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ENGINEERING and OPERATIONS
COMMITTEE MEETING
MINUTES

Thursday, July 6, 2023, at 9:30 a.m.
UWCD Headquarters, First Floor, Board Room
1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard, CA 93030

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Lynn E. Maulhardt, chair
Bruce E. Dandy, director (substituting for Director Catherine P. Keeling)
Daniel C. Naumann, director

STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Mauricio Guardado, general manager
Anthony Emmert, assistant general manager
Dr. Maryam Bral, chief engineer
Marissa Caringella, environmental services manager
John Carman, operations and maintenance program supervisor
Randy Castaneda, chief water treatment operator
Hannah Garcia-Wickstrum, associate environmental scientist
John Lindquist, water resources supervisor
Josh Perez, chief human resources officer
Michel Kadah, engineer
Randall McNvale, principal environmental scientist
Craig Morgan, engineering manager
Zachary Plummer, technology systems manager
Adriana Stovall, environmental scientist
Vanessa Vasquez, clerk of the committee
Brian Zahn, chief financial officer

PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

No members of the public were in attendance.

Call to Order – Open Session

Director Naumann called the committee meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. The clerk of the Committee called roll. All Committee members were present (Naumann, Maulhardt, and Dandy (substituting for Keeling)).

1. Public Comments

Information Item

Director Naumann asked for public comment. None were offered.



2. Approval of Minutes

Motion

Motion to approve the Minutes from the June 1, 2023, Engineering and Operations Committee meeting, Director Naumann; Second, Maulhardt. Voice vote: two ayes (Naumann and Maulhardt); none opposed; one abstained (Dandy). Motion carries 2/0/1.

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

The Committee reviewed and discussed the following motion items to formulate recommendations to the full Board at its July 12, 2023, meeting.

3.1 Authorize Approval of a Contract with MKN & Associates, Inc. to Develop the Final Design of Phase 1 of the Pumping Trough Pipeline (PTP) Recycled Water Connection – Laguna Road Pipeline Project (CIP 8043)

Chief Engineer Dr. Maryam Bral presented background on motion item 3.1 (presentation attached).

During her presentation, Dr. Bral explained that a contract with MKN & Associates, Inc. would provide the 60 and 100% design of the PTP Recycled Water Connection pipeline and the 30% design of the proposed booster pump. Director Naumann asked about the full capacity of the booster. Dr. Bral responded that at full capacity, 6000-acre feet (AF) of water would be conveyed although a substantial amount of water could be conveyed without the booster pump, but having the booster would result in the pipeline operating at an optimal level.

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

3.2 Authorize Approval of Amendment No. 2 to the Contract with Catalyst Environmental Solutions related to the 60 percent design of the New Release Channel of the Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project (CIP 8002)

Dr. Maryam Bral presented background on motion item 3.2 (presentation attached).

Dr. Bral discussed Catalyst coordinating design efforts per National Marine Fishery Service (NMFS) requirements. General Manager Mauricio Guardado emphasized that a number of resources have been spent on meeting such requirements.

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

3.3 Authorize Approval of Amendment No. 2 to the Contract with Ascent Environmental for services related to Freeman Diversion California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Compliance in the not to exceed amount of \$451, 608.



Randall McInvale, principal environmental scientist presented on motion item 3.3 (presentation attached).

No comments or questions were offered. The Committee members were all in favor of recommending approval of this item 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 receiving verbal presentations of highlights (presentations are attached).

4.1 Engineering Department Update

Dr. Bral presented department updates that covered status updates on the Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project, Santa Felicia Dam safety related activities, Iron and Manganese Treatment facility, the PTP Meter Improvement project, the Extraction Barrier and Brackish Water Treatment project and public outreach (see attached slides).

During her presentation (slide 5, Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project) Dr. Bral stated that the Santa Felicia Dam Board of Consultants Meeting No. 7 was held at the headquarters with the purpose to review the 90% design of the outlet works improvement project. The meeting was attended by FERC, DSOD, GEI and Black & Veatch, the construction management for the project. This led to discussion on environmental compliance, such as NMFS request for a minimum of 60% design plans of the dam safety improvements and the environmental mitigation measure that could possibly delay construction for the project past the anticipated July 2024 construction date for the outlet works improvement project.

Director Naumann then asked if the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) was supporting the District's position on design plans. Dr. Bral stated that the District has the support of the division of dam safety and inspection, however, FERC division of hydropower administration and compliance seems to be supporting NMFS requests. The project environmental mitigation has been discussed with NMFS since 2017. District staff have reached out to FERC to schedule meetings to discuss the project in further detail, particularly with FERC employees that are less familiar with the history of the project. Director Naumann suggested that staff reach out to Congresswoman Julia Brownley's office. Mr. Guardado agreed.

Dr. Bral continued her presentation and went on to discuss the progress on the Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility project. Chair Maulhardt asked about the asphalt surrounding the new lab facility at the Iron and Manganese location. Dr. Bral confirmed the installation of the asphalt would take place before the September 13 ribbon cutting ceremony.

No further questions or comments were offered.



