

#### **MINUTES**

## **ENGINEERING and OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

Thursday, December 3, 2020, 9:00 A.M.

#### **Board Room**

#### UWCD, 1701 North Lombard Street, Oxnard CA 93030

In addition to its public Engineering and Operations Committee meeting, UWCD provided virtual access to the meeting via the Webex virtual meeting platform.

#### **COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Lynn E. Maulhardt, chair

Edwin T. McFadden III (participated via Webex)

Daniel C. Naumann

#### STAFF ATTENDING

Mauricio E. Guardado, general manager (participated via Webex)

Anthony Emmert, assistant general manager

Dr. Maryam Bral, chief engineer

Brian Collins, operations and maintenance manager

Joseph Jereb, chief financial officer (participated via WebEx)

Evan Lashly, assistant ecologist

Craig Morgan, senior engineer

Josh Perez, human resource manager

Zachary Plummer, IT administrator

Linda Purpus, environmental services manager (participated via Webex)

Tessa Lenz, associate environmental scientist

Robert Richardson, senior engineer (participated via Webex)

#### **PUBLIC PRESENT**

#### OPEN SESSION: 9:00a.m.

Chair Maulhardt called the Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting to order at 9:00a.m.

#### **Committee Members Roll Call**

Administrative Assistant Destiny Rubio commenced Roll Call. Committee members: Chair Maulhardt, Director McFadden, and Director Naumann were present.

#### 1. Public Comment

Chair Maulhardt asked if there were any public comments for the Committee. None were offered.

**Board of Directors** 

Patrick J. Kelley

General Manager

David D. Bover

Legal Counsel

Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr.

Lynn E. Maulhardt Edwin T. McFadden III Daniel C. Naumann

Michael W. Mobley, President Bruce E. Dandy, Vice President Sheldon G. Berger, Secretary/Treasurer

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the Minutes from the November 5, 2020, Engineering and Operations Committee meeting and the November 9, 2020, Special Engineering and Operations Committee meeting, Director Naumann; Second, McFadden. Roll call vote: three ayes (McFadden, Naumann, Maulhardt). None opposed. Minutes approved unanimously 3/0.

#### 3. December 9, 2020 Board Meeting Motion Agenda Items

# 3.1 Pleasant Valley County Water District Supplemental Appropriation of Funds to Perform Valve Replacement Activities at the PV reservoir

Operations and Maintenance Manager Brian Collins provided an update on a requested supplemental appropriation of \$225,000 of unbudgeted funds to perform valve replacement activities at the Pleasant Valley (PV) reservoir and asked the Committee to recommend approval of the motion item to the full board to support the unbudgeted maintenance activities. The committee members agreed to recommend approval of the motion item to the full Board.

# 3.2 Authorize the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds to Purchase the Eddy Pump Dredge attachment.

Mr. Collins provided updates on the requested supplemental appropriation of funds to purchase the Eddy Pump Dredge attachment and asked the committee to recommend approval of the motion item to the full Board for the supplemental appropriation of \$80,000 to support the unbudgeted purchase of dredge equipment. Mr. Collins stated that the District was given the option to purchase the Eddy Pump at the end of the rental term and that a \$40,000 credit toward the purchase of the equipment was negotiated at the beginning of the project.

Chair Maulhardt asked if a cost benefit analysis was completed for the purchase of the Eddy Pump. Mr. Collins stated that an analysis had not yet been completed; however, currently there are no other alternatives that are acceptable to the regulatory agencies. Chair Maulhardt replied that the District needs to let the public know the value of purchasing this equipment. Mr. Collins stated that Operations utilizes excavators on an ongoing basis and would like to leverage the credit that exists from renting the dredging equipment to purchase the dredge equipment which would provide future cost savings if the District owned the equipment as the channel will continue to require excavation in the future. He added that, to that end, United has also initiated a multi-year extension to the permitted dredging activity.

General Manager Mauricio E. Guardado, Jr. stated that others saved from this activity and this solution is rather inexpensive compared to the alternative which would be diverting no water. Mr. Guardado, Jr. also stated that it was difficult to obtain an Eddy Pump and without it, United would not have been able to divert water nor will United be able to divert water in the future without it.

Chief Financial Officer Joseph Jereb clarified that Brian Collins is presenting a rent versus buy scenario for the Eddy Pump and given the expense that has already been incurred from this year's work, the purchase of the Eddy Pump and associated equipment

will have paid for itself by the third dredging project, whether it be one year or two years from now. Mr. Collins added that the direction United is headed towards for the Freeman Diversion is significantly different due to regulatory oversight and this element is an additional cost but when compared to the sediment management element that is being proposed for the next year, it is much cheaper.

