

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ENGINEERING, OPERATIONS & TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

September 11, 2023

Chair Erdman called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

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

Members absent: Directors Chacon, Morris, and Quinn.

Other Board Members present: Directors Ackerman, Armstrong, Kurtz, and Petersen.

Committee staff present: Bednarski, Nobriga, Eckstrom, Burrola, Parsons, and Upadhyay.

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))

None

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS --ACTION

2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION

- A.** Approval of the Minutes of the Engineering, Operations, and Technology Committee for August 14, 2023

Director Lefevre entered the meeting.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

7-1 Subject: Award a \$3,895,000 contract to Miller Pipeline to furnish and install internal seals along Freda Siphon Barrel No. 1 on the Colorado River Aqueduct otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by: None; no presentation requested

Motion: Award a \$3,895,000 contract to Miller Pipeline to furnish and install internal seals in Freda Siphon Barrel No. 1 along the CRA conveyance system.

7-2 Subject: Authorize an agreement with J.F. Shea Construction Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$9.8 million for Phase 1 design-build services for the Sepulveda Feeder Pump Stations Project; authorize an increase of \$1.5 million to an existing agreement with Carollo Engineers Inc. for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$2.49 million to serve as the owner’s advisor through the Phase 1 design-build agreement; and authorize an amendment to Metropolitan’s Project Labor Agreement to add the Sepulveda Feeder Pumps Project to the list of covered projects

Presented by: None; no presentation requested

Motion: a. Authorize an agreement with J.F. Shea Construction Inc. for a not-to-exceed amount of \$9.8 million for Phase 1 design-build services for the Sepulveda Feeder Pump Stations Project. b. Authorize an increase of \$1.5 million to an existing agreement with Carollo Engineers Inc. for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$2.49 million to serve as the owner’s advisor through the Phase 1 design-build agreement. c. Amend Metropolitan’s Project Labor Agreement to include the Sepulveda Feeder Pump Stations Project

No presentations were given, Director Peterson made a motion, seconded by Director Dennstedt, to approve the consent calendar consisting of items 2A, 7-1, and 7-2.

The vote was:

Ayes: Directors Alvarez, Bryant, Camacho, Dennstedt, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Lefevre, McMillan, Miller, Peterson, Seckel, and Smith.

Noes: None

Abstentions: None

Absent: Directors Chacon, Morris, and Quinn.

The motion for Items 2A, 7-1, and 7-2 passed by a vote of 13 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 3 absent.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions.

1. Miller

Staff responded to Directors’ questions and comments.

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

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS ACTION

8-1 Subject: Award a \$15,681,000 contract to Steve P. Rados Inc. to construct an intertie between Inland Feeder and Rialto Pipeline as part of the water supply reliability improvements in the Rialto Pipeline service area.

Presented by: Wayne Thilo, Principal Engineer, Engineering Services

Motion: Award a \$15,681,000 contract to Steve P. Rados Inc. to construct an intertie pipeline between the Inland Feeder and Rialto Pipeline. This project is part of water supply reliability improvements in the Rialto Pipeline service area.

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

The vote was:

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

The motion for Item 8-1 passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 4 absent.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions.

1. Faessel
2. Smith

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments.

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

NONE

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Information Technology Portfolio Management Update
 Presented by: Alex Encarnacion, Unit Manager, IT Program Management Office

Mr. Encarnacion reported on the following:

- Project Management Office
- Portfolio Overview
- Portfolio Financial Overview
- Look Ahead
- Procurement Activities
- Prioritization
- Projects Tracked

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions.

None

- b. Subject: Shutdown Planning at Metropolitan
 Presented by: Arman Motavvef, Associate Engineer, Water Operations and Planning

Mr. Motavvef reported on the following:

- The Need for Shutdowns
- Shutdowns are Increasing in Complexity
- Meeting Goals Through a Collaborative Shutdown Planning Process
- Minimize Impacts to Member Agencies
- Changing Conditions May Affect Shutdown Timing
- Shutdown Challenges: More than Meets the Eye
- Colorado River Aqueduct Shutdown Logistics
- Middle Feeder Shutdown Logistics
- Collaborative Planning: Long Term
- Collaborative Planning: Short Term
- Upper Feeder: Putting it all Together
- Ensuring Continued Infrastructure Reliability

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions.

1. Smith
2. Dennstedt
3. Seckel

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments.

- c. Subject: Center for Smart Infrastructure
 Presented by: Michael Thomas, Unit Manager, Engineering Planning Section

Mr. Thomas reported on the following:

- Background Innovation
- Center for Smart Infrastructure (CSI)
- CSI Startup
- MWD and Member Agency Benefits
- Research & Innovation Projects
- Potential for MWD funding of CSI

The following Director's provided comments or asked questions

1. Dick
2. Peterson
3. Fong-Sakai
4. Faessel
5. Lefevre

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments.

- d. Subject: Capital Investment Plan Quarterly Report for Period Ending June 2023

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

- a. Subject: Water System Operations Manager's Report
 Presented by: Keith Nobriga, Interim Assistant Group Manager, WSO

Mr. Nobriga reported on the following:

- Managing Surplus Conditions
- Maximizing SWP Supplies
- Emergency Preparedness and Response
- Whitewater Erosion Protection Structure Successfully Sustained Effects of Tropical Storm
- Significant Damage Sustained at Downstream Whitewater Groundwater Replenishment Facility
- Partnering on Facility Repairs
- Background on Nitrification
- Record Low August Demands
- Affected Areas in LA and Orange Counties
- Nitrification Management Actions
- California Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) Regulations

The following Director's provided comments or asked questions

1. Smith
2. Kurtz

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments.

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

Mr. Bednarski reported on the following:

- Construction and Procurement Contracts July 2023
- Whitewater Siphon Performance in Hurricane Hillary
- Rescheduled CIP Projects - Impact on Planned CIP Expenditures
- Desalination Studies – Update
- 2023 EOT Inspection Trip
- Inland Empire Industry Day
- Subcommittee Meeting on Pure Water Southern California and Regional Conveyance – September 26, 2023

The following Director's provided comments or asked questions

1. Seckel

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments.

- c. Subject: Information Technology Manager's Report
- No Presentation

Director Camacho left the meeting.

8. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION

- a. Subject: Discuss and provide direction to Subcommittee on Pure Water Southern California and Regional Conveyance

The following Director's provided comments or asked questions

1. Smith
2. Peterson
3. Erdman

4. Alvarez
5. Dick
6. Seckel

Staff responded to Directors' questions and comments

9. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

10. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

The next meeting will be held on October 9, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 11:43 am.

Dennis Erdman
Chair