4.2 Environmental Services Department Update

Environmental Services Manager Marissa Caringella presented Environmental department updates that included Freeman Diversion operations, quagga mussel management and key highlights.

During Ms. Caringella's presentation (slide 12, Freeman Diversion operations referencing photo on the top right) Chair Maulhardt asked the reason for the water downstream of the diversion structure shown in the photo. Engineering Manager Craig Morgan stated that water seeps through the structure, but this should not cause any concerns as the RCC has some cracks but the structural stability is not in question. Mr. Morgan explained that the concrete cap is in great condition considering its age and the amount of material that has passed over it but there are areas that could benefit from repairs. Chair Maulhardt and the Committee agreed that concrete cap might need to be replaced in the future.

Ms. Caringella continued her presentation and then turned it over to Principal Environmental Scientist Randall McInvale to present key highlights. Mr. McInvale began by discussing the temporary variance and how staff have been working on securing approval for increased State Water imports from Pyramid Lake to Lake Piru for the November 2023 - February 2024 delivery period. These efforts have led to coordination with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to pursue a temporary variance to the FERC license for Pyramid Lake. The temporary variance is currently in review by FERC and is pending approval. If approved, the temporary variance would allow United to increase State Water Project imports from 3,150 to 25,000 acre-feet in the upcoming November 2023 - February 2024 delivery period. Concurrently, staff is advancing efforts for in pursuit of a future permanent amendment to the FERC license for Pyramid Lake to remove the 3,150-acre-foot limitation. The specific components of the future permanent amendment will continue to be developed in coordination with DWR. Future internal discussions will take place between the General Manager and Environmental Services staff.

Chair Maulhardt then redirected the conversation to open suggestions on what should be presented to the Board. Director Naumann added that he would like to see an additional slide regarding the Iron and Manganese ribbon cutting (referencing Engineering Department Updates). He added he would like the temporary variance to be defined for public understanding and offered Mr. McInvale a job well done. Mr. Guardado also recognized staff's efforts on this topic.

No further questions or comments were offered.

4.3 Operations and Maintenance Department Update

Operations and Maintenance Program Supervisor John Carman presented updates on the Operation and Maintenance department that covered Santa Felicia Dam, Freeman



Diversion and Saticoy, Oxnard Hueneme (OH) Pipeline delivery, and the Pumping Trough Pipeline (PTP) system.

Director Naumann asked about whether the well pictured on slide 21 (PTP system) was a deep or shallow well and whether the meter reports are relayed to the District or Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA). Mr. Carman confirmed that the well is a shallow well and that the metering reports go to the District.

No further questions or comments were offered.

Mr. Guardado then led the Committee and staff in a happy birthday song in celebration of Director Bruce Dandy's birthday.

The Committee asked no further questions nor expressed any additional comments.

5. Future Agenda Items

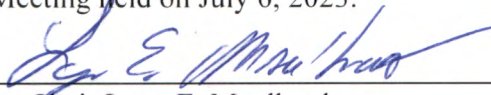
No future agenda items or comments offered.

ADJOURNMENT 10:36 a.m.

Chair Maulhardt adjourned the meeting at 10:36 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 July 6, 2023.

ATTEST:



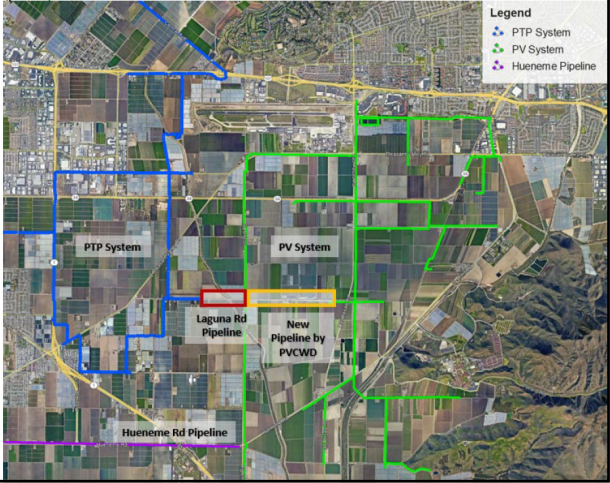
Chair Lynn E. Maulhardt

System Reliability and Regional Partnership and Leadership

Motion Item 3.1

Authorize Approval of a Contract with MKN & Associates, Inc. to Develop the Final Design of Phase 1 of the PTP Recycled Water Connection – Laguna Road Pipeline Project (CIP 8043)

- ❑ Phase 1: 60% and 100% pipeline design, 30% design of the proposed booster pump Station and Bid Support for pipeline construction
- ❑ Recycled Water Sources: AWPf, and potentially others
- ❑ Contract Fee not to Exceed \$298,352
- ❑ Grant Funding: \$2.6M (SGM), \$343K (NRCS)
- ❑ Sufficient funds available in the FY 2023/24 budget




1

Regulatory and Environmental Compliance

Motion Item 3.2

Authorize Approval of Amendment No. 2 of Contract with Catalyst to develop the 60% Design of the New Release Channel for the Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project (CIP 8002)

- ❑ Develop the new release channel design to 60% design level
- ❑ Contract Fee not to Exceed \$248,351
- ❑ Sufficient funds available in the FY 2023/24 budget



