

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

November 8, 2021

Chair Smith called the teleconference meeting to order at 11:30 a.m.

Members present: Chair Smith, Directors Blois, De Jesus, Dick, Faessel, Lefevre, Morris, Peterson, and Williams (entered after roll call)

Members absent: Director Apodaca, Camacho, and Repenning

Other Board members present: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Butkiewicz, Cordero, De Jesus, Dennstedt, Dick, Erdman, Fellow, Goldberg, Gray, Hawkins, Jung, Kurtz, McCoy, Ramos, Record, and Tamaribuchi

Committee staff present: Bednarski, Hagekhalil, Lahouti, Parsons, Scully, Upadhyay, and Yamasaki

1. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION

None

CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Engineering and Operations Committee held October 11, 2021.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

- 7-2 Subject: Award a \$1,477,000 contract to Minako America Corporation (dba Minco Construction) for replacement of ozone power supply units at the Joseph Jensen Water Treatment Plant and authorize an agreement with CDM Smith Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$800,000 for engineering services to support the Jensen ozone generation system rehabilitation; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: Rajen Budhia, Engineer, Engineering Services

- Motion:
- a. Award a \$1,477,000 contract to Minako America Corporation (dba Minco Construction) for replacement of ozone power supply units at the Jensen plant.
 - b. Authorize an agreement with CDM Smith Inc. in the amount not to exceed \$800,000 for engineering services to support Jensen ozone generation system rehabilitation.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Peterson
2. Blois
3. Smith

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

- 7-3 Subject: Award a \$9.2 million contract to CSI Electrical Contractors, Inc. for Stage 2 electrical upgrades at the Henry J. Mills Water Treatment Plant; authorize: (1) granting of a permanent easement to Riverside Public Utilities; and (2) an increase of \$830,000 to an agreement with Lee & Ro, Inc., for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$1,927,000 for engineering support; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: No presentation given

- Motion:
- a. Award a \$9.2 million contract to CSI Electrical Contractors, Inc. for Stage 2 electrical upgrades at the Mills plant.
 - b. Authorize the General Manager to grant permanent easement to Riverside Public Utilities.
 - c. Authorize an increase of \$830,000 to the agreement with Lee & Ro, Inc. for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$1,927,000.

- 7-4 Subject: Adopt the CEQA determination that the proposed action has been previously addressed in the certified 2015 Final EIR and related CEQA documents; and award a \$6,044,896.76 procurement contract to Northwest Pipe Company for steel pipe to rehabilitate a portion of the Etiwanda Pipeline

Presented by: Wayne Thilo, Senior Engineer, Engineering Services

- Motion:
- Award a \$6,044,896.76 contract to Northwest Pipe Company to furnish 1,300 feet of welded steel pipe and fittings to rehabilitate a portion of the Etiwanda Pipeline.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Faessel
2. Blois

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

- 7-5 Subject: Award a \$3,280,920 contract to J.F. Shea, Construction, Inc. for lining of the Cholla Wash cut-and-cover conduit at Mile Marker 126 on the Colorado River Aqueduct; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA
- Presented by: Ish Singh, Program Manager, Engineering Services
- Motion: Award \$3,280,920 contract to J.F. Shea Construction, Inc. for the lining of Cholla Wash cut-and-cover conduit along the Colorado River Aqueduct.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Morris
2. Peterson

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

After completion of the presentations, Director Morris made a motion, seconded by Director Blois, to approve the consent calendar consisting of items 2A, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4 and 7-5.

The vote was:

- Ayes: Directors Blois, De Jesus, Dick, Faessel, Lefevre, Morris, Peterson, Smith, and Williams
- Noes: None
- Abstentions: None
- Absent: Directors Apodaca, Camacho, and Repenning

The motion for Items 2A, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4 and 7-5 passed by a vote of 9 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 3 absent.

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Overview of Planned Facility Upgrades at La Verne Site
Presented by: Steven Burkhead, Senior Engineer, Engineering Services

Mr. Burkhead reported on the following:

- Seismic upgrade program and seismic drivers
- Water Quality Lab, Administration, and Field Engineering buildings improvements
- La Verne Shops Stage 4
- Wheeler Gate improvements
- Basins 5-8 rehabilitation

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Peterson

Staff responded to the Director's comments or questions.

- b. Subject: Salinity Management Update
Presented by: Maria Lopez, Purification Unit Manager, Water System Operations

Ms. Lopez reported on the following:

- What salinity is and why it matters
- Salinity in Metropolitan Supplies
- Highlights of Metropolitan's Colorado River Basin and State Water Project salinity control efforts
- Statewide salinity management efforts, study, impacts, and goals
- Efforts moving forward

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Lefevre
2. Peterson

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

- a. Subject: Water System Operations Manager's report
Presented by: Brent Yamasaki, Water System Operations, Group Manager

Mr. Yamasaki reported on the following:

- Current operational conditions
- Safety Culture Assessment for Metropolitan
- Staff efforts to repair roads and critical infrastructure after October storms
- Preparing for Emergencies – Shake Out 2021

b. Subject: Engineering Services Manager's report

Presented by: John Bednarski, Engineering Services Group, Chief Engineer and Group Manager

Mr. Bednarski reported on the following:

- Construction and procurement contracts
- Garvey Reservoir drainage and erosion project
- Headquarters building improvements overview
- 2021 E&O virtual field inspection trip

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Next meeting will be held on December 13, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

Tim Smith
Chair