

**TRABUCO CANYON WATER DISTRICT  
ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP  
FEBRUARY 11, 2014**

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**DIRECTORS PRESENT**

Edward Mandich, Committee Chair  
Michael Safranski, Committee Member

**STAFF PRESENT**

Hector Ruiz, General Manager  
Michael Perea, District Secretary  
Lorrie Lausten, Engineer  
Kris Hanberg, Wastewater Department Superintendent  
Neil McKenna, Water Department Superintendent  
Bob Beck, Maintenance Department Superintendent

**PUBLIC PRESENT**

No members of the public were present.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Mr. Mandich called the February 11, 2014, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting to order at 7:00 AM.

**VISITOR PARTICIPATION**

No comments were received.

**ORAL COMMUNICATION**

No comments were received.

**COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS**

Mr. Safranski commented on the Baker Water Treatment Plant Project Kickoff Event which was hosted by Irvine Ranch Water District (IRWD), and mentioned that the project is a good model of inter-agency collaboration. Mr. Safranski commented on the Orange County Register (OCR) recent articles concerning Special Districts in Orange County. Discussion occurred concerning the impact of Orange County water districts on water use efficiency and effective management of water sources, which include recycled water and urban runoff water capture and reuse. Mr. Safranski complimented Mr. Ruiz and District staff concerning the website update which addressed the statewide drought conditions.

Mr. Mandich commented on his attendance at the South Orange County Watershed Management Area (WMA) Executive Meeting. Discussion occurred concerning possible opportunities for grant funding for recycled water projects.

**ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP  
FEBRUARY 11, 2014**

**REPORT FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER**

Mr. Ruiz commented that staff will present a report on the statewide drought conditions and a review of the District's Water Conservation Ordinance for the Board of Directors at the February 19, 2014, Regular Board Meeting. Discussion occurred concerning south county agency coordination and collaboration.

**ITEM 1: ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP**

The General Manager, Mr. Hector Ruiz presented the December 10, 2013, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap for Committee review.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The Engineering/Operational Committee recommended that the Board receive and file the December 10, 2013, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting Recap (Consent Calendar).

**ITEM 2: SHADOW ROCK DETENTION BASIN FACILITY PROJECT**

Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on the project and commented that the staff report had been revised to reflect the project's major tasks completed to date. Mr. Ruiz added that staff has received approval from the Regional Water Quality Control Board, but that the Army Corps of Engineers permit has not been received to date. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that URS (Consultant) is working on the project tasks remaining, and that staff has received the easement documents for site power procurement from Southern California Edison (SCE). Discussion occurred concerning the coordination with the property owners of the site. Mr. Ruiz reviewed the project's basin management and maintenance with the Committee, and the quotes for the plant overgrowth clearing, grubbing, and tree removal. Ms. Lausten presented a handout to the Committee which reviewed the planned clearing work. Discussion occurred concerning public outreach for the work to be completed, and overall project site access and appearance. Mr. Ruiz commented that staff had attended the recent Trabuco Highlands Community Association (THCA) Board Meeting to review the District's public outreach plan for the community. Mr. Safranski commented that the information presented was very informative, and complimented staff for their work on the matter. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that the URS Biologist will be onsite prior to the beginning of bird nesting season to determine if the District can proceed with the landscape maintenance and planned clearing work. Discussion occurred concerning project timeline for completion and additional permitting processes.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 3: ALTERNATE RAW WATER TRANSMISSION LINE - PW79**

Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on the project and commented that staff had met with the Army Corps of Engineers concerning the project. Mr. Ruiz added that Tetra Tech (Consultant) is working on a removal plan for the existing transmission line with minimal impact to the surrounding creek bed and

**ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP  
FEBRUARY 11, 2014**

area. Discussion occurred concerning contact with permitting agencies and subsequent permitting process completion. Mr. Ruiz commented that staff has not met with the City of Lake Forest, but has met with SCE, County of Orange Parks and Trails, and County of Orange Flood Control. Discussion occurred concerning project public outreach for the local residents and businesses.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 4: BAKER WATER TREATMENT FACILITY**

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Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on the project and commented that IRWD staff and the Project Contractors have mobilized onsite. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that IRWD has notified staff that monthly project updates will be provided to participating agencies, and that IRWD has started preparing the invoices for the Baker Water Treatment Plant Project. Mr. Ruiz reviewed the information presented at the Project Kickoff Event with the Committee.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 5: OTHER ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS PROJECTS**

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1. Golf Club Sewer Lift Station Upgrades and Rehabilitation

Ms. Lausten provided a status update on the project and commented that the hardware parts for the project have been received. Ms. Lausten added that Hunter Electric Service (Contractor) has been provided a Notice to Proceed for the project. Ms. Lausten added that staff has ordered the additional project supplies, pipe materials, and compressor. Discussion occurred concerning lead times on remaining project supplies, and project timeline for completion. Mr. Beck displayed the surge tank indicator that will be used for the project.

