

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

MINUTES

ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

February 13, 2012

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 Blake, De Jesus, Grunfeld, Little, Millard, Morris, Peterson, Record, Steiner, and Wright.

Members absent: Directors Barbre, Camacho, Lowenthal, Montalvo, and Sanchez.

Other Board members present: Board Chairman Foley, Directors Ackerman, Brick, Dick, Edwards, Griset, Heidel, Lewinger, and Wilson.

Staff present: Arita, J. Bell, L. Burch, L. Carillo, Coffey, H. Collins, J. Green, G. Johnson, Kightlinger, Koch, Lambeck, W. Lieu, Man, Mead, Morel, Mouawad, Ovalle, Parsons, Pecs, Riss, Shraibati, L. Skinner, M. Steward, Stites, Tellers, 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 JANUARY 9, 2012.

Approved

Motion: Director Steiner

Seconded: Director Blake

3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION

7-1 Subject: Appropriate \$540,000; and authorize two reliability projects at the Robert A. Skinner Water Treatment Plant (Approps. 15365 and 15435)

Presented by: No presentation was requested.

Motion: Adopt the CEQA determination and
 a. Appropriate \$540,000; and
 b. Authorize final design and construction of improvements to the Skinner Equipment Storage Building; and
 c. Authorize final design of improvements to the Skinner plant’s solids handling system.

Motion Carried Moved: Director Record Seconded: Director Morris

7-2 Subject: Appropriate \$513,000; and authorize rehabilitation of Service Connection DW-CV-2T (Approp. 15438)

Presented by: No presentation was requested.

Motion: Adopt the CEQA determination and
 a. Appropriate \$513,000; and
 b. Authorize rehabilitation of Service Connection DW-CV-2T on the Colorado River Aqueduct.

Motion Carried Moved: Director Record Seconded: Director Morris

7-3 Subject: Appropriate \$170,000; and authorize preliminary design to rehabilitate Service Connection G-01 (Approp. 15441)

Presented by: No presentation was requested.

Motion: Adopt the CEQA determination and
 a. Appropriate \$170,000; and
 b. Authorize preliminary design to rehabilitate Service Connection G-01 on the Santa Monica Feeder.

Motion Carried Moved: Director Record Seconded: Director Morris

4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

8-3 Subject: Appropriate \$2.39 million; and authorize (1) preliminary design of control and protection upgrades for Hiram W. Wadsworth Pumping Plant; and (2) agreements with FluidIQs, LLC, and Power-Tech Engineers, Inc. (Approp. 15467)

Presented by: Water System Operations Unit Manager Bill Pecsì

Motion: Adopt the CEQA determination and

- a. Appropriate \$2.39 million; and
- b. Authorize preliminary design of control and protection upgrades at Hiram W. Wadsworth Pumping Plant;
- c. Authorize an agreement with FluidIQs, LLC for preliminary design support, in an amount not to exceed \$1,491,000; and
- d. Authorize an agreement with Power-Tech Engineers, Inc. for Owner's Engineering services, in an amount not to exceed \$298,000.

Motion Carried Moved: Director Steiner Seconded: Director Grunfeld
Director Blake abstained

Mr. Pecsì presented the request to authorize preliminary design of control and protection upgrades. The control system operates and protects the pump/generator units and regulates the pressures and flows between DVL, the Inland Feeder, and the San Diego Canal.

Director Peterson asked if these consultants were involved in the original design. Engineering Services Group Manager Gordon Johnson replied that they were not. Mr. Johnson added that this was a custom-designed, proprietary system by a firm which is no longer in this type of business. Metropolitan staff will be able to maintain and upgrade the system in the future.

Director Morris inquired about the estimated costs for final design and construction. Mr. Pecsì stated that the estimated project is \$20 million to \$24 million.

Director Edwards inquired about the origin of the parts. Mr. Johnson answered that the control system was from a European firm. He further stated that former staff from the firm are not available to assist us, and spare parts are no longer available. This system was a proprietary turnkey system which did not involve staff in its original design.