Director Naumann asked about the maintenance of the dredging unit. Mr. Collins stated that the information received from the vendor indicated that the equipment is capable of running eight to 10 hours a day, seven days a week for months and months without failure. He added that maintenance costs will factor into the ownership, but he does not anticipate it being a major expense. Mr. Collins also stated that utilization of the equipment at the Freeman Diversion allowed United to drop the lake level, saving \$150,000 from the Santa Felicia boring program. Director McFadden asked if the District is currently renting the long reach excavator that does not have the hydraulic capabilities. Mr. Collins stated we rented an HPU from Eddy Pump and he is proposing we do not do this in the future and to purchase an excavator for District wide utilization and leverage the hydraulics on the unit to operate the pump going forward. The committee members agreed to recommend approval of the motion item to the full Board.

#### 4. Project Highlights

#### 4.1 Engineering Dept. Key Accomplishments (Jul-Dec 2020)

Chief Engineer Maryam Bral provided updates and slides (see attached) on key Engineering department accomplishments completed in the first half of the fiscal year. Chair Maulhardt asked if a formal request has been submitted to increase the Freeman Conveyance capacity from 350 cfs to 750 cfs. Assistant General Manager Anthony Emmert stated that the request has not been submitted, and added that United has worked closely with State Board staff and there is an environmental permitting hurdle associated with the application. United hopes to begin the application process with the support from California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS).

Director Naumann clarified that the canal can handle the capacity, but the gates cannot. Dr. Bral confirmed this fact. Director Naumann stated that in the past when Mr. Kentosh was with the District, he was able to obtain a temporary permit to start the process which then gave him the opportunity to get the final permit down the road. Mr. Emmert stated this temporary permit is available and staff has pursued it, however, there are still restrictions. He added that none of the temporary solutions are easy to obtain because of the regulatory agencies. Mr. Guardado stated that the permit for the 750 cfs is also included in the Habitat Conservation Plan, and that United has discussed this with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and they were in favor of it as it helps satisfy some of its criteria.

Director Naumann asked for clarification on the Iron Manganese Treatment Plant Project, specifically as to the blending facility along with treatment for iron, manganese and nitrate. He then clarified his question by asking if the nitrate is being blended with water because the District is dealing with two different systems, the upper and lower aquifers.

Dr. Bral stated this is correct, United is removing iron and manganese from the groundwater in the lower aquifer system and by removing those elements, it allows United to blend water with the upper aquifer system when necessary to manage nitrate levels below primary maximum contaminant level. Director Naumann asked if the capacity of the system is designed for the capacity delivered to the OH system. Dr. Bral stated that the District is working within the allocation. Director Naumann also asked for clarification as to whether the facility would also resolve issues with the Navy Brackish program. Dr. Bral stated the brackish facility is separate from this facility. Dr. Bral added that in terms of treatment, the water quality in that specific area and any iron and manganese issues would be addressed through the Brackish Treatment, reverse osmosis and additional pretreatment and post treatment activities.

#### 4.2 End of Year Maintenance Activities at the Freeman Diversion Facility

Assistant Ecologist Evan Lashly provided updates and slides (see attached) on the end of season maintenance activities performed at the Freeman Diversion facility. Mr. Lashly stated that Environmental Services played a significant effort in planning and implementing the project and worked closely in consulting and coordinating with CFDW and NMFS. Mr. Lashly stated that representatives from several regulatory agencies came to observe the activities on November 16, 2020, including one special agent from the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Office of Law Enforcement, and two environmental scientists and one game warden from CDFW.

Chair Maulhardt asked if the District received any official correspondence from the regulatory agencies remarking on good or bad activities. Mr. Lashly stated that we received verbal feedback but have not received any official correspondence. Environmental Services Manager Linda Purpus stated that United does have an administrative record associated with the consultation for the activity. Mr. Guardado, Jr. stated that staff will be creating a summary report and, in the report, create an opportunity to receive some acknowledgement. Mr. Collins also provided updates and slides (see attached) on the end of season activities also performed by Operations and Maintenance in collaboration with Environmental Services.

#### 5. Future Agenda Topics

No future agenda topics were offered.

#### ADJOURNMENT 10:34 a.m.

Chair Maulhardt adjourned the Engineering and Operations Committee meeting at 10:34 am.

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting of December 3, 2020.

