

**MINUTES OF THE ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
DECEMBER 3, 2024**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting of the Rainbow Municipal Water District on December 3, 2024, was called to order by Chairman Nelson at 1:02 p.m. in the Board Room of the District, 3707 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook, CA 92028. Chairman Nelson presiding.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Members Nelson, Marnett, McKesson, Dale, and Gasca

Also Present: General Manager Wiley, Operations Manager Gutierrez, District Secretary Quintanar, Information Technology Manager Khattab, and Chief Financial Officer Aragon, Construction Meters Supervisor Lagunas, Engineering and CIP Program Manager Williams, Safety & Risk Management Officer Johnson

Also Present Via Teleconference or Video Conference:

Senior Project Manager Tamimi, Administrative Assistant Montano, and
Administrative Analyst Barrow

No members of the public were present in person, via teleconference or video conference.

4. **SEATING OF ALTERNATES**

None were seated.

5. **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

There were none.

6. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Motion:

To approve the Agenda as presented.

Action: Approve, Moved by Member McKesson, Seconded by Member Nelson

Vote: Motion carried by majority vote with Member Gasca abstaining (summary: Ayes = 4)

Ayes: Members Nelson, Marnett, McKesson, and Dale

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no requests to speak.

8. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. November 5, 2024

Motion:

To approve the minutes as presented.

Action: Approve, Moved by Member Nelson, Seconded by Member McKesson

Vote: Motion carried by majority vote with Gasca abstaining (summary: Ayes = 4)

Ayes: Members Nelson, Marnett, McKesson, and Dale

9. COMMENTS & REQUESTS

- A. General Manager's Comments
- B. Engineering & CIP Program Manager's Comments
- C. Operations Manager's Comments
- D. Committee Member's Comments

Mr. Wiley reported on the CropSWAP Program. Available funds have been allocated. Projects in the approval process are on the wait list for more funding. He also announced that the District is recruiting a Finance Manager. A number of applications have been received, and the position will be open until filled.

Mr. Williams provided an update on the monitoring of the Morrow Tank, which has been ongoing for approximately a year. Geotech Atlas Engineering is finalizing its report on the tank, which has moved and is now compromised due to ground subsidence. The tank is now operating at half capacity.

Also, an all-encompassing RFP has been issued for district-wide weed abatement. Two non-mandatory site walks are scheduled for December, and staff plans to present this matter for the Board's consideration in the next month or two.

The electrical safety manual transfer switch work is in the final stages, and the job will be sent out for bid within two months.

Punch List items are being addressed for the three pump stations project, and all three stations are operational and online. Mr. Williams also corrected previous information to report that the change orders were settled for \$40,000 less than anticipated.

Staff is working with FPUD staff on the Olive Hill and Maravilla interconnects. The project is in the conceptual phase, and staff is conducting public outreach and securing the right of way.

Mr. Gutierrez reported that the emergency overflow at Thoroughbred was used on Thanksgiving, so flow was diverted, and the system operated as expected. Regarding the pump stations, operations are going well and have exceeded the design capacity for flows.

Efforts to dose Morrow Reservoir have been successful, and credit was given to the District's systems operations staff. Mr. Gutierrez also reported on a main break on Mission Avenue in early November, between Mission 76 and La Canada. He reported on the efforts to reline the 20" steel casing and that FPUD staff assisted.

He continued to report on efforts to combat the Garden Fire. The Heli-hydrant was utilized by two helicopters, which was very successful. Two news stations, ABC 10 and CBS 8, covered the story.

Regarding the Gopher Canyon Pipeline repair, the final paving costs will be reported at the next Committee meeting.

Member McKesson asked about content for the January meeting. Staff will have a few items for the Committee's review. Member Dale expressed her pleasure in serving on this Committee.

10. CONSIDER A SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE ORDER FOR ODOR CONTROL CHEMICALS WITH EVOQUA

Mr. Gutierrez provided information on the purpose of odor control, which Rainbow Municipal Water District has not previously utilized. With growing subdivisions in our service area, we've received some complaints. The City of Oceanside is dosing with a product from Evoqua, and, for consistency, staff is requesting a sole source contract. The Board of Directors has approved a \$90,000 line item for odor control until June 2025, and staff proposes an annual review and approval for continued utilization of this vendor.

