

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ENGINEERING, OPERATIONS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

March 11, 2024

Chair Erdman called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members present: Directors Alvarez, Bryant, Dennstedt (AB2449 “just cause”, entered after roll call), Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Gualtieri (entered after roll call), Lefevre, McMillan, Miller, Morris, Seckel, and Smith.

Members absent: Directors Camacho, Petersen, and Peterson.

Other board members present: Chair Ortega, Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Armstrong, Dick, Goldberg, Gray, Kurtz, and McCoy.

Committee staff present: Bednarski, Chapman, Chaudhuri, Eckstrom, Hagekhalil, Motada, Parsons, Wheeler, and Word.

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION (As required by Gov. Code Section 54954.3(a))

1. Jim Green – Las Virgenes Municipal WD – In support of 7-5

Director Gualtieri entered the meeting.

Director Dennstedt logged on to the meeting and stated she was participating using AB2449 just cause due to illness, and that she was alone in the room.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Engineering, Operations, and Technology Committee for February 12, 2024 (Copies have been submitted to each Director, any additions, corrections, or omissions)

3. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

Chair Erdman stated that he had received requests from the committee members to hear the presentations for items 7-3, 7-5, and 7-6.

- 7-1 Subject:** Award a \$1,754,000 contract to Granite Construction Company for pavement rehabilitation at the F.E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: No presentation requested

Motion: Award a \$1,754,000 contract to Granite Construction Company for the rehabilitation of asphalt pavement at the Weymouth plant.

- 7-2 Subject:** Award a \$892,552 procurement contract to Whipps Inc. for the fabrication and delivery of three stainless steel slide gate assemblies for the East Lake Skinner Bypass channel; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or not subject to CEQA

Presented by: No presentation requested

- 7-3 Subject:** Award a \$1,779,174 procurement contract to Vogt Valves, Inc. for a 132-inch diameter butterfly valve to be installed at the Foothill Pump Station Intertie as part of water supply reliability improvements in the Rialto Pipeline service area; and authorize an increase of \$260,000 to an agreement with HDR Engineering Inc. for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$1,560,000 for design services; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: Eugenia Lin – Engineer, Engineering Services Group

- Motion:**
- a. Award a \$1,779,174 procurement contract to Vogt Valves Inc. for a 132-inch diameter butterfly valve to be installed at the Foothill Pump Station as part of water supply reliability improvements in the Rialto Pipeline service area; and
 - b. Authorize an increase of \$260,000 to an existing agreement with HDR Engineering Inc. for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$1,560,000 for design of Stage 2 for the Inland Feeder/San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District Foothill Pump Station Intertie.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Morris
2. Faessel

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

After completion of the presentation, Director Morris asked to keep item 7-3 on the consent calendar.

7-4 Subject: Authorize an increase of \$2,700,000 to an agreement with Tetra Tech Inc. for a new not-to-exceed total amount of \$3,350,000 for final design services for improvements to the Station Light and Power Electrical System at Iron Mountain Pumping Plant; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: No presentation requested

Motion: Authorize an increase to an existing agreement with Tetra Tech Inc. for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$3,350,000 for design services for the Iron Mountain SL&P Electrical Improvements project.

7-5 Subject: Amend the Capital Investment Plan for fiscal years 2022/23 and 2023/24 to include two projects: (1) Sepulveda Feeder Pump Stations Stage 2, and (2) Inglewood Lateral Improvements; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: Albert Rodriguez – Senior Engineer, Engineering Services Group

Motion: Amend the Capital Investment Plan for fiscal years 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 to include the Sepulveda Feeder Pump Stations Stage 2 and the Inglewood Lateral Improvements projects.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Smith
2. Seckel
3. Miller
4. Alvarez
5. Erdman
6. Gualtieri

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

7-6 Subject: Authorize an increase of \$1.3 million to an existing agreement with Helix Environmental Planning Inc. for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$4.1 million to support the Pure Water Southern California Program environmental planning; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: Rajen Budhia – Senior Engineer, Engineering Services Group

Motion: Authorize an increase of \$1.3 million to an existing agreement with Helix Environmental Planning Inc. for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$4.1 million to continue preparing environmental documentation for the Pure Water Southern California Program.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Smith
2. Seckel
3. Miller
4. Alvarez
5. Gualtieri
6. Dennstedt
7. Dick
8. Miller
9. Armstrong
10. Erdman

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

Chair Erdman announced item 7-6 would be voted on separately and first. Director Dennstedt made a substitute motion. The substitute motion died for lack of a second.

