

**MINUTES OF THE ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
JANUARY 2, 2019**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting of the Rainbow Municipal Water District on January 2, 2019 was called to order by Chairperson Nelson at 3:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the District, 3707 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook, CA 92028. Chairperson Nelson, presiding.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL:**

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

Also Present: General Manager Kennedy, District Engineer Strapac, Finance Manager Largent, Project Manager Johnson, Engineering Technician Rubio.

There were no public members present.

4. **SEATING OF ALTERNATES**

None.

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

None.

6. **PUBLIC COMMENT RELATING TO ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

None.

COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS

*7. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. December 5, 2018

Motion: Approve the minutes as written.

Action: Approve, Moved by Member Stitle, Seconded by Member Prince.

Vote: Motion passed (summary: Ayes = 5, Noes = 0, Abstain = 2).

Ayes: Member Prince, Member Stitle, Member Taufer, Member Marnett, Member Nelson.

Abstain: Member Brazier, Member Ratican.

***8. DISCUSSION REGARDING SAN LUIS REY MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

Mr. Kennedy provided a brief background regarding the San Luis Rey (SLR) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). He said the Sustainable Ground Water Management Act (SGMA) was passed in 2014, setting a June 2017 deadline to establish Ground Water Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) in high and medium priority basins. He pointed out the SLR basin was considered to be a medium priority basin resulting in the need to form a GSA. He mentioned discussions began in 2015 regarding establishment of a GSA in Pauma Valley. He said various meetings were held between local agencies, the County (as lead agency), State Water Resources Control Board/Department of Water Resources, and Indian Water Authority members. He stated an MOU was adopted, although the District was not a participant since the District boundary did not overlay the proposed GSA area.

Mr. Kennedy explained state law divides groundwater into two types – percolating and water flowing underground (subterranean streams). He said the SLR groundwater basin has both types and SGMA did not apply to subterranean streams. He stated the areas around the District were defined by the state as subterranean. He pointed out the City of Oceanside proposed to split the basin into two sub basins to be separated at Frey Creek. He said the proposed adjustment would have created issues for the Pala Indians, based on the fact that their water rights are held under Federal Trust. He pointed out Federal Law did not differentiate between percolating ground water and subterranean streams. He mentioned the tribes opposed the boundary modification. He said the state rejected the proposal, due to not having enough science related to the 1936 determination of subterranean stream.

Mr. Kennedy said there was no good way to mesh SGMA with Federal law without a change to SGMA. He mentioned several representatives were involved at great length in writing and pushing AB1944 through the legislature to have it signed into law. He stated Governor Brown signed the bill last fall and it became effective January 1, 2019. He pointed out the District was now in the area served by the new Upper SLR Basin. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kennedy stated a small part of the District's service area overlies the new Upper SLR Basin and by statute the District was expected to participate. He pointed out the original MOU approved in 2017 would be modified to add the District and others into the GSA. He mentioned the County would be taking a diminished role, although grant funds would still be available. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kennedy said the SLR MOU has been reviewed and approved by the District's legal counsel. He went over the key points of the SLR MOU followed by additional discussion.

1. RMWD's financial participation is capped - for this phase – at \$12,500.
 - Future costs are unknown at this time but should be limited for the District
2. A complicated governance structure has been established.
 - About 18 months of meetings to just get to a point where the District could agree on how to decide to agree later!
3. Yuima will take lead role in hiring consultant to do initial Groundwater Sustainability Plan development.
 - Will focus at first on data gathering
4. Actual GSA formation and formal governance decisions will be made later.

Motion: Recommend the Board approve participation in the MOU.

Action: Approve, Moved by Member Stitle, Seconded by Member Marnett.

Vote: Motion passed (summary: Ayes = 6, Noes = 1).

Ayes: Member Prince, Member Stitle, Member Marnett, Member Nelson, Member Brazier, Member Ratican.

Noes: Member Taufer.

9. DISCUSSION REGARDING FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PLAN

Mr. Kennedy stated staff has been working on the rate model and through the next upcoming rate adjustment. He said a lot of the issues hinged on the capital spending. He mentioned there was \$3M a year forecasted for pipelines in addition to environmental and right-of-way issues. He said there have been various iterations/reviews of the plan. He mentioned the Finance Committee would be submitting their recommendation for the rate changes on January 8, 2019. He invited the Engineering Committee members to provide feedback and comments.

Mr. Strapac presented the CIP planning report used by the District to plan and program annual spending per project throughout the whole capital improvement program. He said the report was broken out by existing water and wastewater.

Ms. Largent said staff validated the amounts for the base CIP plan, although direction was needed regarding how quickly to ramp up the pipeline replacement. She emphasized the need to keep in mind all the identified base CIP projects that needed to be completed. She briefly went over flat or ramping rate options that would affect how the rate increases would be applied within the next five years. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kennedy suggested trimming down on the CIP plan for the early years and compare the large projects with the top 20 list. He stated focusing first on pressure management and cathodic protection to prevent pipeline breaks, while working through the environmental issues. Discussion ensued.

10. DISCUSSION REGARDING RECORD OF SURVEY

Mr. Strapac said the record of survey for the District's four parcels would be starting next week. He mentioned the Consultant would be providing a schedule of the field work, which he would make available for those who were interested.

Mr. Strapac stated the object of the Record of Survey was to define the property corners for the four District parcels that do not have them permanently mapped. He said the District would be able to move forward in any kind of action with the proposed new facility to trade with a developer or sell part of the land. Discussion ensued.

11. DISCUSSION REGARDING PIPE RELOCATION

Mr. Strapac said the Consultant has set up the aerial targets, which would be surveyed next week. He reported that the Consultant was working on researching and obtaining title reports necessary for the project and stated the design was fully underway.

Mr. Kennedy said some of the rights-of-way and easements would be time consuming to identify and would be expensive. Mr. Strapac noted that the surveying costs with all the probable easements and 20 parcels in question for this project was more than the design. Discussion ensued.

12. ABM PROJECT UPDATE

Mr. Kennedy said ABM's initial invoices were ambiguous and clarifications have been requested.

Mrs. Johnson said ABM's invoice for 20% of the mobilization was received and she sent back questions regarding the backup documentation. She stated no invoices could be paid until the District received the Contractor's schedule of values. Discussion ensued.

Mrs. Johnson said the plan was to have 300 pilot meters installed per billing cycle/area by February 2019.

13. LIST OF SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT SCHEDULED ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

- Corrosion Protection Update
- Record of Survey Update
- Pipe Relocation Update
- ABM Project Update
- Operations Presentation

14. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:24 p.m. to February 6, 2019.

Flint Nelson, Committee Chairperson

Dawn M. Washburn, Board Secretary