

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

November 7, 2011

Chair Evans called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. in Committee Room 2-145 at Metropolitan's Headquarters.

Members present: Chair Evans, Vice Chair Brown, Directors Barbre, Blake, Camacho, Chavez, De Jesus, Little, Morris, Peterson, Record, Steiner, and Wright.

Members absent: Directors Bowersox, Grunfeld, Lowenthal, Montalvo, and Sanchez.

Other Board members present: Board Chairman Foley, Directors Ballin, Brick, Edwards, Friedman, Grisette, Heidel, Lewinger, and Wunderlich.

Staff present: Arita, Becerra, Bell, R. Brown, L. Carillo, Coffey, H. Collins, Garabetian, J. Green, G. Johnson, Kightlinger, Koch, Lambeck, W. Lieu, Man, Mead, Morel, M. Parsons, Pecs, Riss, B. Rogers, Scully, Shraibati, Stites, M. Stewart, and B. Yamasaki.

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

No members responded.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD OCTOBER 10, 2011

Approved

Motion: Director Blake

Seconded: Director Chavez

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

- 7-1** Subject: Appropriate \$1.12 million; authorize five pipeline cathodic protection projects; and award \$274,000 contract to Unique Performance Construction, Inc. for cathodic protection of West Valley Feeder No. 2 (Approp. 15441)
- Presented by: No presentation was requested.
- Motion: Adopt the CEQA determinations and
- a. Appropriate \$1.12 million;
 - b. Award \$274,000 contract to Unique Performance Construction, Inc. to install current drain stations on West Valley Feeder No. 2;
 - c. Authorize construction of current drain stations on Lake Skinner Bypass Pipeline No. 2;
 - d. Authorize final design of current drain stations for the Sepulveda Feeder North and Second Lower Feeder; and
 - e. Authorize preliminary design of cathodic protection for the Orange County Feeder.
- Motion Carried Moved: Director Morris Seconded: Director De Jesus

- 7-2** Subject: Amend Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code to add or revise provisions relating to contractor debarment rules, the procurement of materials, products, or services by a specific brand or trade name and contractor responsibility determinations
- Presented by: No presentation was requested.
- Motion: Adopt the CEQA determination and approve the additions to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Contracting Rules (new Administrative Code Sections 8170-8180) and amendments to Administrative Code Sections 8140 and 8142.
- Motion Carried Moved: Director Morris Seconded: Director De Jesus

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

- 8-4** Subject: Appropriate \$3.7 million; and award \$2,556,618 contract to J. F. Shea Construction, Inc. to rehabilitate hydraulic gates at Eagle Rock Tower and Puddingstone Spillway (Approp. 15441)
- Presented by: Engineering Services Group Unit Manager Arleen Arita
- Motion: Adopt the CEQA determination and
- a. Appropriate \$3.7 million; and
 - b. Award \$2,556,618 contract to J.F. Shea Construction, Inc. to rehabilitate the gates at Eagle Rock Tower and Puddingstone Spillway.

Motion carried: Moved: Director Steiner Seconded: Director Morris

Engineering Services Group Unit Manager Arleen Arita presented this item. Director Blake asked if all five gates are still needed. WSO Group Manager Jim Green responded that all five gates are necessary in order to control water flows as well as to isolate different portions of the distribution system.

- 8-5** Subject: Appropriate \$4.53 million; and award (1) \$1,696,023.23 contract to Fibrwrap Construction, LP for joint repairs to the Foothill and Sepulveda Feeders; and (2) \$886,200 contract to Fibrwrap Construction, LP for joint repairs to the Allen-McColloch Pipeline (Approp. 15471)
- Presented by: Engineering Services Group Senior Engineer Hans Vandenberg
- Motion: Adopt the CEQA determinations and
- a. Appropriate \$4.53 million;
 - b. Award \$1,696,023.23 contract to Fibrwrap Construction, LP for carbon fiber joint repairs on the Foothill and Sepulveda Feeders; and
 - c. Award \$886,200 contract to Fibrwrap Construction, LP for carbon fiber joint repairs on the Allen-McColloch Pipeline.

Motion Carried Moved: Director Blake Seconded: Director Record

Engineering Services Group Senior Engineer Hans Vandenberg presented this item. Director Blake asked why there was a great difference between the high and low bids. Engineering Services Group Manager Gordon Johnson responded that the difference was primarily due to the size and number of staff of the two companies. Due to the round-the-clock schedule required to complete the work, the higher bidder, which is the

smaller company, had more of a challenge to mobilize sufficient experienced crews. They intended to bring in outside crews, which would have increased its costs.

Director Peterson asked if staff is confident that the carbon filter repair technique would be successful. Mr. Johnson responded that staff is confident in this approach.