2


2

Regulatory and Environmental Compliance

Motion 3.3

Authorize Approval of Amendment No. 2 to the Contract with Ascent Environmental for Services Related to Freeman Diversion California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Compliance

- Committee will consider recommending approval of the motion to the full Board to authorize the General Manager to execute an amendment to the professional consulting services agreement with Ascent
- Contract is directly related to the Freeman Diversion Multiple Species Habitat Conservation Plan
- Amendment amount: \$451,608



3

3



ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT
MONTHLY UPDATE

July 6, 2023





4

Santa Felicia Dam Safety Improvement Project



A group of approximately 15 people are seated around a large conference table in a modern meeting room with large windows. They are focused on reviewing documents and laptops. The room has a light wood floor and blue chairs.

 BOC Meeting No. 7 – Review of 90% design documents of the new outlet works 

5

Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility



An aerial view of an industrial water treatment facility. It features two large, horizontal, white cylindrical filter vessels connected by a complex network of white pipes and valves. The facility is situated on a concrete pad next to a body of water, with hills in the background.

  6/14/2023
Completion of Filter Vessels Exterior and Filter Facing Piping Coating

6

Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility



Vertical turbine pumps installed after a long delay



Iron and Manganese Treatment Facility





Exterior View of the new Building



Fire Sprinkler and fire alarm service completed at new building




Public Outreach



Maryam Bral presents at the SAME – Oxnard Chapter Business Opportunities Forum at US Navy Seabee Museum, Port Hueneme

North Pleasant valley Desalter Visit



9

9





Thank You

10

10



Santa Clara River, view downstream from
Freeman Diversion – June 19, 2023

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

JUNE UPDATE

July 6, 2023



11

Freeman Diversion Operations

Migration season over June 1

Bypass flow ramp down June 5 to 8

Stranding surveys from 101 bridge upstream to Freeman Diversion

Fish ladder shutdown complete June 7



Freeman Diversion – June 7, 2023



Stranding surveys – June 5, 2023



12

Quagga Mussel Management

Monitoring on Lake Piru, lower Piru Creek, and lower system

Technical Advisory Committee meeting June 15

Lake Piru – June 2023




Quagga mussels on cobble




Key Highlight


- Temporary Variance for WY 2023-24
 - 25,000 acre feet of SWP imports to Lake Piru
 - Pending FERC approval
- Long-Term Solution
 - Technical studies underway
 - DWR engagement
 - CEQA

Pyramid Dam Outlet Works and Service Spillway – Nov 2022



Middle Piru Creek at Canton Crossing – Feb 2023








15

A photograph showing a worker in a yellow lift basket working on a large concrete wall. The worker is wearing a hard hat and safety gear. The wall has a textured, vertical ribbed appearance. Below the photo, the text "OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY UPDATE" is written in large, bold, blue letters. Below that, the date "July 6, 2023" is written in a smaller font. At the bottom left is a small blue logo, and at the bottom right is the "United Water CONSERVATION DISTRICT" logo.


16

Santa Felicia Dam

SFD Lower Creek Crossing – Dam Crest Monuments



The first photograph on the left shows a creek with a large amount of debris and sediment flowing over a low barrier. The middle photograph shows a gravel road leading towards the dam structure. The third photograph on the right is a close-up of a metal monument with the word 'MONUMENT' embossed on it.




17


17

Freeman Diversion / Saticoy

Sediment / Water Management



The top-left photograph shows a yellow crane lifting a large metal basket. The bottom-left photograph shows a river with a high level of sediment. The middle photograph shows a worker in a yellow basket positioned next to a concrete dam wall with water flowing over it. The right photograph shows a worker on a platform next to a large pipe or structure over a body of water.



18

18



19

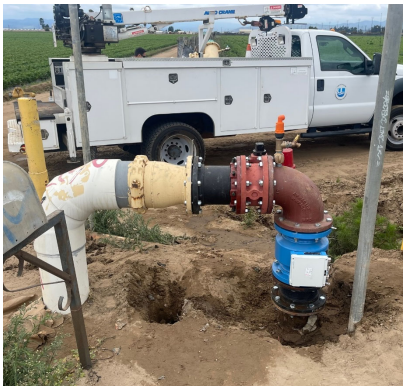
OH Delivery

El Rio Recharge Basins – SCBA Training – OH Well #5


20

PTP System

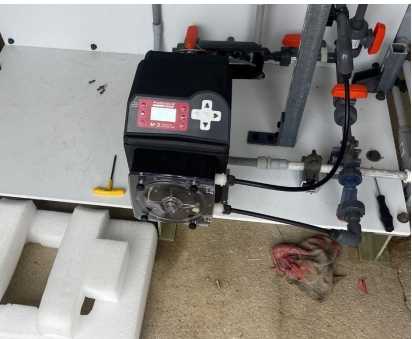
Meter Upgrade Project – PTP NaOCL Pump




Turnout #123
ETTING RD.
BEFORE



Turnout #158
RICE RD.
AFTER



NaOCL PUMP Replacement



21

Questions?



22