Member Dale commented that this chemical is very successful but asked for clarification regarding estimated costs. Mr. Gutierrez explained that the dosing changes depend on the weather or customer complaints. In the wintertime, dosing needs decrease. He opined that staff would need several years of data to more accurately budget for the chemical needs. Director Dale also raised concerns about contract wording regarding Evoqua's control of dosing and costs to utilize their proprietary software to determine dosing. She requested staff investigate a system that monitors doses based on those readings, using smart technology. Smart Cover, in Escondido, and a Denmark Company, provide the technology. She also suggested piggybacking with the City of Oceanside's contract for better pricing.

Motion:

To recommend the Board of Directors approve, along with amendments to the draft contract to assign control of dosing to the District, piggybacking on the City of Oceanside's contract, and investigating benefits of smart monitor dosing.

Action: Approve, Moved by Member Nelson, Seconded by Member McKesson

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous vote (summary: Ayes = 5)

Ayes: Members Nelson, Marnett, McKesson, Gasca, and Dale

11. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TO INCORPORATE CHAPTER 7.01 SAFETY POLICIES

Safety and Risk Management Risk Officer Johnson explained that up until now, Chapter 7 contained no policies, but safety and risk management policies have now been drafted. Most of the guiding principles are drawn from CalOSHA and include program management, training, responsibility, implementation, and general guidance to be added to our Administrative Code.

Member Dale requested all new text to be indicated in red font and the Committee requested clarification for the Board that all the recommended text is new. Mr. Johnson explained that the District is already compliant with CalOSHA regulations, and there will be no fiscal impact relating to the adoption of the policies. The District's standard operating procedures for more specific tasks can be tailored to be more customized for higher-level performance. Mr. Wiley relayed his appreciation to Mr. Johnson.

Motion:

To recommend Board approval of Option 1, to add the policies to the Administrative Code

Action: Approve, Moved by Member Dale, Seconded by Member Marnett

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous vote (summary: Ayes = 5)

Ayes: Members Nelson, Marnett, McKesson, Gasca, and Dale

12. CONSIDER ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ADMINISTRATIVE CODE SECTION 5.05.050.08.- RISK MANAGEMENT RETENTION MANAGEMENT REFERENCE GUIDE

Mr. Johnson explained that the recommended changes align with CalOSHA's recommendations for the retention of safety and risk-related records. He explained that Site Docs software can be utilized to manage records, making them accessible to everyone electronically, and their disposition can be easily managed. Member McKesson recommended one revision to reflect certain records are retained in the Safety Office and onsite at facilities, as required.

Motion:

To recommend approval of Option 1, adoption of the ordinance amending the Administrative Code

Action: Approve, Moved by Member McKesson, Seconded by Member Dale

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous vote (summary: Ayes = 5)

Ayes: Members Nelson, Marnett, McKesson, Gasca, and Dale

13. BOARD ACTION UPDATES

Mr. Wiley reported that the Board approved the Tank Maintenance Contract Amendment, an increase to the pump station construction budget, financing of the SDCWA Exit Fee payments, and a Notice of Completion for minor facilities. No action was taken regarding using the one-time savings realized from early detachment.

14. AS-NEEDED SERVICES EXPENDITURES SUMMARY

One no-cost contract extension was provided for Geotech.

15. SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

The Committee requested an update on the Gopher Canyon Pipeline repair and the Notice of Completion for the pump stations. Atlas Consultants may have an update on the Morrow Tank, and we may also have the weed abatement contract ready to discuss.

Member Gasca requested documentation about wells that were previously utilized near the San Luis Rey River and whether there is an option to resecure rights in that regard. Mr. Wiley mentioned that the Groundwater Feasibility Study is being finalized, which will provide additional insight regarding local wells and production from this basin.

16. ADJOURNMENT to January 7, 2025, 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Nelson at 2:34 p.m.



Terese Quintanar, District Secretary



Flint Nelson, Committee Chairperson