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MINUTES
ENGINEERING and OPERATIONS
COMMITTEE MEETING
Thursday, April 6, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.
UWCD Headquarters, First Floor, Board Room
1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard, CA 93030

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Lynn E. Maulhardt, chair
Catherine P. Keeling, director
Daniel C. Naumann, director

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Dr. Maryam Bral, chief engineer
Marissa Caringella, environmental services manager
John Carman, operations and maintenance supervisor
Brian Collins, chief operations officer
Hannah Garcia-Wickstrum, associate environmental scientist
Tessa Lenz, environmental scientist regulatory affairs
Jackie Lozano, administrative assistant
Craig Morgan, engineering manager
Zachary Plummer, technology systems manager
Linda Purpus, environmental services manager
Ed Reese, technology systems specialist
Robert Richardson, senior engineer
Vanessa Vasquez, administrative assistant
Brian Zahn, chief financial officer

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

One member of the public was in attendance.

Call to Order – Open Session

Chair Lynn Maulhardt called the committee meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The clerk of the Committee called roll. All Committee members were present (Keeling, Maulhardt, Naumann).

1. Public Comments

Information Item

Chair Maulhardt asked for public comment. There were none offered.

2. Approval of Minutes

Motion

Motion to approve the minutes from the March 2, 2023, Engineering and Operations Committee meeting, Director Naumann; Seconded by Director Maulhardt. Voice vote: three ayes (Maulhardt, Keeling, Naumann); none opposed. Motion carries 3/0.



3. April 12, 2023, Board Meeting Motion Agenda Items

The Committee reviewed and discussed the following motion item for the April 12, 2023, UWCD Board of Directors meeting to formulate a recommendation:

3.1 Authorize Approval of the OH Well Replacement Program – El Rio Water Well No. 20 Construction Contract in the Amount of \$849,283.00

Engineering Manager Craig Morgan presented Motion 3.1 to the Committee (presentation attached). The contract would authorize the General Manager to execute a contract with Bakersfield Well and Pump in the amount of \$849,283. This would allow for the replacement of Well No. 5. The contractor has done previous work for the district and successfully replaced Well No. 18. Two other bids were received from Best Drilling and Pump and Christenson. Best Drilling and Pump has also done work for the District with the replacement of Well No. 19, but the bid has since doubled. Director Naumann suggested that investing in quality for long-term use should be considered when selecting a contractor and referenced Well No. 5 installed in the 1950's still standing 20 years later. Craig assured director Naumann that stainless steel for long-term use is being considered and that QA/QC was priority when selecting workmanship.

No further comments or questions were offered by the Committee members. No public comments or questions offered. The Committee members were all in favor of recommending approval of this motion to the full Board.

4. Monthly Department Updates

Information Item

The Committee received and reviewed the monthly reports from the Engineering, Environmental Services, and Operations and Maintenance Departments as well as received a verbal presentation of its highlights (presentations are attached).

4.1 Engineering Department Update

Chief Engineer Dr. Maryam Bral presented engineering highlights covering the Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project, Santa Felicia Dam Safety Regulatory Compliance, Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility, Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment Project and Public Outreach. Director Naumann asked if there was a list of items NMFS is requesting (referencing slide two Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project). Dr. Bral stated that these were recommendations and not requirements. FERC's legal counsel will be asking NMFS for a list of their recommendations and a follow-up meeting is currently being scheduled.

Dr. Bral continued with her presentation and when discussing the upcoming OLDCC Audit/Site Tour on April 19 (slide 5, Iron and Manganese Facility), the Committee Directors nodded in approval. She also provided updates on Iron and Manganese mentioning construction which is to be completed in July 2023. She also reported that for the Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment Project, the State Water



Resources Control Board selected that project for grant funding in the amount of \$8.4 million. Continuing, she stated that a draft Memorandum of Agreement in partnership with the Navy is currently under review with the District's legal counsel.

