

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**MINUTES**

**ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE**

**September 13, 2021**

Chair Smith called the teleconference meeting to order at 10:59 a.m.

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

Members absent: None

Other Board members present: Directors Abdo, Atwater, Butkiewicz, Dennstedt, Erdman, Fellow, Goldberg, Gray, Hawkins, Hogan, Kurtz, Luna, McCoy, Pressman, Ramos, Record, and Tamaribuchi

Committee staff present: Bednarski, Hagekhalil, Lahouti, 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 OTHER ITEMS – ACTION**

**2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS – ACTION**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Adjourned Meeting of the Engineering and Operations Committee held August 16, 2021.

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION**

- 7-1      Subject:            Authorize an increase of \$185,000 to an agreement with Rincon Consultants, Inc for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$1 million for services related to the preparation of a Climate Action Plan and CEQA documentation; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA
- Motion:                Authorize an increase of \$185,000 to an agreement with Rincon Consultants, Inc for a new not-to-exceed amount of \$1 million for services related to the preparation of a Climate Action Plan and CEQA documentation.



#### 4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

None

#### 5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

#### 6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a.           Subject:           Capital Investment Plan Quarterly report for the period ending June 2021 and Budget Development Process.  
Presented by:       James Hong, Principal Engineer

Mr. Hong reported on the following:

- Actions and accomplishments for the Capital Investment Plan (CIP) during fiscal years 2020/2021 and 2021/2022
- Updates on the status of capital projects and capital expenditures and information regarding service connections and relocations authorized by the General Manager
- Current capital budget development process for the next biennial budget

- b.           Subject:           Regional Recycled Water Program Update  
Presented by:       Bruce Chalmers, Program Manager and John Bednarski,  
Engineering Services Group, Chief Engineer and Group Manager

Mr. Chalmers and Mr. Bednarski reported on the following:

- Agency coordination and funding
- Environmental planning activities
- Opportunities for program acceleration

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Blois
2. Smith
3. Lefevre
4. DeJesus
5. Hogan
6. Record

Staff responded to the Directors' comments or questions.

- c. Subject: Salinity Management Update  
Item deferred to Next Month

## 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:

- Current operational conditions
- Quagga mussels found in Castaic Lake
- Resolving taste-and-odor event in August 2021
- Addressing Lake Skinner cyanobacterial bloom
- Annual shutdown schedule

- 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:

- Construction and procurement contracts
- Garvey Reservoir site drainage contract
- Upper Feeder protection structure damage
- Metropolitan's ozonation system and ozone control system upgrades
- Staff presentations at recent and upcoming conferences

## 8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

## 9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Director Peterson inquired on when the Engineering and Operations Inspection Trip would take place. Chair Smith confirmed it is currently scheduled for October 21.

Staff also responded to the Directors' comments or questions

Next meeting will be held on October 11, 2021.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Tim Smith  
Chair