Director Barbre noted that the low bid for this contract was close to the engineer's estimate, while there was a significant difference for the bids received under Item 8-4. He asked why there were such differences between low bids and engineer's estimates. Mr. Johnson responded that for the present action, there are few contractors that have the expertise and licensing needed for this type of repair. It is a patented process and the contractor must have a license, therefore this restricts the number of bidders. Based on previous bids from these contractors, staff was unable to accurately estimate the low bid. On the previous item, we had many more bidders with varying levels of experience, which resulted in much more spread in their bid amounts.

8-6 Subject: Appropriate \$2.28 million; and award \$1,784,495 contract to Abhe & Svoboda, Inc. for repairs to three siphons on the Colorado River Aqueduct (Approp. 15438)

Presented by: Engineering Services Group Team Manager Francisco Becerra

Motion: Adopt the CEQA determination and
a. Appropriate \$2.28 million; and
b. Award \$1,784,495 contract to Abhe & Svoboda, Inc. for repairs to three siphons on the Colorado River Aqueduct.

Motion Carried Moved: Director De Jesus Seconded: Director Blake

Engineering Services Group Team Manager Francisco Becerra presented this item. Director Steiner asked in regards to the 50 cracks that were detected in 2007, what work was performed between 2007 and the present. Mr. Becerra responded that staff was monitoring the cracks during scheduled shutdowns. Director Steiner asked if the cracks have gotten bigger. Mr. Becerra replied that some have gotten bigger, while additional cracks have developed into leaks.

8-7 Subject: Appropriate \$4.4 million; and award \$3,348,791 contract to W. M. Lyles Co. for replacement of transition and manhole structure covers on the Colorado River Aqueduct (Approp. 15373)

Presented by: Engineering Services Group Senior Engineer Aida Garabetian

Motion Carried Moved: Director Steiner Seconded: Director Chavez

- Motion: Adopt the CEQA determination and
- a. Appropriate \$4.4 million; and
 - b. Award \$3,348,791 contract to W. M. Lyles Co. for replacement of transition and manhole structure covers on the Colorado River Aqueduct.

Engineering Services Group Senior Engineer Aida Garabetian presented this item.

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Update on Colorado River Aqueduct Reliability Program

Presented by: Water System Operations Section Manager Bill Peci

Water System Operations Section Manager Bill Peci gave an update that reviewed major rehabilitation efforts accomplished on the Colorado River Aqueduct.

General Manager Kightlinger complimented the report and reviewed some of the reasons for this program. He thanked staff for moving this program along, ensuring a reliable CRA that will be in use for many years to come.

COO Debra Man commented that a few inspection trips of the San Jacinto tunnel will be offered in March 2012. The inspection trips will give Directors a good idea of what the tunnels look like from the inside as well as the scope and size of the CRA.

b. Subject: Update on the California Cap and Trade Regulation

Presented by: Water System Operations Unit Manager Janet Bell

Water System Operations Group Manager Jim Green informed the Board that a hearing of the California Air Resources Board (CARB) occurred on October 20 to vote on and adopt the final Cap and Trade Regulation. He stated that COO Debra Man testified at this hearing and Water Systems Operations Unit Manager Janet Bell also attended. Ms. Bell then updated the committee on the status and impacts of the California Cap and Trade Regulation that is being implemented by CARB.

In response to Director Blake's comment about pursuing all options, General Manager Jeff Kightlinger responded that Metropolitan's position is that allowances should be provided for the State Water Project, and Metropolitan should receive an exemption. Staff will return to the Board with regular updates.

Director Barbre asked when the allowances are purchased in the open market, what happens to the money? Ms. Bell responded that money received by the State of California will be deposited into an Air Quality Investment Fund that would be put towards meeting the goals of AB 32. Also, money will be returned to some of the ratepayers. Mr. Barbre inquired if a fund would be set up for disadvantaged agencies to help them meet the regulations. Mr. Kightlinger responded that from his understanding, the funds generated by the purchase from the allowances would go into grant programs. The grant programs are geared towards companies like PG&E and Edison. The programs are not structured for Metropolitan to receive the money.

Director Barbre asked if any comments were given on whether hydroelectric power should be considered a renewable energy. COO Man replied that a specific allowance regarding hydro is not in the regulations of AB 32. Ms. Man commented that Metropolitan will continue to make the case that its hydropower facilities should qualify as renewable energy.

Director Little asked if credit is given for Metropolitan's fleet of automobiles for reduced carbon. Mr. Kightlinger responded that staff monitors the fleet annually, and it shows a steady reduction in GHG emissions each year. The Cap and Trade program does not address vehicle fleets at this time.

Director Steiner commented that a letter was submitted by the San Diego County Water Authority on behalf of Metropolitan to CARB.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

a. Subject: Water System Operations Manager's report

Presented by: Water System Operations Group Manager Jim Green

Mr. Green introduced employee Heather Collins, who is the new Section Manager for the Water Treatment Section in WSO.

b. Subject: Engineering Services Manager's report

Presented by: Engineering Services Group Manager Gordon Johnson

Mr. Johnson announced that Metropolitan received an award from the Association of Energy Engineers in October 2011.

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Next meeting will be held on December 12, 2011.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Tom Evans
Chair