Chair Maulhardt diverted the conversation to provide insight from talking to current visitors of our District facilities tours. He stated the outreach is paying the District great dividends. The message he relayed is that it has been enjoyable to watch staff do what they do best. He commented "hats off to all staff in every area and the others involved in this outreach" and stated it has been breathtaking to watch. During one of the tours, he recalled a memory from 1954 when he was standing next to his father looking at a road near Santa Felicia Dam at the age of six. He stressed the importance of everything staff does and how it should be considered part of everyone's heritage as it is certainly part of his. Director Naumann added, the mayor of Ventura provided great feedback and offered his support during his most recent visit. Visitors on the tour were not only amazed by the amount of water in the lake but impressed by the maintenance and the huge undertaking going into clearing out debris from the lake organized by District staff. Chair Maulhardt addressed everyone in the room and stated that this business is ours as a whole and referred to everyone as the movers and doers of this generation. Director Naumann made a comment that he would like to know how the transportation of massive amounts of sediment will be illustrated to the public.

No further Comments or questions from the Committee. No comments or questions were offered by the public.

4.2 Environmental Services Department Update

Environmental Services Manager Marissa Caringella presented on Freeman Operations, activities in response to the Lake Piru Santa Felicia Dam spill, and the Clean Water Act permit activities for work being done at Lake Piru. The Committee welcomed Ms. Caringella who joined the District in March 2023.

At the conclusion of Ms. Caringella's presentation, Chair Maulhardt responded with a job well done. He added, the District is committed to its responsibility to the environment which is built into the District's mission statement and environmental compliance initiatives. Referring to staff, he said he views them as leading, highly educated, and focused on being environmentally responsible. He added that Ms. Caringella will do a marvelous job and has the Committee's full support.

No further Comments or questions from the Committee. No comments or questions were offered by the public.

4.3 Operations and Maintenance Department Update



Chief Operations Officer Brian Collins presented on Operations and Maintenance Department Updates and covered Santa Felicia Dam (SFD) Lake Spill and Storm Cleanup, Freeman Diversion and OH Delivery.

While presenting, Mr. Collins brought to the Committee members' attention that the SFD Lake Piru Spill and Storm Cleanup photo date should be changed from February 16, 2023, to February to March 16, 2023.

Director Naumann shared his excitement of the debris cleanup. Additionally, Chair Maulhardt shared feedback from individuals on how they had no idea how much material could accumulate on the lake. He explained that people were pleased to hear that FEMA would support the debris cleanup effort. Director Naumann appreciated the fact that District staff were proactive in securing emergency disaster grant funding.

Chair Maulhardt stated that due to volume of water when the riverbed is dropped to a point a perfect example of sediment is exposed underneath. He expressed that it may be worthwhile to document this in photographs and requested closer images of the sediment by O&M Program Supervisor John Carman. Director Naumann added, having a time lapse showing the direction of water flow exposing layers of sediment would be a nice story to tell. Mr. Collins continued the conversation by stating the District has a contract with NHC (Northwest Hydraulic Consultants, who are performing a geomorphic study). Chair Maulhardt offered, modeling this sediment is an opportunity to make a huge historical footnote.

Chair Maulhardt spoke about the problematic hillside that continues to be an issue especially with current rainy weather conditions (slide 6, Freeman Diversion Canal and Saticoy Fire). District staff had considered putting up brick walls and discussed how the canal should have been moved over when built. This is an ongoing issue that the Board is fully aware of.

There was also discussion among the Committee and District staff regarding the water being diverted to El Rio and Saticoy ponds.