Director Morris made a motion, seconded by Director Seckel, to approve 7-6 option 1.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Bryant, Erdman, Faessel, Lefevre, McMillan, Morris, and Seckel.

Noes: Directors Alvarez, Dennstedt, Fong-Sakai, Gualtieri, Miller, and Smith.

Abstentions: None

Not voting: None

Absent: Directors Camacho, Petersen, and Peterson

The motion for Item 7-6 passed by a vote of 7 ayes, 6 noes, 0 abstention, and 3 absent.

Director Dennstedt stated that she was alone in the room.

7-7 Subject: Authorize an increase of \$320,000 to a purchase order with Total Transportation Logistics Inc. for a new not-to-exceed total amount of \$540,000 for storage of filter valves for the F.E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: No presentation requested

Motion: Authorize an increase of \$320,000 to a purchase order with Total Transportation Logistics Inc. for a new not-to-exceed total amount of \$540,000 for storage of filter valves for the F.E. Weymouth Water Treatment Plant

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Seckel

Staff responded to the Director's questions and comments. Director Morris made a motion, seconded by Director Alvarez, to approve the consent calendar consisting of item 2A, and items 7-1, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4, 7-5, and 7-7.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Alvarez, Bryant, Dennstedt, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Gualtieri, Lefevre, McMillan, Miller, Morris, Seckel, and Smith.

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Not voting: None

Absent: Directors Camacho, Petersen, and Peterson

The motion for Items 2A, 7-1, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4, 7-5 and 7-7 passed by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 3 absent.

Director Dennstedt stated that she was alone in the room

**** END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS ****

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION

NONE

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

NONE

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Capital Investment Plan quarterly report for period ending December 2023
Presented by: Jeff Nikolas - Senior Engineer, Engineering Services Group

Mr. Nikolas reported on the following:

- 2nd Quarter Summary for Fiscal Year 2023/24
- CIP Expenditure Performance – Fiscal Years 2022/23 & 2023/24
- CRA Pumping Plants Overhead Cranes Replacement
- Foothill Hydroelectric Power Plant Seismic Upgrade
- Second Lower Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation - Reach 3B
- Performance Metrics – 2nd Quarter of FY 2023/24
- Minor Capital Projects

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Seckel
2. Miller
3. Ortega
4. Erdman

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

- b. Subject: Information Technology Roadmap and Spending
Presented by: Charles Eckstrom – Group Manager, Information Technology
 Alex Encarnacion – Unit Manager, IT Program Management

Mr. Eckstrom reported on the following:

- Information Technology Scope
- Information Technology Investment Drivers
- Information Technology Guiding Principles
- Information Technology Capital Investment FY2020-FY2023
- Information Technology Capital Investment FY2024-FY2026

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Miller
2. Seckel
3. Smith

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- a. Subject: Engineering Services, Information Technology, and Water System
 Operations Activities
 Presented by: Shane Chapman, Assistant General Manager, Operations

Mr. Chapman reported on the following:

- Staff participated in the 11th Annual ASCE Engineers Week – Girl Day event at Metropolitan's Headquarters with 117 attendees
- Allen-McColloch Pipeline Urgent Repairs
- CRA Shutdown underway
- 2024 Annual Operating Plan

The following Director provided comments or asked questions:

1. Faessel

Staff responded to the Director's questions and comments.

8. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

NONE

9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

NONE

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

11. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be held on April 8, 2024.

Meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.

Dennis Erdman
Chair