

**MINUTES OF THE ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
JULY 7, 2009**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Engineering Committee Meeting of the Rainbow Municipal Water District on July 7, 2009 was called to order by Chairman Brannon at 1:35 p.m. in the Board Room of the District, 3707 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook, CA 92028. Chairman Brannon presiding.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Member Brannon
Member Brazier
Member Taufer
Member Vornberger

Absent: Member Fekete
Member Irvine
Alternate Saxon
Member Walson

Also Present: Dave Seymour, District General Manager, Chuck Sneed, Operations Manager, Brian Lee, District Engineer, and Pat Collings, Engineering Support. Public attendees were Jack Griffiths, Eric Heath from MWH Soft and Randy Hill from CDM.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT RELATING TO ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

No public comments.

COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS

5. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING RESIGNATION, APPOINTMENT, AND ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND/OR ALTERNATES**

Mr. Brannon announced his resignation. He thanked everyone for their hard work and time. He recommended adding Steve Strapac as an alternate member. Mr. Vornberger announced that he would also be resigning next month. Mr. Brannon recommended adding Mr. Saxon as a permanent member of the Engineering Committee.

Action:

Moved by Member Taufer to add Mr. Saxon as a permanent member. Seconded by Member Brazier.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

AYES: Member Brannon, Member Brazier, Member Taufer and Member Vornberger.
NOES: None.
ABSTAINED: None.
ABSENT: Member Fekete, Member Irvine, Alternate Saxon and Member Walson.

Action:

Moved by Member Brazier to add Mr. Strapac as an alternate member. Seconded by Member Brannon.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

AYES: Member Brannon, Member Brazier, Member Taufer and Member Vornberger.
NOES: None.
ABSTAINED: None.
ABSENT: Member Fekete, Member Irvine, Alternate Saxon and Member Walson.

Mr. Brannon left the meeting at 3:08 p.m. and Mr. Vornberger stepped up as the Chairperson.

***6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. June 2, 2009

Action:

Moved by Member Taufer to approve the minutes. Seconded by Member Brazier.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

AYES: Member Brannon, Member Brazier, Member Taufer and Member Vornberger.
NOES: None.
ABSTAINED: None.
ABSENT: Member Fekete, Member Irvine, Alternate Saxon and Member Walson.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON LIFT STATION 1 AND 2 UPDATE

Mr. Lee said Lift Station 2 was under design and that the 90% design package had been reviewed. He said it should be ready to bid within the next few weeks as soon as two issues were resolved. He said the first issue was the environmental requirement of which the District was in the process of looking for mitigation land to offset the tenth of an acre land that would be used. Mr. Lee noted the District requirements were dictated by the California Environmental Quality Act. He said the second issue was the District does not own any land in the area. He said the District was waiting for the property appraisal on Lift Station 2 to provide an offer to the property owner. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Lee said Lift Station 1 RFP was held back due to staff time constraints. He said the plan was to release the RFP by the Fall of 2009.

8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON DISTRICT'S POTENTIAL ASSET MANAGEMENT PROGRAM WITH PRESENTATION BY MWH SOFT

Mr. Lee informed the Engineering Committee that his presentation would include the District's Water Infrastructure, Risk Assessment and Establishing a Long Range CIP. He said in the past the CIP projects were ranked against other projects, although for future ranking he recommends ranking on the need and importance of the project.

He said the District has 316 miles of pipeline, 7000 plus water services, 7 pump stations, 13 steel tanks, 6 Reservoirs (2 abandon and 1 under construction), and 40 plus PRV stations. He explained that after analyzing the age of the District's facilities it was determined 11% of the District's system was 50 plus years old and the average age of the pipelines were 30 years old. He added that normally the design life for pipelines was 50 to 60 years which gives the District 20 years to replace 60% of its infrastructure. He explained the design life can be defined as the period of time during which the facility was expected to work within its specified parameters. He also pointed out design life was an estimate used as a financial tool intended to provide the District with a means to budget the funds needed to replace a pipeline at the end of its design life. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Lee said the intent of the 2006 rate increases was to top-off the funding of the water CIP at \$4M per year. He noted that another \$1M was to be collected through development fees, although due to reduced water sales over the last 3 years the District has set aside \$6M, or \$2M per year. He said the \$6M collected was less than half of the District's original \$15M goal over the last 3 years and assuming 60 year life for our pipelines, the District was short \$1.4M per year, right from the start. He said currently the District has established a 3 year CIP plan that includes covering 3 reservoirs and building a steel tank. He mentioned the current CIP does not include a review of the entire District's infrastructure. He asked how the District could conduct a comprehensive review of the infrastructure to establish a long range CIP plan. He suggested developing a risk assessment plan for the District may make it possible to establish a long range CIP Plan.