The Committee recommended the following be presented to the Board: Engineering Department expenditures on motion items should be highlighted (referencing Motion Item 3.1), the chart that is invaluable would be the one with arrows and timelines (referencing Engineering Department Monthly Update slide 8) and details for all the meetings could be excluded; Environmental Services Department, going through all the topics would be a good experience for the new Environmental Services Manager and would help the Board familiarize themselves with her; and Operations and Maintenance, the Committee would like to see the presentation condensed. Director Keeling continued by requesting a side-by-side comparison of Lake Piru depicting when water was low. Director Naumann added for staff to report on how much water is in Castaic and how the District will address Article 21. Prior to this recommendation,



Continuing, the Committee members also requested to see that the District facility tours continue and encouraged staff to bring forward recommendations on who should be invited to tour.

For the Committee's information, Mr. Collins mentioned he and Mr. Morgan are traveling to Denver and will not be present for the April 12 Board meeting. Dr. Bral will present Motion 3.1 on behalf of Mr. Morgan and Mr. Carmen will present O&M updates on behalf of Mr. Collins. At the conclusion of Mr. Collins' presentation, Director Keeling inquired on the well-being of staff impacted from the tornado and offered the District's support. Mr. Collins responded that there were no personnel onsite when the tornado touched down.

5. Future Agenda Items

Chair Maulhardt polled the Committee members of any agenda items they would like to see at a future Committee meeting. None were offered.

ADJOURNMENT 10:04 a.m.

Chair Maulhardt adjourned the meeting at 10:04 a.m.

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting held on April 6, 2023.

ATTEST:


Chair Lynn E. Maulhardt


El Rio Well Replacement Program
Water Well No. 20 Construction Project

Bid Results:

Bakersfield Well and Pump: \$849,283

Best Drilling and Pump: \$953,000

Layne Christensen Co: \$1,144,670.08





4/27/2023

1



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
MONTHLY UPDATE

April 6, 2023



4/27/2023



Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project

In preparation for Outlet Works Construction Phase:

- Released RFP/Q for CM and Inspection Services for the Outlet Works
- Provided a tour of SFD was to potential proposers and written responses to proposers' questions
- Met with FERC to discuss IRRMs
- Preparing responses to NMFS and FERC comments on the draft BA





4/27/2023

3

Santa Felicia Dam Safety Regulatory Compliance



Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians supported Staff with the content on Tataviam people's lifestyle.

NATURAL AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

Traditional Home of the Tataviam People
Before the construction of Santa Felicia Dam on Piru Creek, the area around what is now Lake Piru was originally inhabited by the Fernandeño Tataviam Band of Mission Indians, while the Ventureño Chumash traditionally occupied land to the west. Several Tataviam villages are known to exist in and around the area now known as Piru, and the creek would have provided a critical source of fresh water. The Tataviam practiced hunting and gathering for food, and subsisted on small game and local vegetation, including yucca, juniper berries, sage seeds, and acorns from the oak woodlands still seen around Lake Piru. The word "Piru" means "tule," a versatile reed that was used to make houses, clothing, mats, baskets, and tools, and is common along Piru Creek, highlighting the importance of the creek and surrounding area to the Tataviam people.





LAKE PIRU
RECREATION AREA



4/27/2023

4

Santa Felicia Dam Safety Regulatory Compliance



Santa Felicia Dam spill began on March 16, 2023. Staff provided regular updates to:

