

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ENGINEERING, OPERATIONS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

June 12, 2023

Chair Erdman called the meeting to order at 8:31 a.m.

Members present: Directors Camacho, Dennstedt (entered after rollcall), Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, McMillan, Miller, Morris, Petersen, Peterson (entered after rollcall), Quinn (entered after rollcall), Seckel, and Smith.

Members absent: Directors Alvarez, Chacon, and Lefevre.

Other Board Members present: Directors Armstrong, Dick, Garza, Kurtz, and Ortega.

Committee staff present: Chapman, Chaudhuri, Coffey, Eckstrom, Hattar, Linares, and Parsons.

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))

Tom Williams – Member of Citizens' Coalition for Safe Communities, Sierra Club Angeles Chapter Water Committee – In opposition to item 7-1

Caty Wagner – Sierra Club California – In opposition to item 7-1

Ray Hiemstra – Orange County Coast Keepers – In opposition to item 7-1

Jan Warren – Interface Climate Action Network – In opposition to item 7-1

Charming Evelyn – Chair, Water Committee, Sierra Club – In opposition to item 7-1

Justin Breck – Law Fellow at Los Angeles Waterkeeper – In opposition to item 7-1

Connor Everts – Desal Response Group, Southern California – In opposition to item 7-1

Mark Gold – Director, Water Scarcity Solutions for Natural Resources Defense Council – In opposition to item 7-1

Wilfried Chong – Resident of Los Angeles – In opposition to item 7-1

Ryan Lutzien – Resident of Orange County – In opposition to item 7-1

Directors Peterson, Dennstedt, and Quinn entered the room.

2. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

None

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION

3. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Engineering, Operations, and Technology Committee for May 8, 2023

4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION

7-1 Subject: Authorize agreements with AECOM Technical Services, Inc. and CDM Smith Inc., each in an amount not to exceed \$800,000, for water desalination studies in Metropolitan's service area; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Item 7-1 was deferred.

General Manager Hagekhalil and Chair Ortega provided comments.

7-2 Subject: Amend the Capital Investment Plan for fiscal years 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 to include three projects: (1) Jensen Administration Building column panel replacement; (2) Skinner chemical storage tanks replacement; and (3) Auld Valley and Red Mountain Control Structures upgrade; and award a \$281,900 contract to MMJ Contracting Inc. to replace the existing entrance column panels at the Jensen Administration Building; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Motion: a. Amend the Capital Investment Plan for fiscal years 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 to include the Jensen Administration Building Column Panel Replacement, Skinner Chemical Storage Tank Replacement, and the upgrades to the Auld Valley and Red Mountain Control Structures; and
b. Award a \$281,900 contract to MMJ Contracting Inc. to replace the GFRC panels in the entrance columns of the Jensen Administration Building.

No presentations were given, Director Peterson made a motion, seconded by Director Morris, to approve the consent calendar consisting of items 3A and 7-2

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Camacho, Dennstedt, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, McMillan, Miller, Morris, Petersen, Peterson, Quinn, Seckel, and Smith.
Noes: None
Abstentions: Fong-Sakai (Item 3A)
Absent: Director Alvarez, Chacon, and Lefevre.

The motion for Item 3A passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 0 noes, 1 abstention, and 3 absent.
The motion for Item 7-2 passed by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 3 absent.

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

5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS ACTION

Director Morris recused himself from Item 8-1 as his son is employed by Kennedy Jenks Consultants Inc.

8-1 Subject: Authorize on-call agreements with Kennedy Jenks Consultants Inc., Lee & Ro Inc., and Stantec Consulting Services Inc., in amounts not to exceed \$10 million each, for a maximum of five years for engineering services; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: Francisco Becerra, Section Manager, Engineering Services Group

Motion: Authorize on-call agreements with Kennedy Jenks Consultants Inc., Lee & Ro Inc., and Stantec Consulting Services Inc., in amounts not to exceed \$10 million each, for a maximum period of five years for engineering services.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

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

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments.

After completion of the presentation, Director Faessel made a motion, seconded by Director Peterson, to approve item 8-1.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Camacho, Dennstedt, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, McMillan, Miller, Petersen, Peterson, Quinn, Seckel, and Smith
Noes: None
Abstentions: None
Not Voting: Director Morris
Absent: Directors Alvarez, Chacon, Lefevre

The motion for Item 8-1 passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, 1 not voting, and 3 absent.

8-2 Subject: Award a \$16,490,000 contract to J. F. Shea Construction Inc. to replace equipment storage buildings at three Colorado River Aqueduct pumping plants; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA
Presented by: Cathy Lou, Engineer, Engineering Services Group
Motion: Award a \$16,490,000 contract to J. F. Shea Construction Inc. for furnishing and installation of pre-engineered storage buildings at the Hinds, Eagle Mountain, and Iron Mountain pumping plants.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1. Faessel
2. Fong-Sakai
3. Camacho
4. Miller
5. McMillan
6. Erdman
7. Dick
8. Morris
9. Dennstedt
10. Peterson

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments.

After completion of the presentation, Director Morris made a motion, seconded by Director Seckel, to approve item 8-2

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Camacho, Dennstedt, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, McMillan, Morris, Petersen, Peterson, Quinn, Seckel, and Smith
Noes: Director Miller
Abstentions: None
Absent: Directors Alvarez, Chacon, Lefevre

The motion for Item 8-2 passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 1 no, 0 abstentions, and 3 absent

6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

NONE

7. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Subject: Metropolitan's Dam Safety Program
Presented by: Bashar Sudah, Program Manager, Dam Safety Initiatives, Engineering Services

Mr. Sudah reported on the following:

- Updates on dam safety regulations, including inundation maps and Emergency Action Plans (EAPs)
- Update on dam monitoring systems upgrades at DVL & Garvey Reservoirs
- Metropolitan's continued work on EAPs, dam monitoring and reporting

The following Director provided comments or asked questions

1. Erdman

Staff responded to the Director's questions and comments.

b. Subject: Capital Investment Plan Quarterly Report for Period Ending March 2023
Presented by: Jeffrey Nikolas, Engineer, Engineering Services Group

Mr. Nikolas reported on the following:

- FY 22/23, Q3 Summary and CIP Performance
- Update on Etiwanda Pipeline Lining Replacement – Stage 3 Project
- Update on Second Lower Feeder PCCP Rehabilitation – Reach 3A Project
- Updates on Construction Contracts, Minor Capital Projects

- c. Subject: Information Technology Manager's Report
- Presented by: Charles Eckstrom, Information Technology Group Manager
- No report given

9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

The next meeting will be held on July 10, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 10:36 am.

Dennis Erdman
Chair