

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**MINUTES**

**ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

**February 7, 2022**

Chair Smith called the teleconference meeting to order at 10:36 a.m.

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

Members absent: Directors Apodaca, Repenning

Other Board members present: Directors Abdo, Dennstedt, Erdman, Fellow, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Gray, Hawkins, Jung, Kurtz, McCoy, Miller, Record, Sutley, Tamaribuchi

Committee staff present: Bednarski, Chapman, Hagekhalil, 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 ITEMS --ACTION**

**2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS ACTION**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Engineering and Operations Committee held January 10, 2022

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS ACTION**

7-2 Subject: Award three professional services agreements to support rehabilitation projects at the Colorado River Aqueduct pumping plants: (1) an agreement with Parsons Transportation Group Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$2,650,000; (2) an agreement with Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$650,000; and (3) an agreement with Tetra Tech, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$650,000; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Motion: a. Authorize an agreement with Parsons Transportation Group Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$2,650,000 for design to replace the utilities at Iron Mountain and Gene pumping plants.

- b. Authorize an agreement with Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$650,000 for preliminary design to improve physical security at the CRA pumping plants.
- c. Authorize an agreement with Tetra Tech, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$650,000 for preliminary design to rehabilitate the station power and lighting switchrack at the Iron Mountain pumping plant

7-3 Subject: Authorize an agreement with La Cañada Design Group, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$4,400,000 for preliminary design to upgrade Metropolitan's Water Quality Laboratory, and an agreement with Rincon Consultants, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$550,000 for environmental support services; the General Manager has determined that this proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

- Motion:
- a. Authorize an agreement with La Cañada Design Group, Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$4,400,000 to provide preliminary design to upgrade the functional capabilities of Metropolitan's Water Quality Laboratory at the La Verne site.
  - b. Authorize an agreement with Rincon Consultants, Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$550,000 to provide environmental support services for the planned facility upgrades at the La Verne site

7-4 Subject: Amend the Capital Investment Plan for fiscal years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 to include planning and implementation of infrastructure projects to improve water supply reliability for the west service area and authorize an agreement with Carollo Engineers, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 for professional services; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

- Motion:
- a. Amend the current CIP to include planning and implementation of infrastructure projects to improve water supply reliability for the western service area; and
  - b. Authorize a new agreement with Carollo Engineers, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$300,000 for technical investigations

7-5 Subject: Review and consider Addendum No. 4 to the certified 2017 Programmatic Environmental Impact Report; and award \$4,759,000 contract to Facility Builders & Erectors, Inc. for construction of a valve and equipment storage building at the Lake Mathews Reservoir site to support the Prestressed Concrete Cylinder Pipe Rehabilitation Program

Motion: Review and consider Addendum No. 4 to the 2017 Programmatic Environmental Impact Report; and Award \$4,759,000 contract to Facility Builders & Erectors, Inc. for construction of the PCCP Rehabilitation Valve and Equipment Storage Building

No presentations were given, Director Morris made a motion, seconded by Director Lefevre to approve the consent calendar consisting of items 2A, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4, and 7-5.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Blois, Camacho, DeJesus, Dick, Faessel, Lefevre, Morris, Smith, Williams

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Directors Apodaca, Peterson, 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 \*\***

Director Peterson entered the meeting.

**4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS ACTION**

NONE

**5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

NONE

**6. COMMITTEE ITEMS**

- a. Subject: Metropolitan's Health and Safety Program Update  
Presented by: Dan Guillory, Section Manager, Water System Operations

Mr. Guillory reported on the following:

- Management commitment to safety through a collaborative approach between management, employees, bargaining unit leadership, and regulators
- 2021 Initiatives Update
  - Enhancing Metropolitan's Safety Culture
  - Furthering partnership between Safety and Engineering
  - Improved emphasis on leading indicator performance goals

- Strengthen partnership with employees and bargaining units
- Conducting third-party safety program assessments
- Continued Tracking of COVID-19 regulations
- 2022 Key Focus Areas
  - Reduce Injuries
  - Complete the National Safety Council Review
  - Ensure Safe Return to USHQ and other facilities
  - Focus on Safety Staff succession planning

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Director Peterson
2. Director Blois

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

- b. Subject: Source Water Protection Update  
 Presented by: Mauricio Santos, Engineer, Water System Operations

Mr. Santos reported on the following:

- Safeguarding the public's drinking water with a multi-barrier approach
- Review of water quality challenges in imported water supplies
- Perchlorate regulatory update
- Chromium-6 remediation
- Salinity Management
- Lower Colorado River Water Quality Partnership
- Metropolitan's continuing actions to protect source water

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Director 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:

- Highlights on the Colorado River Aqueduct and Second Lower Feeder shutdowns
- Responding to high wind events

- 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:

- 2022 CRA Shutdown CIP projects

**8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

Director Peterson asked for an update on the Perchlorate remediation at Henderson NV.

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

The next meeting will be held on March 7, 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

Tim Smith  
Chair