

**MINUTES OF THE ENGINEERING SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
MAY 3, 2017**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Engineering Services Committee Meeting of the Rainbow Municipal Water District on May 3, 2017 was called to order by Chairperson Prince at 3:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the District, 3707 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook, CA 92028. Chairperson Prince, presiding.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Member Prince, Member Stitle, Member Taufer, Member Brazier, Member Ratican, Alternate Marnett.

Also Present: General Manager Kennedy, Engineering Manager Kirkpatrick, Associate Engineer Powers, Eng. Tech. Rubio.

Absent: Member Kirby, Member Robertson,

Three members of the public were present.

4. **SEATING OF ALTERNATES**

Mr. Kennedy stated for the record that Mr. Marnett would be taking a voting seat.

5. **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA (Government Code §54954.2)**

There were no changes to the agenda.

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

There were no public comments.

COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS

*7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
A. April 5, 2017

Motion:

To approve the minutes as written.

Action: Approve, Moved by Member Taufer, Seconded by Member Ratican.

Vote: Motion passed (summary: Ayes = 4, Noes = 0, Abstain = 2).

Ayes: Member Prince, Member Taufer, Member Ratican, Alternate Marnett.

Abstain: Member Stitle, Member Brazier.

8. SDG&E GAS MAIN PROJECT PRESENTATION

Mr. Kennedy said SDG&E was planning to replace the gas main from the Rainbow Metering Station to Miramar and were invited to provide an informational presentation. Mr. O'Beirne from SDG&E provided informational handouts and stated that the Gas Main Project has been in the works with the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) for about a year and a half with two additional years to go before obtaining a decision. He mentioned there would be a CPUC public meeting in Fallbrook on May 23, 2017, providing the community an opportunity to learn more about the project and provide input. He provided the following information:

- Natural gas is the primary source of energy in San Diego County used in homes, businesses, large industries and military installations.
- Currently 42% of all the natural gas used in SDG&E territory is used to generate electric generation with a peak of about 70% in the summer.
- There is an increased use of natural gas for the transportation sector. The transition of buses and trucks to compressed natural gas from diesel is reducing emissions helping to reach the state's greenhouse gas emission standards.
- Natural gas makes the growth of renewable energy, such as solar and wind, possible by providing clean, reliable power when these intermittent sources are unavailable or unable to meet peak demands.
- The energy landscape has evolved from power plants to natural gas.
- 90% of the natural gas used in California comes from outside of the state.

Mr. O'Beirne said the local region's natural gas was delivered by a 30-inch pipeline near interstate 5, and a 16-inch pipeline along the interstate 15 corridor delivers the rest. He continued in order to comply with new safety standards, SDG&E was proposing to replace the 16-inch transmission pipeline built in the 1940's, with a new 36-inch transmission pipeline. He mentioned the cost for the project was \$639M and the average natural gas customer's bill would go up approximately .57 cents a month. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kennedy invited Mr. Glady from SDG&E to discuss some of the technical issues regarding the AMI Project. Mr. Glady said due to new technologies, SDG&E has been working with Itron on the research and development of the hardware that would be included in the Itron equipment. He said working prototypes are currently ready for manufacturing with the first ones to be completed by June 2017. Discussion ensued.

9. UPDATE ON METER TESTING RESULTS

Mr. Kennedy said data was missing from the water testing results and he was waiting to receive the completed data. He mentioned meeting with AMI to discuss warranty and guarantee terms and when all the data was received it would be brought to the Board for discussion and final decision. Discussion ensued.

10. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON CAPACITY FEES

Mrs. Kirkpatrick went over the final draft of the water and sewer capacity fee report. She mentioned it was decided to remove the water capacity surcharge fee from the report, since it was considered more of a rate fee rather than a capacity fee.

Mr. Kennedy said the District has several classes of customers with varying levels of use. He pointed out that within any class for single meter size there is a substantial difference in use. He mentioned the District was looking to manage the varying levels to be more equitable. He explained by separating the meter size from the capacity in order to assign a customer an appropriate size meter based on use patterns would capture meter usage efficiently. He pointed out that monthly service charges would be assessed based on yearly usage. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kennedy said a developer was interested in purchasing 5/8" meters, although the District currently does not have 5/8" meters in the capacity rate structure. He mentioned these meters were discussed in prior Board Meetings with restrictions to be used for condos with minimal landscaping. He said the developer was arguing the right to use the 5/8" meters, although he pointed out that the Board has the right to raise capacity rates and if a developer waits five years to purchase meters after the rates change there was no guarantee that the previous rate structure would remain the same. Discussion ensued.

Mrs. Kirkpatrick explained the maximum water usages per meter size and summarized the sewer capacity fee calculations. She plans to release the fees for public comments and recommend adoption by the Board by June 2017.

11. UPDATE ON CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Mrs. Kirkpatrick summarized the proposed FY17/18 CIP Budget as follows:

- Gird to Monserate Hill Waterline: Project held up due to environmental impacts.
- San Luis Rey Imported Return Flow Recovery: Currently validating the Ground Water Supply Study and then pumping ground water and testing will follow.
- Knottwood Road Loop and PRS: The Board approved the purchase of the pressure station, finalizing drawings, bridge construction has begun, RMWD bid opening date May 9, 2017, and waterline installation planned for June or July 2017.
- Pump Station 1: Project at 60%.
- Water System Condition Assessment: Meeting scheduled in two weeks and scheduled completion by the end of the year.
- Pressure Reducing Stations (New): Currently scheduled to install three per year depending on the outcome of the condition assessment program, which may change the schedule.
- SDCWA Shutdown Pump Stations: Design has begun.
- Water System Monitoring Program: Flow meters to be installed in the south zone tanks.
- Weese WTP and Pump Station: Design should be completed by the end of the year.

- Morro Tank: Researching alternatives to supply the Morro Tank zone and eliminate the pump station.
- Isolation Valve Installation and Pressure Reducing Stations (Replacements) are ongoing projects.
- Wastewater Highway 76: Opening ceremony on May 16, 2017 for the project completion.
- Lift Station 1 Replacement: Currently under design.
- Sewer System Permanent Flow Monitoring: Install additional flow meters to collect data on the sewer system.
- Sewer Rehab: Rehabilitation of cracked pipelines or manholes.

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

The following items were suggested for the next scheduled Engineering Committee Meeting:

- Capacity Fees
- Ground Water Project
- Pump Station Update

13. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Timothy Prince, Committee Chairperson

Dawn M. Washburn, Board Secretary