Developer's Engineer. Mr. Ruiz added that District General Legal Counsel was drafting Agreements between the District and SMWD, and the District and the Developer. Discussion occurred concerning the Agreement language. Mr. Ruiz commented that the Developer has performed tree removal and will begin preliminary grading in April, including necessary clearing at site. Mr. Ruiz discussed that staff is working on evaluating the development's capacity

**ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP
MARCH 11, 2014**

impact on the existing El Toro Trunk Sewer, and that staff is coordinating with the Consultant and General Legal Counsel to draft agreement language for sewer capacity. Discussion occurred concerning the review of sewer capacity allocation and the impact of IRWD's sewer diversion on the El Toro Trunk Sewer.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Received status update, no action taken.

ITEM 7: ACTIVE DEVELOPMENTS

1. Saddle Crest Homes (65 DUs)

Mr. Ruiz commented that there were no updates concerning the development.

2. Summerfield Homes (5 DUs)

Mr. Ruiz commented that staff has received a deposit from Hunsaker and Associates (Developer Consultant) for the design plan check, and that staff has completed comments on the plan. Discussion occurred concerning development specifics and proposed sewer system management.

3. Other Active Developments

Mr. Ruiz commented that there were no other active developments, but discussed the City of Rancho Santa Margarita (City) Upper Oso Habitat Restoration Project. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that District staff has met with City staff for a preliminary review of the project impacts, and will be meeting with City staff again later in the week to review project documents.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Received status update, no action taken.

ITEM 8: WATER SYSTEM STATUS

The Water Department Superintendent Mr. Neil McKenna presented the Water System Status Update through February, 2014. Mr. McKenna reported on the following matters:

- Water Department staff performed valve and air-vac maintenance work on El Toro Road and Ridgeline.
- Water Department staff repaired a 2" water service line on Hamilton Truck Trail.

Discussion occurred concerning the impact on the recent rain event on the District's groundwater supplies. Mr. McKenna commented that the level at the Trabuco Creek Wells Facility was low and not measurable to permit pumping. Discussion occurred concerning the Dimension Water Treatment Plant (DWTP); Mr. Safranski commended Operations staff on the upgrades at the facility and overall appearance on his recent visit to the DWTP with the General Manager. Mr. McKenna reported that IRWD has notified District staff that Quagga Mussels have been found in both Irvine Lake and Lake

**ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP
MARCH 11, 2014**

Matthews, and that IRWD has been invited to inspect the DWTP for Quagga Mussels. Discussion occurred concerning IRWD's Baker Water Treatment Plant and planned water treatment methods.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Received status update, no action taken.

ITEM 9: WASTEWATER SYSTEM STATUS

The Wastewater Department Chief Plant Operator, Travis Jones, presented the Wastewater System Status Update through February, 2014. Mr. Jones reported on the following matters:

- Wastewater Department staff cleaned the wet wells at the Via Allegre, Bell Canyon, and Barneburg Sewer Lift Stations.
- Wastewater Department staff applied 1,500 pounds of copper sulfate to Dove Lake for algae control.
- Wastewater Department staff reconnected the HDPE Pipe connection at the Shadow Rock Detention Basin Facility.

Mr. Jones reviewed the Recycled Water System Summary with the Committee, and noted a typographical error on the Rainfall amount (actually 5 inches of rainfall). Mr. Jones mentioned that due to the recent rain event, the recycled water reservoir level has increased and is in line with the normal year to date. Discussion occurred concerning Dove Lake water quality; Mr. Ruiz commented that the application of copper sulfate has helped control the algae, and that there are no odors.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Received status update, no action taken.

ITEM 10: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS

Discussion occurred concerning the statewide drought conditions and the Municipal Water District of Orange County budget review process for South County Water Agencies.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Mandich adjourned the March 11, 2014, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 7:47 AM.