

**MINUTES OF THE ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
FEBRUARY 4, 2015**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Engineering Committee Meeting of the Rainbow Municipal Water District on February 4, 2015 was called to order by Chairperson Strapac at 3:02 p.m. in the Board Room of the District, 3707 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook, CA 92028. Chairperson Strapac, presiding.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Member Prince
Member Taufer
Member Brazier
Member Strapac

Absent: Member Rhyne
Member Saxon

Also Present: General Manager Kennedy
Board Director Walker
Acting District Engineer Kirkpatrick
Assistant Rubio
Assistant Washburn

There were no members of the public present.

Discussion went to Item #5.

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

Mr. Kennedy provided an update regarding LAFCO and the JPA. He informed the Committee that the District hired special counsel with vast experience in dealing with LAFCO issues. He mentioned the District and FPUD Board Presidents and General Managers have been meeting for the last several weeks to try and resolve the issues quietly; regrettably the District's efforts to find a place of compromise landed the District in the same place as a year ago. He stated the Board approved two alternatives one was to restart the JPA under slightly different circumstances such as maintaining two General Managers of which Mr. Ott mentioned was very important. He said the other alternative was to reform FPUD as an MWD, which would solve the at large election system issue. He explained MWDs handle water, wastewater, park and recreation, trash collection and electricity; whereas, PUDs can do more such as public utilities, roads, golf courses swimming pools, telephones, lights, etc.

Mr. Kennedy said when he questioned FPUD about the reasoning was behind seeking the broader latent powers, the response from FPUD's Board President was that the county was not doing a good enough job for services pertaining to improve roads, medians, sidewalks and felt Rainbow ratepayers should pay for these improvements through taxes, since part of Rainbow was in Fallbrook. He pointed out the RMWD has been working on shrinking government not expanding services. He said it appears that the intention of FPUD is to become a city or like a city. Discussion ensued.

He said since FPUD refused to compromise and work this out with RMWD the situation has been elevated to defend the District at a cost. He pointed out this issue may extend through June 2016. Discussion ensued.

Discussion went to Item #8.

COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS

***5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. September 3, 2014

Ms. Brazier said prior to making a motion to approve the minutes she wanted to point out that comments have been made lately that the Engineering Committee Meetings have been called off due to lack of quorum more than any other committee meetings. She stated for the record those comments were untrue; as she pointed out there were September, October, and November Engineering Committee Minutes. She noted all the committees agreed not to meet in December and even the Board does not meet in December. She said January there was no quorum, although as she stated earlier the Engineering Committee was not the least reliable committee.

Action:

Moved by Member Brazier to approve the September 3, 2014 minutes as written. Seconded by Member Strapac.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

**AYES: Member Brazier, Member Strapac, Member Taufer and Member Prince.
NOES: None.
ABSTAINED: None.
ABSENT: Member Saxon and Member Rhyne.**

B. October 1, 2014

C. November 5, 2014

Action:

Moved by Member Brazier to approve the minutes for the October 1, 2014 and November 5, 2014 as amended by replacing Member Fekete's name from the signature block to Member Brazier's name. Seconded by Member Strapac.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

AYES: Member Brazier, Member Strapac Member Taufer and Member Prince.
NOES: None.
ABSTAINED: None.
ABSENT: Member Saxon and Member Rhyne.

Discussion went to Item #7.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF KARL G. FEKETE

Mr. Kennedy said Mr. Fekete was one of the original Engineering Committee members back in 2007 and he would like to recognize his services. He mentioned Mr. Fekete's family did not want any particular recognition, although the committee could take a symbolic vote to honor and recognize his service. Discussion ensued.

ACTION:

Moved by Member Brazier for the Committee to make a recommendation to the Board to prepare and send a certificate of recognition for Mr. Fekete's services. Seconded by Member Strapac.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

AYES: Member Brazier, Member Strapac, Member Taufer and Member Prince.
NOES: None.
ABSTAINED: None.
ABSENT: Member Saxon, and Member Rhyne.

Discussion returned to Item #4

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING MEMBER ABSENCES AND ELECTIONS

Ms. Washburn said at the last Board Meeting there was discussion on how to maintain a quorum within the committee meetings due to member absences. She said one of the suggestions made by Mr. Kennedy was to include a staff member as an alternate to ensure quorums were maintained. Ms. Brazier noted this practice was not unprecedented. Discussion ensued.

