

# THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

## MINUTES

### ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

September 12, 2022

Chair Smith called the teleconference meeting to order at 9:32 a.m.

Members present: Chair Smith, Vice Chair Blois, Directors Camacho, De Jesus, Dick, Faessel, Lefevre, Morris, Peterson, and Williams

Members absent: Directors Apodaca, Fong-Sakai, and Repenning

Other Board members present: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Atwater, Cordero, Dennstedt, Erdman, Fellow, Goldberg, Gray, Hawkins, Jung, Kurtz, McCoy, Miller, Ortega, Pressman, Record, and Tamaribuchi

Committee staff present: Bednarski, Chapman, Hagekhalil, Linares, Parsons, 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 Engineering and Operations Committee held August 15, 2022

#### 3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION

- 7-1** Subject: Determine that there is a need to continue the emergency action of executing a no-bid contract for the Upper Feeder expansion joint replacement (Requires four-fifths vote of the Board); the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: Brett Schickling, Engineer, Engineering Services Group

Motion: Determine that there is a need to continue the emergency action of executing a no-bid contract for construction of pipe joint repairs on the Upper Feeder. (Requires four-fifths vote of the Board.)

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1. Blois
2. Morris
3. Dick

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

**7-2**    Subject:        Authorize an increase of \$1,200,000 to an existing agreement with IBI Group, for a new not-to-exceed total of \$1,830,000 for design services, and an agreement with Fugro, in an amount not-to-exceed \$450,000 for geotechnical engineering services for the Weymouth Administration Building seismic upgrade project; the General Manager has determined that this proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: Gary Cho, Engineer, Engineering Services Group

Motion:            a. Authorize an increase of \$1,200,000 to an existing agreement with IBI Group, for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$1,830,000 for design services to upgrade the Weymouth Administration Building.  
                         b. Authorize an agreement with Fugro for a not-to-exceed amount of \$450,000 to provide geotechnical engineering services for structural strengthening of the Weymouth Administration Building.

The following Director provided comments or asked questions

1. Peterson

Staff responded to the Director's questions and comments.

**7-3**    Subject:        Award a \$287,824 contract to Bishop, Inc. for replacement of the maintenance building roof at the Henry J. Mills Water Treatment Plant; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: No presentation was given.

Motion:            Award a \$287,824 contract to Bishop, Inc. for replacement of the maintenance building roof at the Mills plant.

- 7-4 Subject:** Authorize an increase of \$690,000 to an existing agreement with Carollo Engineers, Inc., for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$990,000, to serve as the owner's advisor for development of the Sepulveda Feeder Pump Stations project with the alternative delivery approach referred to as progressive design-build; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA (This action is part of a series of projects that are being undertaken to improve the supply reliability for State Water Project dependent member agencies)
- Presented by:** John Bednarski, Group Manager, Engineering Services Group, and Izzat Hamawi, Senior Engineer, Engineering Services Group
- Motion:** Authorize a \$690,000 increase to an existing agreement with Carollo Engineers, Inc. for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$990,000 to perform owner's advisor services for the Sepulveda Feeder Pump Stations.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1. Lefevre
2. Peterson
3. Blois
4. Smith

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

- 7-5 Subject:** Authorize an agreement with Calpine Energy Solutions, LLC for the sale of renewable energy from the Phase I-II hydroelectric power plants; the General Manager has determined that the proposed actions are exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA.
- Presented by:** No presentation was given.
- Motion:** Authorize an agreement with Calpine Energy Solutions, LLC for the sale of renewable energy from the Phase I-II hydroelectric power plants.

Director Peterson made a motion, seconded by Director Camacho, to approve the consent calendar consisting of items 2A, 7-1, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4, and 7-5.

The vote was:

- Ayes:** Directors Blois, Camacho, De Jesus, Dick, Faessel, LeFevre, Morris, Peterson, Smith, Williams
- Noes:** None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Director Apodaca, Fong-Sakai, and Repenning

The motion for Item 2A, 7-1, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4, and 7-5 passed by a vote of 10 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: Capital Investment Plan quarterly report for period ending June 2022

Presented by: No presentation was given

b. Subject: State Water Project Dependent Area Solutions: Drought Action/Project Portfolios Update

Presented by: Keith Nobriga, Water Operations and Planning Section Manager, and Winston Chai, Facility Planning Unit Manager

Mr. Nobriga reported on the following:

- Metropolitan's collaboration with member agencies to identify solutions to Southern California's water reliability crisis
- Development of action/project portfolios
- Planning for near-term and long-term droughts and supply reliability
- Addressing near-term demand/supply gap

Mr. Chai reported on the following:

- Proposed initial near-term and long-term portfolios
  - Initial East and West branch near-term and long-term mixed portfolios
  - Available funding for drought projects in current 10-year CIP
  - Next steps to advance drought action project portfolios
  - Staff's plan to return to the board by February 2023 to present preferred portfolios

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1. Peterson
2. Lefevre
3. Goldberg
4. Miller
5. Kurtz
6. Blois
7. Erdman
8. Tamaribuchi

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

- c.            Subject:            Pure Water Southern California Program Update
- Presented by:     Heather Collins, Water Treatment Section Manager

Ms. Collins reported on the following:

- Demonstration plant activities
- Direct potable reuse planning efforts
- Agency coordination
- CEQA activities
- State and Federal funding
- Outreach highlights
- Next steps and potential milestones
- WateReuse California 2022 award winner Joyce Lehman

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1. Abdo
2. Peterson
3. Goldberg
4. Ortega
5. Record

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

## **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:

- Continuing drought operations
- Updates on the Upper Feeder Shutdown
- Metropolitan's response to extreme heat and statewide power emergency
- Fairview Fire - no impact to Metropolitan operations
- PFOA/PFOS proposed as hazardous substances under CERCLA
  - Collaborating with water industry organizations on comments potentially seeking exemption for water utilities

The following Director provided comments or asked questions

1. Faessel

Staff responded to the Director's questions and comments.

- b.           Subject:               Engineering Services Manager's Report
- Presented by:       John Bednarski, Engineering Services, Chief Engineer and Group Manager

Mr. Bednarski reported on the following:

- Recognition of the Casa Loma Siphon Seismic Retrofit Project
- CIP Performance highlights for FY 20/21 & 21/22
- Battery Energy Storage Projects update
- Headquarters Construction Update
- Update on progress for a Project Labor Agreement
- E&O Inspection Trip on October 26, 2022

**8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

NONE

**9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

NONE

The next meeting will be held on October 10, 2022.

Meeting adjourned at 11:59 am.

Tim Smith  
Chair