- FERC
- Cal OES
- Army Corp
- Ventura County Office of Emergency Services

4/27/2023

4

5

Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility



➤ DOD OLDCC Audit/
Site Tour on April 19

4/27/2023

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6

Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility



Overview of filter vessels



Overview of construction site



4/27/2023



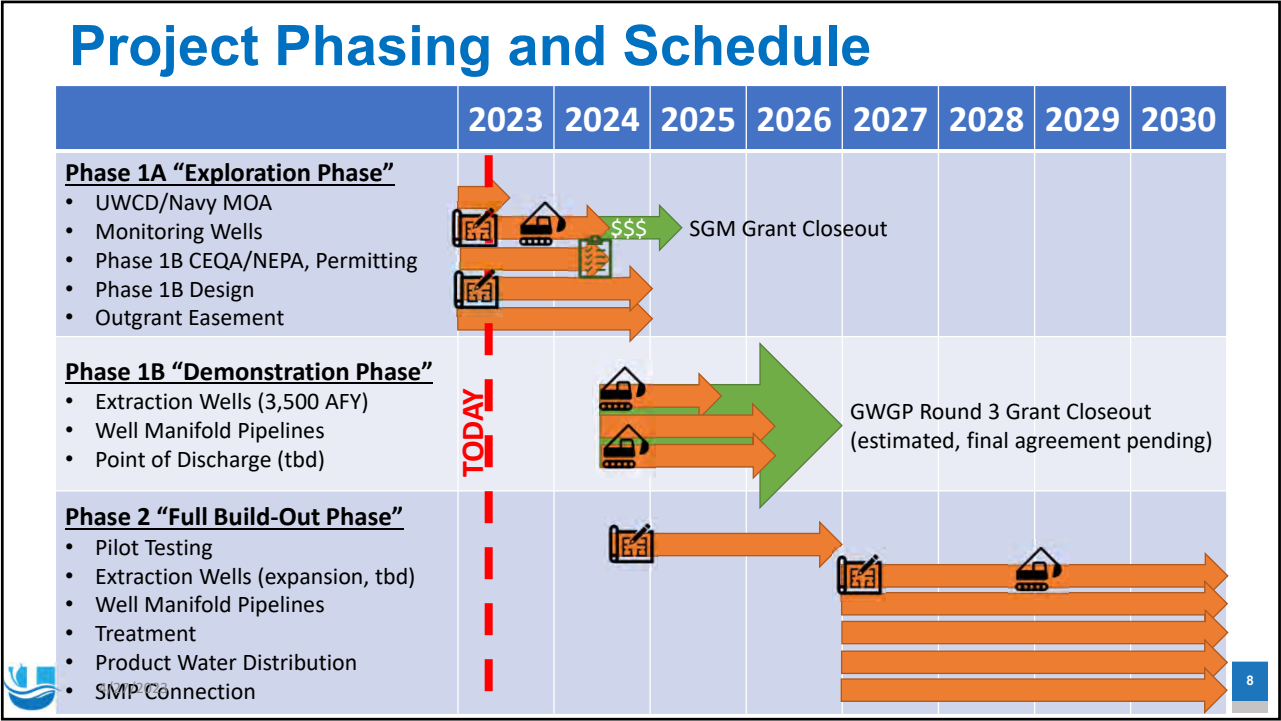
Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment Project

- Received a notification from SWRCB selection of EBB Water for Prop 1 GWGP R3 Grant funding in the amount of **\$8.4 million** in support of EBB Water – Phase 1B
- Draft MOA was completed in collaboration with the Navy, currently under legal review
- KJ submitted Draft Discharge Alternatives TM for staff review - comments due on April 10



4/27/2023





QUESTIONS



10

11



Santa Felicia Dam Spillway– March 16, 2023

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT
MONTHLY UPDATE

April 6, 2023



 **United Water**
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

12

Department
Summary Updates

• Freeman operations support

• Activities initiated in response to Lake Piru spill

- Lower system quagga mussel monitoring

• Clean Water Act permits for maintenance activities at Lake Piru

• Clean Water Act permits for emergency work in Reasoner Creek



Freeman Diversion – March 2023



Reasoner Creek Emergency Work – March 28, 2023

13



Santa Felicia Dam spillway bridge
March 22, 2023

Photo credit: John Carman

QUESTIONS ?