2. Other Projects

Mr. Ruiz commented there were no other engineering and operations projects to report.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 6: SKYRIDGE DEVELOPMENT (84 DUs)**

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Mr. Ruiz provided a status update on this Development, and reviewed the Sub-Area Master Plan (SAMP) which had been completed in July, 2012, with the Committee. Mr. Ruiz mentioned that there have been no changes made to the SAMP since its completion. Mr. Ruiz added that the District is collaborating with Santa Margarita Water District (SMWD) to provide recycled water from SMWD's Oso Reservoir to the community, as required by the City of Mission Viejo. Mr. Ruiz commented that staff is working with District General Legal Counsel to draft an Agreement between the District and

**ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP  
FEBRUARY 11, 2014**

SMWD concerning the supply of recycled and domestic water, utilizing the District's supply of domestic water, to the Development. Discussion occurred concerning sewer infrastructure and pipeline capacity; Mr. Ruiz commented that Development will be connected to the El Toro Trunk Sewer infrastructure, and that the Agreement with SMWD will be similar to the District's Agreement with IRWD concerning the Portola Hills portion of the District service area. Mr. Ruiz added that the Development will receive domestic water from the District's capacity in the Allen McColloch Pipeline or the Baker Water Treatment Plant. Discussion occurred concerning water flat rates, Water Reliability Emergency Storage Fee rates, and service area jurisdiction.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 7: ACTIVE DEVELOPMENTS**

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1. Saddle Crest Homes (65 DUs)

Mr. Ruiz commented that there were no updates concerning the development.

2. Summerfield Homes (5 DUs)

Mr. Ruiz commented that staff has received the developer deposit for the design modifications and inspection costs related to the relocation of sewer laterals and water meters.

3. Other Active Developments

Mr. Ruiz commented that there were no other active developments.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 8: WATER SYSTEM STATUS**

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The Water Department Superintendent Mr. Neil McKenna presented the Water System Status Update through January, 2014. Mr. McKenna reported on the following matters:

1. Water Department Staff installed a new 8-inch MAG meter at the Plano Flow Control Station to replace the existing propeller-type meter.

2. Water Department Staff performed valve and air-vac maintenance on the El Toro Bike Trail.

3. Water Department Staff responded to a fallen tree incident on El Toro Road on January 1, 2014, which resulted in the repair of a damaged air-vac. Mr. McKenna added that staff worked with the City of Lake Forest for the appropriate permits and traffic control for the repair work.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

**ENGINEERING/OPERATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING RECAP  
FEBRUARY 11, 2014**

**ITEM 9: WASTEWATER SYSTEM STATUS**

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The Wastewater Department Superintendent, Mr. Kris Hanberg, presented the Wastewater System Status Update through January, 2014. Mr. Hanberg reported on the following matters:

1. Wastewater Department Staff removed the Dove Lake North-side pump.
2. Wastewater Department Staff cleaned the Robinson Ranch Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Influent Equalization Basin (NEQ Tank), and replaced a mud valve at the base of the NEQ Tank.
3. Wastewater Department Staff repaired the WWTP Sequencing Batch Reactor Tank Dewatering Pump discharge line.

Mr. Hanberg commented that staff has been supplementing the WWTP Recycled Water Reservoir with domestic water due to higher irrigation demands caused by the dry, drought-like conditions. Discussion occurred concerning the District's domestic water supply, and the methodology for utility billing in the event of supplementing the Recycled Water Reservoir with domestic water.

**RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Received status update, no action taken.

**ITEM 10: OTHER MATTERS/REPORTS**

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Mr. Ruiz commented there were no other matters for discussion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Mandich adjourned the February 11, 2014, Engineering/Operational Committee Meeting at 7:54 AM.