

**MINUTES OF THE ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING  
OF THE RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT  
MAY 2, 2018**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting of the Rainbow Municipal Water District on May 2, 2018 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 Ratican, Member Marnett, Alternate Nelson.

**Also Present:** General Manager Kennedy, Interim Engineering Manager Gerdes, Associate Engineer Powers, Eng. Tech. Rubio, Operations Manager Milner.

**Absent:** Member Brazier, Alternate Kirby, Member Robertson.

There was one member of the public present: Mr. Carey.

4. **SEATING OF ALTERNATES**

Mr. Nelson was invited to take a voting seat.

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

Mr. Kennedy said Agenda Item 10 - Sewer Flow Monitoring Options would be deleted and replaced with the following updates:

- Canonita Tank Project
- Canonita Tank Field Trip
- District Engineer Update
- Rainbow Heights Pump Station

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

Mr. Carey mentioned possibly discussing the process of the District's involvement in the treatment of raw water, although the Director he had been corresponding with was not present. Mr. Kennedy recommended adding the discussion item to next month's agenda.

## **COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS**

### **\*7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**A. April 4, 2018**

**Motion: Approve the minutes as written.**

**Action: Approve, Moved by Member Stitle, Seconded by Member Taufer.**

**Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (summary: Ayes = 6).**

**Ayes: Member Prince, Member Stitle, Member Taufer, Member Ratican, Member Marnett, Alternate Nelson.**

### **8. ABM METER REPLACEMENT PROJECT UPDATE**

Mr. Kennedy said there were two contractors that bid ABM's request for proposals for the meter replacements. He pointed out there was a difference of about \$700K between the two proposals and the company with the lowest bid was from Louisiana. He provided the cost analysis and comparative implementation analysis of each proposal for review and discussion.

Mr. Kennedy said a testing service in Hemet was used to test all the meters.

Mr. Nelson mentioned hiring a company from out of state that proposes performing twice as fast as a local company causes concern regarding the company's real capabilities.

Mr. Kennedy said after reviewing the analysis he decided to meet with the lowest bidder. He discussed concerns regarding the proposed 100 meters per day schedule of commitment. He pointed out that the District prefers work done correctly rather than fast. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kennedy said the new billing software should be up and running by July 2018, which would make the ABM meter replacement easier. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Taufer questioned the competitive/sole source procurement process regarding ABM. Mr. Kennedy explained there were minimal consultants that could provide this type of service. He stated should the District come to an agreement with ABM, a sole source professional services agreement would be recommended to the Board. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kennedy informed the committee that he plans to have ABM provide some additional options by next month. He asked if the committee agreed he would inform ABM to include data on a more targeted replacement of only the meters with a better ROI. Discussion ensued.

### **9. VARIANCE POLICY UPDATE**

Mr. Kennedy said the variance policy was approved at the April 24<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting. He outlined the variance policy procedure that a customer would follow when requesting to downsize. He noted that cost could not be the only reason for requesting a smaller meter. Discussion ensued.

### **10. DISCUSSION REGARDING SEWER FLOW MONITORING OPTIONS**

This item was deferred.

Mr. Kennedy announced the new District Engineer use to be on the Engineering Committee, Mr. Strapac. He said Mr. Strapac left the City of Poway and went to work for the City of Oceanside as their City Engineer. He mentioned Mr. Strapac currently lives within the District.

Mr. Kennedy said the Canonita Tank located on Stewart Canyon was scheduled for interior and exterior coating this year under the current Utility Services contract. He mentioned the District's steel pipe tanks were placed on a two year maintenance program. He pointed out the tanks were non-depreciable assets (GASB-34), because as long as the steel tanks were on a maintenance program the steel would last indefinitely. He said about every eight years depending on the condition of the tank an opening was made and the entire tank was sandblasted and recoated.

Mr. Kennedy discussed safety concerns with the current ladder accesses on a few of the District tanks and suggested installing full staircases with guardrails similar to the one installed on the Pala Mesa tank. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Kennedy invited the committee members to tour the Canonita Tank possibly next month.

Mr. Carey suggested using a drone to inspect the tops of the tanks. Mr. Kennedy said state requirements would need to be reviewed, although he agreed it could be a solution.

Mr. Kennedy said the design for the Rainbow Heights Pump Station project had to be revised. He explained MWD requested that the existing electric pumps and building be removed from within their 150' easement. He mentioned the existing pumps were installed over 30 years ago. Mr. Powers went over the proposed site plan and associated construction costs. He mentioned going over possible design scenarios with Mr. Gerdes, resulting in reducing the building footprint and eliminating the two pumps from the easement. He said the redesign cost would be approximately \$71K, although the District would be saving an estimated \$150K in construction costs. Mr. Nelson questioned the 15% contingency risk factor. Mr. Kennedy responded subsurface work for the pump cans may require rock removal. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Carey said there were credits for retiring natural gas pumps. He mentioned looking for the information and providing it to Mr. Powers. Discussion ensued.

## **11. LIST OF SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT SCHEDULED ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING**

The following agenda items were suggested:

- Raw water update
- Tour of Canonita Tank

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

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**Timothy Prince, Committee Chairperson**

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**Dawn M. Washburn, Board Secretary**