3

14

7



3-22-23

OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY UPDATE


April 6, 2023




15

Lake Piru Spilling Since 3-16-23

“First Spill in 17 Years”



1000 cfs 3-22-23



2

16

Santa Felicia Dam

Lake Spill / Storm Cleanup



2-16-23 Lake Piru Spill



3-8-23 East Rd. Erosion



Juan Fernandez Cleanup



2-22-23 Lower Access Challenges



3

Freeman Diversion

Fish Wiper Gearbox – Recharge Basin Discing – Sediment Management



3-28-23 Fish Wiper Gearbox



3-28-23 Saltcoy "A" Recharge Basin





3-21-23 Canal Sediment



4/27/2023

4

Freeman Diversion

Sediment Management



3-29-23 screen cleaning



3-29-23 Vac Truck sediment removal





4/27/2023

5

Freeman Diversion

Canal Slide — Saticoy Fire



3-15-23 Saticoy Canal Slide



3-14-23 Transformer Fire




4/27/2023


6

OH Delivery


OH Well #12 - Gas Engine #4 Manifold - Disinfection Room Exhaust Fan



3-27-23 OH Well 12



3-30-23 El Rio Booster Plant

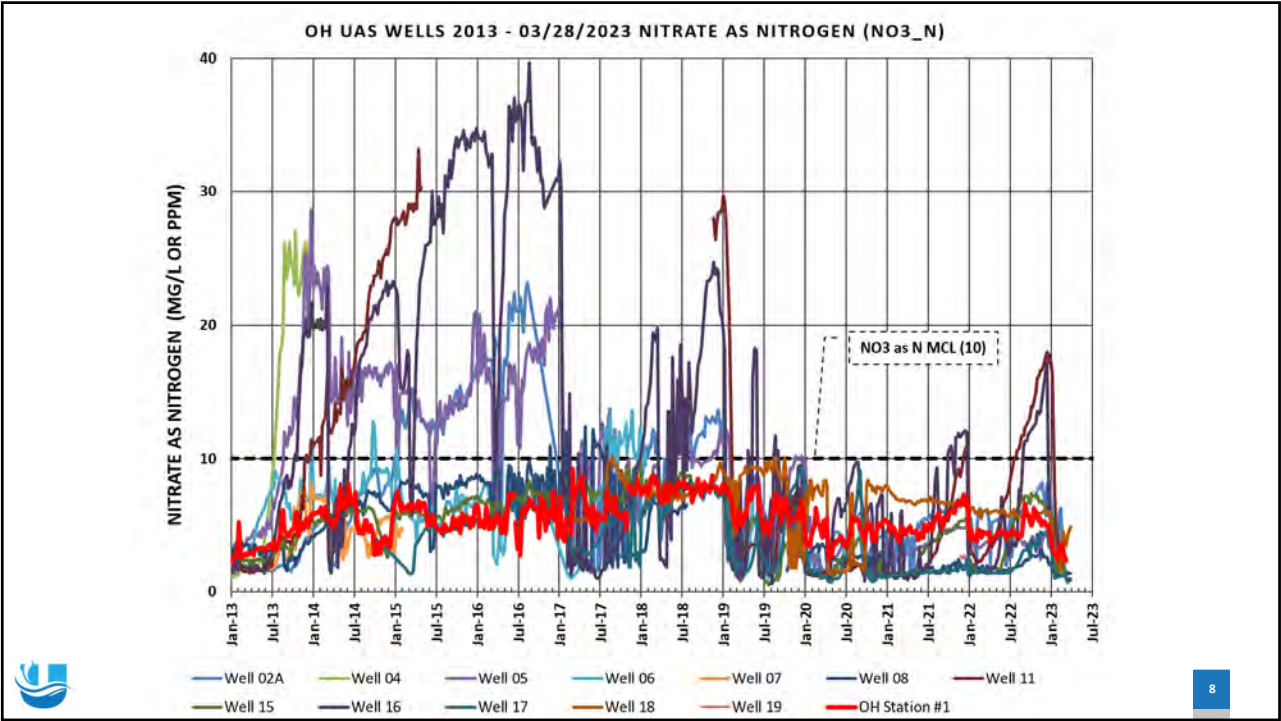


3-24-23 El Rio Booster Plant



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21



22

Questions?

4/27/2023

9