ATTEST:

Lynn Maulhardt, Chaii



SFD Safety Improvement Project

**Completed Drilling Program Plan** 

# Purpose:

Design Advancement of the New Outlet Works and Spillway Modifications







"Congratulations! The program was well executed and right on schedule. Impressive effort given the scale, complexity and logistical challenges." Mikhail Ermakovich, P.E. Senior Engineer, Division of Safety of Dams



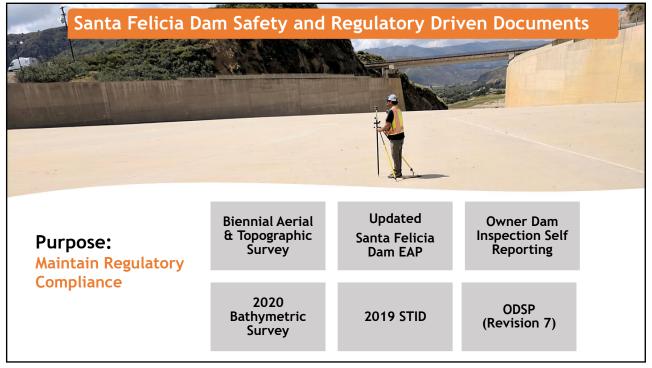
# Federal Permitting Process

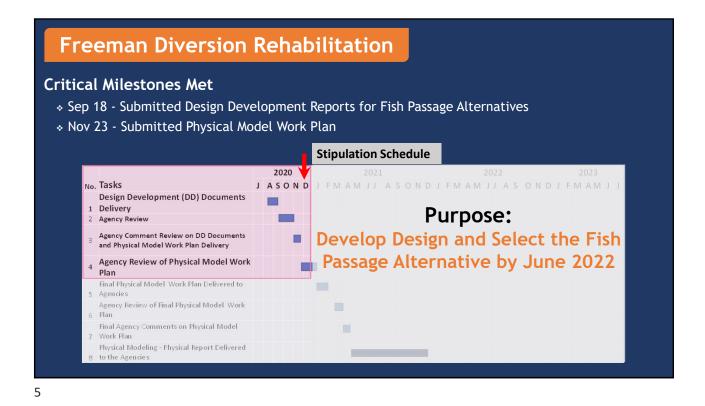
- ✓ Jul 2020 Submitted Draft Biological Assessment Report
- √ Nov 2020 Submitted 401 Water Quality Certification Application

# Purpose:

Completion of NEPA Documentation

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# Freeman Diversion Conveyance Upgrades

# **Grand Canal Upgrades**

- √ Finalized Engineering Design
- Purchased new Canal Headgates and Box Culverts
- Solicited Bids and Awarded Construction Contract

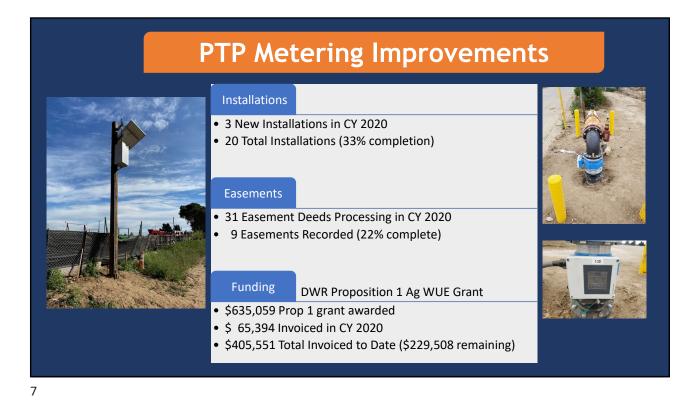
# 3-Barrel Culvert and Inverted Siphon

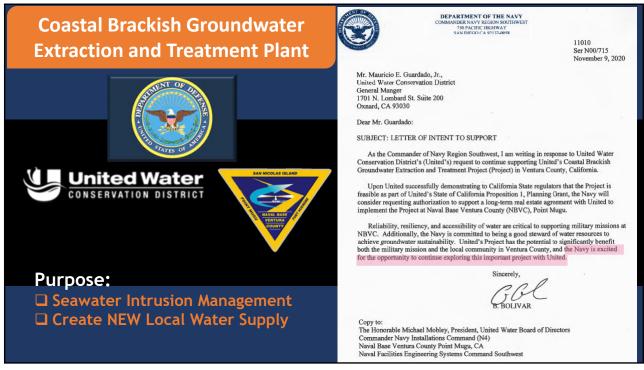
- ✓ Design Contract Awarded to NHC
- ✓ Developed Design Alternatives
- ✓ Completed 30% Engineering Design

# Purpose:

- ☐ Removal of Hydraulic Constraints
- ☐ Conveyance Capacity Expansion to 750 cfs







# Iron/ Manganese Removal Project



- \* 100% Design Review Meeting with DDW on Sept 30
- \* Review Comments on 100% Design Documents Submitted to Kennedy Jenks
- \* Establishing Grant Sub-agreement with Calleguas

### Purpose:

Water Quality Improvement and Drinking Water Standards Compliance (Fe/ Mn/ Nitrate)

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# Pothole Trailhead Parking Area

- ✓ Installed a pre-fabricated restroom, signs and a gate
- Solicited bids and awarded construction contract (lowest responsible bid under budget)
- √ Started construction
- ✓ Completion by Dec 31

### Purpose:

Provide Public Access and Enhance Recreational Opportunities to Pothole Trailhead - Part of Compliance with FERC License Requirements