Director Little asked how long the current system had been in operation, and if there is software available without redesigning the whole system. Mr. Johnson replied that the current system has been operating for 12 years, while some components are off the

shelf, others are unavailable. The control software is also poorly documented. Director Little asked if the proposed system will last longer than the current one. Mr. Johnson replied that it would. Chief Operating Officer Debra Man added that staff will be involved in maintaining and repairing the system in the future.

8-4 Subject: Appropriate \$6.9 million; and authorize (1) final design of the Jensen Solids Dewatering Facility and Lagoons; (2) new agreement with MWH Americas; and (3) amendment to existing agreement with Environmental Science Associates (Approp. 15371)

Presented by: Water System Operations Assistant Group Manager Brad Coffey

Recommended Adopt the CEQA determination and
Motion: a. Appropriate \$6.9 million;
 b. Authorize final design of Stage 1 of the Jensen Solids
 Dewatering Facility and Lagoons project to support 500 mgd
 of plant operation;
 c. Authorize an agreement with MWH Americas in an amount
 not to exceed \$1,025,000; and
 d. Authorize an increase of \$135,000 to the existing agreement
 with Environmental Science Associates, for a new
 not-to-exceed total \$465,000.00

Amended The motion was to table the item for 90 days.
Motion:

Motion Carried Moved: Director Steiner Seconded: Director Grunfeld
 Director Blake abstained

Mr. Coffey presented the project which proposes to construct facilities for on-site dewatering of water treatment residual solids.

Director Grunfeld asked for this item to be tabled for 60 days because Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) and Metropolitan staff are discussing project alternatives. Director Peterson opposed tabling this action. Mr. Kightlinger agreed with Director Grunfeld's assessment of the negotiations. Mr. Kightlinger added that staff recommends action because of the need to complete the design phase and because negotiations may not resolve the final location for the project.

Director Blake asked how long it would take before the project cost-benefit became favorable. Mr. Kightlinger replied that further analysis is needed to determine this information.

Director Peterson asked if the mechanical dewatering system would be used only after the solids drying lagoons were fully utilized. Mr. Coffey replied that it would.

Director Grunfeld stated that all parties would benefit from tabling the action. Chair Evans asked how long the action would be tabled. Director Grunfeld replied 60 days. After further discussion, a 90-day postponement was suggested to provide additional time for negotiations. Director Steiner indicated that she preferred to table the item for 60 days rather than 90 days. Staff affirmed that the consulting agreements recommended in this action would not be negatively affected by a 90-day postponement, and the motion to table the matter for 90 days carried.

5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS

None

6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Biennial 2012/13 and 2013/14 Water System Operations Budget
Presented by: Water System Operations Group Manager Jim Green

Mr. Green reviewed the 2012/14 biennial budget for the Water System Operations Group, which manages, operates, and maintains Metropolitan's infrastructure. He discussed the Group's priorities and described how the organization of Water System Operations supports each of these priorities.

Director Grunfeld inquired about the number of temporary positions. Mr. Green replied that temporary staff are used to support inspection trips and peak work-load periods.

- b. Subject: Biennial 2012/13 and 2013/14 Engineering Services Budget and
CIP Budget
Presented by: Engineering Services Group Manager Gordon Johnson

Mr. Johnson reviewed the 2012/13 and 2013/14 budget for Engineering Services and the Capital Investment Plan.

c. Subject: Update on Energy Management Plan

Presented by: Water System Operations Unit Manager Jon Lambeck

Mr. Lambeck provided a brief update on the Hoover Energy Legislation and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) Cap and Trade regulation, and the impacts on Metropolitan.

Mr. Kightlinger added that Metropolitan will be registering for the CARB Cap and Trade program under protest due to unresolved issues.

7. MANAGEMENT REPORTS

None

8. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS

None

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None

Next meeting will be held on March 13, 2012.

Meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Tom Evans
Chair