

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ENGINEERING, OPERATIONS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

May 8, 2023

Chair Erdman called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Members present: Directors Alvarez, Camacho (entered after roll call), Dennstedt (entered after roll call), Erdman, Faessel, Lefevre, Miller, Morris, Peterson, Seckel.

Members absent: Directors Fong-Sakai, Chacon, McMillan, Petersen, Quinn and Smith.

Other Board Members present: Directors Ackerman, Armstrong, Cordero, Dick, Garza, Goldberg, Gray, Kurtz, Ortega, and Repenning.

Committee staff present: Bednarski, Chapman, Chaudhuri, Eckstrom, Parsons, Upadhyay, and Carter.

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))

Trudi DesRoches – Vice President of Yorba Linda Water District – In support of item 7-4

Brett Barbre – President of Yorba Linda Water District – In support of item 7-4

Chair Erdman announced that due to a lack of quorum, items 7a and 7b would be heard first.

7. COMMITTEE ITEMS

a. Subject: Eastern Municipal Water District's Lake Skinner Water Transmission System and EM-11 Connection Project

Presented by: John Shamma, Section Manager, Engineering Services

Mr. Shamma reported on the following:

- History of planned regional water supply in Riverside area
- EMWD's water transmission project repurposing Metropolitan's out-of-service infrastructure
- Project benefits and upcoming actions

Chair Ortega entered the meeting.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1. Peterson
2. Lefevre
3. Faessel

Staff responded to the Directors questions and comments.

- b. Subject: Update on Constituents of Emerging Concern (CECs)
- Presented by: Carrie Guo, Team Manager of Emerging Chemicals Team

Ms. Guo reported on the following:

- Introduction to CECs
- Drinking water regulatory process
- Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)
- Microplastics
- Metropolitan’s applied research

Director Dennstedt entered the meeting.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1. Peterson
2. Lefevre
3. Faessel
4. Ortega
5. Morris

Staff responded to the Directors questions and comments.

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 April 10, 2023

4. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION

- 7-1** Subject: Award a \$637,520 contract to Acro Constructors to upgrade the video production room at Metropolitan’s Headquarters Building.
- Motion: Award a \$637,520 contract to Acro Constructors for upgrades to the video room at Metropolitan’s Headquarters Building.
- 7-2** Subject: Authorize an agreement with Arcadis U.S. Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$550,000 to design, develop, and deploy Metropolitan’s Capital Investment Plan Budget System Improvements.
- Motion: Authorize an agreement with Arcadis U.S. Inc. for a not-to-exceed total of \$550,000 to design, develop, and deploy the CIP Budget System Improvements.
- 7-3** Subject: Authorize an increase of \$1.5 million to an existing agreement with Stantec Consulting Services Inc. for a new not-to-exceed total amount of \$1.69 million for preliminary design of a mechanical dewatering facility at the Joseph Jensen Water Treatment Plant; and an amendment to an agreement with Los Angeles Department of Water and Power to forego construction of two new lagoons on LADWP’s property and to extend Metropolitan’s use of two solids lagoons at the Aqueduct Filtration Plant.
- Motion: a. Authorize an increase of \$1.5 million to an existing agreement with Stantec Consulting Services Inc. for a new not-to-exceed total amount of \$1.69 million for preliminary design of a mechanical dewatering facility at the Jensen plant. b. Authorize an amendment to an agreement with Los Angeles Department of Water and Power to forego construction of two new lagoons on LADWP’s property and to extend Metropolitan’s use of two solids lagoons at the Aqueduct Filtration Plant.
- 7-4** Subject: Amend the Capital Investment Plan for fiscal years 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 to include the Diemer Helicopter Hydrant Facility project.
- Motion: Amend the Capital Investment Plan for fiscal years 2022/2023 and 2023/2024 to include the Diemer Helicopter Hydrant Facility project.
- 7-5** Subject: Award a \$1,466,665 procurement contract to B&K Valves & Equipment, Inc. for 72 combination air release/vacuum valves to be installed on San Diego Pipeline Nos. 3 and 5.
- Motion: Award a \$1,466,665 contract to B&K Valves & Equipment Inc. for procurement of 72 replacement air release and vacuum valves for San Diego Pipeline Nos. 3 and 5.

No presentations were given, Director Morris made a motion, seconded by Director Lefevre, to approve the consent calendar consisting of items 3A, 7-1, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4, and 7-5

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Alvarez, Dennstedt, Erdman, Faessel, Lefevre, Miller, Morris, Peterson, and Seckel,

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Director Camacho, Chacon, Fong-Sakai, McMillan, Petersen, Quinn and Smith

The motion for Items 3A, 7-1, 7-2, 7-3, 7-4, and 7-5 passed by a vote of 9 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 7 absent.

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

5. OTHER BOARD ITEMS ACTION

8-1 Subject: Award a \$2,601,437 procurement contract to Sojitz Machinery Corporation of America for two large-diameter butterfly valves to be installed at the Foothill Pump Station Intertie as part of water supply reliability improvements in the Rialto Pipeline service area; 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 areas)

Presented by: Eugenia Lin, Engineer, Engineering Services Group

Motion: Award a \$2,601,437 procurement contract to Sojitz Machinery Corporation of America to furnish two large diameter butterfly valves for the Inland Feeder/SBVMWD Foothill Pump Station Intertie project as part of water supply reliability improvements in the Rialto Pipeline service area.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1. Dennstedt
2. Faessel
3. Lefevre
4. Seckel

Staff responded to Directors questions and comments.

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

The vote was:

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

The motion for Item 8-1 passed by a vote of 10 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 6 absent.

8-2 Subject: Award a \$5,266,000 contract to Leed Electric Inc. to install 12 flow monitoring stations along the Colorado River Aqueduct conveyance system.

Presented by: Prudencio Alonso, Engineer, Engineering Services Group

Motion: Award a \$5,266,000 contract to Leed Electric Inc. to install 12 flow monitoring stations along the CRA conveyance system.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions

1. Faessel
2. Peterson

Staff responded to Directors questions and comments.

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

The vote was:

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

The motion for Item 8-2 passed by a vote of 10 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 6 absent

6. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

NONE

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 under surplus conditions
- Maximizing SWP supply and storage deliveries
- Shutdowns to ensure continued system reliability
- Response to leak on DWR’s Santa Ana Valley Pipeline

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

Mr. Bednarski reported on the following:

- Construction and Procurement Contracts
- Project Labor Agreement – Update – Recent Contracts with PLA
- Sepulveda Feeder Pump Station Project – Update
- Garvey Reservoir Site Drainage and Erosion Control Projects
- Weymouth Water Treatment Plant Battery Energy Storage System
- 2023 Member Agency Engineering Manager Forum

- c. Subject: Information Technology Manager’s Report
Presented by: Charles Eckstrom, Information Technology Group Manager

Mr. Eckstrom reported on the following:

- Cybersecurity Internship

9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Chair Ortega suggested staff consider creating agency working groups to coordinate on water quality issues, and more frequent communications with the board on water quality matters. Director Morris requested staff consider working with an outside facilitator to convene a regional working group on water quality topics that could support regulatory development.

The next meeting will be held on June 12, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 10:43 am.

Dennis Erdman
Chair