Mr. Lee introduced Mr. Heath from MWH Soft who provided a presentation on risk assessment, water infrastructure and establishing a long range CIP software program. Mr. Heath said the current aging infrastructure was a concern throughout the country with approximately 240K breaks a year and \$2T gallons lost at a cost of \$2.6B. He proceeded to present a brief history regarding infrastructure needs. He mentioned pipes do not deteriorate at a constant rate and there has not been any correlation found in determining the life of a pipeline.

Mr. Heath explained how the Capital Planning Software hydraulic model would enable the District to be proactive instead of reactive towards the condition of its infrastructure. He said the model would identify the likelihood of failure and the consequences. He said this would allow multiple calculation options. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Lee said the Capital Planning software currently costs \$15K. He noted a position would have to be filled to complete the work on this project which he plans to present to the Board. Mr. Brannon said he would like to learn more about this system and that he agrees that this system would provide answers to the Board member questions. Mr. Heath went over some more infrastructure scenarios. Discussion ensued.

9. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON REPLACEMENT OF 27" CMLC PIPELINE SECTION IN RAINBOW VALLEY BOULEVARD

Mr. Lee said recently there was an emergency repair on a 27" pipeline at Rainbow Valley Boulevard. He proceeded to hand out a copy of the RFP to hire an engineering firm to conduct a professional assessment of the pipeline failure.

Mr. Sneed provided a brief summary of the Rainbow Valley Boulevard mainline break. He noted the break occurred on a Saturday evening and how the crews worked through Monday afternoon. He said the leak was between the butterfly valve and a high pressure gas line and when they tried to turn the butterfly valve it failed to operate. He mentioned there was a previous break on that line back in the 80's. He continued that it was about a mile and a half of pipeline that had to be shutdown and drained of approximately an acre and a half of water. He pointed out the customers were out of water for about 12-18 hours. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Lee said the District's construction crews spend 70% of their time working on leak repairs. He said if the District could reduce the leak repairs by using the asset management program it would more than offset the cost of the program. Mr. Sneed mentioned another shutdown would be scheduled to investigate the bottom of the pipe.

Mr. Seymour added that although the repairs are considered bandaged jobs, the crews provided quality work; however the bandaged repairs were just prolonging the possibility of a major break. Mr. Sneed noted the construction crews were conducting repairs instead of replacements. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Lee announced the District would send out an RFP by next month to assess the condition of the pipeline and design the repair.

10. ENGINEER'S UPDATE

Mr. Lee informed the Engineering Committee that the district website had current pictures of the North Reservoir construction work.

Mr. Lee provided a brief background of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act program. He said the District submitted a pre-application for North, Northside and Morro reservoirs and that of the 2,200 pre-applications submitted the North and Northside reservoirs were ranked 21 due to health risk and readiness to provide. He said the District was invited to submit an application for a \$3.4M grant and \$3.4M low interest loan. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Lee said the Hydrant Flow Monitoring was delayed temporarily.

Mr. Lee said the Morro Reservoir project bid would go out January 2010 with construction anticipated for May 2010.

Mr. Lee said the Beck Reservoir Project and Pala Mesa Tank site RFP should go out by July 2009 and the design contract should be awarded by September 2009. Discussion ensued.

11. LIST OF SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT SCHEDULED ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Mr. Lee would like to continue the discussion of the MWH Soft program

Mr. Lee suggested having a Field Trip meeting at 11:30 a.m. to the North Reservoir prior to the next Engineering Committee meeting.

Mr. Lee would like to discuss the resignation, appointment, and election of committee members and/or alternates

12. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

Dave Vornberger, Interim Committee Chairperson

Dawn M. Washburn, Board Secretary