ACTION:

Moved by Member Strapac to change Vice-Chairperson Saxon to a regular Member. Seconded by Member Brazier.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

AYES: Member Brazier, Member Strapac, Member Taufer and Member Prince.
NOES: None.
ABSTAINED: None.
ABSENT: Member Saxon, and Member Rhyne.

Ms. Washburn introduced Director Walker as the newly elected Director for Division 3 starting in January 2015. She said he was interested in attending the Engineering Committee.

Mr. Kennedy arrived at 3:13 p.m.

Member Prince nominated Ms. Brazier as Vice-Chairperson and Mr. Taufer nominated Mr. Prince as Vice-Chairperson. Mr. Prince declined the nomination.

ACTION:

Moved by Member Prince to nominate Ms. Brazier as the Vice-Chairperson. Seconded by Member Strapac.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

AYES: Member Brazier, Member Strapac, Member Taufer and Member Prince.
NOES: None.
ABSTAINED: None.
ABSENT: Member Saxon, and Member Rhyne.

Mr. Kennedy said discussions regarding committee challenges with quorum issues and maintaining committee functionality were reviewed in the Administrative Code. He noted the committee may elect staff members on the committees. He suggested adding Mrs. Kirkpatrick and himself on the Engineering Committee to ensure monthly quorums. He pointed out the Master Plan project would be bringing a lot of information for review and it would be best if there were no delays sending the information through. He mentioned the committees are not legislated and are only allowed to make recommendations to the Board. Discussion ensued.

ACTION:

Moved by Member Brazier to recommend to the Board to add Mr. Kennedy and Mrs. Kirkpatrick as Members of the Engineering Committee. Seconded by Member Strapac.

Ms. Brazier revised her motion.

ACTION:

Moved by Member Brazier to nominate Mrs. Kirkpatrick as a Member to replace a vacancy and Mr. Kennedy as an Alternate Member of the Engineering Committee. Seconded by Member Strapac.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

AYES: Member Brazier, Member Strapac, Member Taufer and Member Prince.
NOES: None.
ABSTAINED: None.
ABSENT: Member Saxon, and Member Rhyne.

Mr. Prince asked why the newsletter did not include announcements when there were vacancies on the committees. Ms. Washburn responded when committees have vacancies they are announced in the newsletter, however, it has only been recently that vacancies have occurred. She mentioned in the past when the committees included staff to maintain the quorums they were removed as soon as those vacancies were filled by the public. Mr. Kennedy said he would ensure future newsletters include announcements for the committee vacancies. Discussion ensued.

Discussion returned to Item #6

8. MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Mr. Kennedy reported the Board approved to start contract negotiations with Atkins for the Master Plan. He mentioned two proposals were received. He said a pre-meeting was conducted with the Consultant and that the Consultant had 60 days from the execution of the contract to prepare a cost analysis regarding building a wastewater treatment plant. He said as soon as draft submittals were received from the Consultant copies would be forwarded to the committee members for review and comments. Discussion ensued.

9. CIP UPDATE

Mrs. Kirkpatrick provided the following CIP updates:

Lift Station 1: The main goal for this project was to upsize the lift station and remove the siphon. Staff has been working with the San Luis Rey Downs mitigation bank and Caltrans regarding upsizing the main lines and possibly relocating the lift station to a new site, although it may be more costly operationally, this would clean up the sewer system by removing it from the golf course and placing it on county right of ways.

Wastewater Outfall: Under design to upsize the sewer line on North River Road. A traffic study to review the impacts of the construction is being done.

San Luis Rey Ground Water Study: Consultant working on the final water budget report, there was an estimated 9K acre feet of water usage. The next step is to find a location to simulate pumping to determine the affects on the San Luis Rey River. The tributaries are the District, FPUD and Valley Center. At this time it was unclear what the percentages would be for each district.

Beck: On hold and would be evaluated during the master plan.

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

Mrs. Kirkpatrick suggested the following agenda items: Developer Update, LAFCO Update, and Engineering Fees with Board recommendation.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Member Strapac to Wednesday, March 4, 2015.

The meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Steve Strapac, Committee Chairperson

Dawn M. Washburn, Board Secretary