

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ENGINEERING, OPERATIONS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

March 13, 2023

Chair Erdman called the hybrid teleconference and in-person meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Members present: Chair Erdman, Directors Alvarez, Camacho, Chacon, Dennstedt (entered after roll call), Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Lefevre, McMillan, Miller, Morris, Peterson, Quinn (entered after roll call), Seckel, and Smith.

Members absent: Director Petersen

Other Board members present: Directors Abdo, Ackerman, Armstrong, Atwater, Cordero, Dick, Fellow, Goldberg, Gray, Kurtz, Luna, Ortega, and Repenning,

Committee staff present: Bednarski, Chapman, Chaudhuri, Eckstrom, Hagekhalil, Jarrad, Parsons, and Upadhyay

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

Kelly Rowe OCWD

2. OPPORTUNITY FOR DIRECTORS WHO ARE NOT MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION

NONE

Directors Dennstedt and Quinn entered the meeting

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION

3. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Engineering, Operations, and Technology Committee for January 9, 2023, and Minutes of the Special Engineering, Operations, and Technology Committee Meeting for February 10, 2023
- B. Approve creating the Subcommittee on Pure Water Southern California and Regional Conveyance and establish a two-year term

4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION

Director Smith recused himself from items 7-3, due to the fact that he currently owns Black & Veatch stock.

Director Smith left the room

- 7-3** Subject: Authorize agreement with Black & Veatch Corporation, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$8 million for the preliminary design of conveyance Reach 1 of the Pure Water Southern California program; authorize agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$9 million for preliminary design of conveyance Reach 2 of the Pure Water Southern California program; and adopt a resolution to support a grant application to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for water recycling and desalination planning and authorize the General Manager to accept the grant if awarded; the General Manager has determined that the proposed actions are exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: Kim Wilson, Team Manager, Program Management, Engineering Services Group

- Motion:
- a. Authorize agreement with Black & Veatch Corporation, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$8 million for the preliminary design of conveyance Reach 1 of the Pure Water Southern California program.
 - b. Authorize agreement with HDR Engineering, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$9 million for preliminary design of conveyance Reach 2 of the Pure Water Southern California program.
 - c. Adopt a resolution to support a grant application to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for water recycling and desalination planning and authorize the General Manager or a designated representative to accept the grant if awarded

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

- 1 Atwater
- 2 Dennstedt
- 3 Faessel
- 4 Fong-Sakai
- 5 Miller
- 6 Ortega
- 7 Peterson
- 8 Repenning
- 9 Seckel

Staff responded to the Directors' questions and comments.

Director Smith returned to the room

7-4 Subject: Authorize an increase of \$500,000 in change order authority for the contract to replace the overhead bridge cranes at the five Colorado River Aqueduct pumping plants; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: John Bednarski, Group Manager, Engineering Services Group

Motion: Authorize an increase of \$500,000 in change order authority for the contract to replace the overhead bridge cranes at the five Colorado River Aqueduct pumping plants.

7-5 Subject: Authorize on-call agreements with Fugro USA Land, Inc., GeoPentech, Inc., Geosyntec Consultants, Inc., and Kleinfelder West, Inc., in amounts not to exceed \$3 million each, for a maximum of five years for geotechnical engineering services; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: John Bednarski, Group Manager, Engineering Services Group

Motion: Authorize on-call agreements with Fugro USA Land, Inc., GeoPentech, Inc., Geosyntec Consultants, Inc., and Kleinfelder West, Inc., in amounts not to exceed \$3 million each, for a maximum period of five years for geotechnical engineering services.

7-6 Subject: Award a \$394,534 contract to Slater Waterproofing, Inc. to rehabilitate concrete walls within the ozone contactor structure at the Robert A. Skinner Water Treatment Plant; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: John Bednarski, Group Manager, Engineering Services Group

Motion: Award a \$394,534 contract to Slater Waterproofing, Inc. to rehabilitate concrete walls within the ozone contactor structure at the Robert A. Skinner Water Treatment Plant.

7-7 Subject: Adopt Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Copper Basin Discharge Valve Replacement and Access Road Improvements Project and take related CEQA actions

Presented by: John Bednarski, Group Manager Engineering Services Group

Motion: Adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Copper Basin Discharge Valve Replacement and Access Road Improvements Project and take related CEQA actions

Director Morris made a motion, seconded by Director Camacho, to approve the consent calendar consisting of items 3A, 3B, 7-3, 7-4, 7-5, 7-6, and 7-7.

The vote was:

Ayes:	Chair Erdman, Directors Alvarez, Camacho, Chacon, Dennstedt, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Lefevre, McMillan, Miller, Morris, Peterson, Quinn, Seckel, and Smith.
Noes:	None
Abstentions:	
Not Voting:	Smith (7-3)
Absent:	Director Petersen

The motion for Items 3A, 3B, 7-4, 7-5, 7-6, and 7-7 passed by a vote of 15 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 1 absent.

The motion for Item 7-3 passed by a vote of 14 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, 1 not voting, and 1 absent.

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

5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS ACTION

NONE

6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

NONE

7. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Subject: Capital Investment Plan Quarterly Report for Period ending December 2022

Presented by: John Bednarski, Group Manager Engineering Services

Mr. Bednarski provided a brief overview.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1 Smith

Staff responded to the Directors’ questions and comments.

- c. Subject: Power Operations and Planning Update
- Presented by: John Jontry, Interim Section Manager, Water System Operations

Mr. Jontry reported on the following topics and themes:

- Metropolitan's power requirements and transmission system
- Colorado River Aqueduct and State Water Project energy use and costs
- Changes in the energy market and how Metropolitan is adapting
- Metropolitan's electrical reliability regulatory compliance program
- Plans and programs to enhance energy resiliency and sustainability for the future

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

- 1 Morris
- 2 LeFevre
- 3 Peterson
- 4 Faessel
- 5 Erdman

- b. Subject: Quarterly Cybersecurity Update
- Presented by: Deferred to April 2023

8. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

- a. Subject: Water System Operations Manager's Report
- Presented by: Mickey Chaudhuri, Water System Operations, Interim Group Manager

Mr. Chaudhuri reported on the following:

- Current operations and adapting to wet weather conditions
- Jensen plant's response to high turbidity event
- Current and recent shutdowns, including the CRA shutdown
- Microplastics workshop for member agencies
- 2023 Annual Operating Plan

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

Mr. Bednarski reported on the following:

- National Engineers Week (E-Week)
- Construction & Procurement contracts as of January 2023
- CIP Quarterly Report – October – December 2022
- CIP Performance – FYs 2022/23 & 2023/24
- Planned April 2023 Board Actions
- Alternative Project Delivery Update – Sepulveda Feeder Pump Stations, Approximate Value, Delivery Method, and Current Schedule
- CRA Replacement of Casa Loma Siphon Barrel No. 1
- 12th Japan-US-Taiwan Conference on Water System Seismic Practices
- Upcoming presentations for the Subcommittee on Pure Water & Regional Conveyance
- Industry Day – February 2, 2023, Carson, CA
- Subcommittee on Pure Water & Regional Conveyance

c. Subject: Information Technology Manager's Report

Presented by: Charles Eckstrom, Information Technology Group Manager

Mr. Eckstrom reporting on the following:

- Completion of the Datacenter Modernization and Relocation Project

9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

NONE

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

NONE

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

Meeting adjourned at 11:41 am.

Dennis Erdman
Chair