

**MINUTES OF THE ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
OCTOBER 8, 2013**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Engineering Committee Meeting of the Rainbow Municipal Water District on October 8, 2013 was called to order by Member Fekete at 3:08 p.m. in the Board Room of the District, 3707 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook, CA 92028. Member Fekete, presiding.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Member Brazier
Member Fekete
Member Taufer
Member Rhyne

Absent: Member Saxon
Member Strapac
Member Prince
Alternate Roth

Also Present: Assistant Rubio
Assistant General / Finance Manager Buckley
Customer Service / Water Operations Manager Atilano

Mr. Griffiths was the only public member present.

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

There were no public comments.

COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS

*5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. August 6, 2013

Action:

Moved by Member Fekete to approve the minutes as written. Seconded by Member Brazier.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

AYES: Member Brazier, Member Fekete, Member Taufer and Member Rhyne.

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

ABSENT: Member Saxon, Member Strapac, Member Prince and Alternate Roth.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING ENGINEERING PROJECT UPDATE

Mrs. Plonka provided the following engineering project updates:

Horse Creek Ridge (D.R. Horton): The Board approved the MOU to work with Valley Center Water District (VCWD) regarding combined infrastructure in support of the new developments next to both Districts. Facilities letters will outline the specifics of the agreement regarding ownership and operations of the new facilities and infrastructure.

Highway 76 East Segment: Currently under design and Caltrans will begin construction by February 2014. The construction work on District pipelines will begin February 2015.

Horse Creek Lift Station: The developer plans have been approved and grading will start soon. The developer is hiring the contractor to build the lift station and District staff will oversee the construction, inspection, and approval of submittals.

Campus Park West (Pappas): Development seeking to annex into the District. District Board of Director's approval was the first step in the annexation process. District staff met with CWA and MWD to outline their annexation requirements.

SLR Downs: Upcoming developer work.

Bonsall Condos: Upcoming developer work.

Water/Sewer Model: Atkins Consultant currently working on the model, so far only the calibration has been completed.

Sewer Outfall: Design is delayed due to the design work of our pipelines in Highway 76.

Sewer Policy Amendment: The District Board passed a policy to address customers who had expired sewer permits. District staff sent out letters last week to inform customers they had to convert the credit they have to a new EDU credit with a new contract or their permit is expired. Special deals waiving policy requirements made by past General Managers are being reviewed by Legal Counsel. Ms. Brazier said the Board is responsible for policy and policy issues should be brought up to the Board. She mentioned bringing it up to the Board if it becomes an issue. Discussion ensued.

Lift Station #2: District staff is working with legal regarding the law suit filed by the General Contractor. The Board has been informed.

Inter-Office Move: The electrical has been completed in the big room and furniture has been ordered. The engineering staff will be moved in once the furniture is installed and then Customer Service will be moved over to FPUD.

Morro Tank: Structural repairs are needed. The Consultant is conducting monthly surveying to monitor any significant movement of tank. The tank has moved twice by a few inches in the last 5 years. District staff is waiting for a recommendation for repairs.

San Luis Repair Groundwater: The Request for Proposals was sent out and 5 proposals were received. Two Consultants were invited for interviews prior to making a selection. This project is a result of one of the two projects that came out of the Alternative Water Supply Study. The Consultant shall be searching for return flows in the San Luis Rey groundwater basin.

Lift Station #1: A draft Request for Proposal has been prepared and currently waiting on funding.

Asset Management Program: This program is to create a database that includes the entire District's infrastructure such as the condition/age of the pipelines and when in theory the funding has to be available to replace the infrastructure. This report may be included as part of the Master Plan. FPUD already has an Asset Management Plan and their GIS Specialist has been tasked to work on RMWD's Asset Management Program. Ms. Brazier said she hoped RMWD staff would be involved because this program is somewhat subjective. She said RMWD had more direct knowledge of the District's assets. Ms. Plonka responded that the engineering and operations staff would be heavily involved. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Brazier commented that the Budget and Finance Committee seems to be lacking an understanding of Ordinance 95-1. She pointed out imbedded within the Ordinance 95-1 is the statement that it can be altered or repealed only by a majority vote of the public. Ms. Plonka asked Mr. Buckley if he would be willing to explain Ordinance 95-1 to Budget and Finance Committee. Mr. Buckley agreed. Discussion ensued.

Mrs. Plonka said at the last Budget and Finance Committee she brought up for discussion purposes only the multiple developments coming up and how they are constricted by some of the projects the District has delayed. She said in the past prior District staff would negotiate with each developer to replace certain infrastructure, which in her opinion was not in the District's best interest. She suggested the best way to replace infrastructure that would be affected by multiple developments and existing rate payers would be to add on impact fees. She explained the impact fees would be a set amount based on the flow and project specific fees would be worked out with the Budget and Finance Committee. She pointed out the District would still be in charge of the project design, construction and bidding although part of the cost would be funded by developers. She said Lift Station1, Highway 76 East Segment, Outfall and Horse Creek Ridge projects are all directly affected by developers. Discussion ensued.

Action:

Moved by Member Brazier to support engineering's suggestion to move forward on recommending to the Board to establish impact fees for projects impacted by development. Seconded by Member Rhyne.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

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

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING AGRICULTURAL MONITORING GROUP

Mrs. Plonka said the Agricultural Monitoring Group project has been taken out of engineering. She said the Board approved to move forward with a Monitoring Group, the Request for Proposal has been written, but the project would not be project managed by RMWD Engineering nor FPUD Engineering. Mr. Griffiths stated per his conversation with Mr. Brady he was assured Mr. Brady would personally manage the project.

8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING BECK RESERVOIR

Mrs. Plonka said the proposals were due by this week and the short listed consultants were taken on a site visit at Beck Reservoir.

9. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING NORTH COUNTY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY (NCJPA)

Mrs. Plonka said the rest of the engineering staff would be moving into the large room and Customer Service would be moving to FPUD next. She invited any Engineering Committee Members that attended the NCJPA Board meeting to provide any additional information.

Ms Brazier said she did attend the meeting and provided the following comments:

- At the initial NCJPA Board Meeting it was agreed the meeting locations would be alternated between RMWD and FPUD, however at the last Board Meeting it was suggested that all the meetings be held at FPUD. Ms. Brazier spoke against this measure due to her belief that it was important for RMWD staff and rate payers to have access to the meetings. She also believed there would be unintended consequences where one Board Secretary would have to do the work of one meeting every month instead of every other month and the slight inconvenience of someone having to drive from FPUD was not really important. She said the vote was 5 to 2 and they are still alternating.
- There was discussion of moving Customer Service to FPUD.
- The NCJPA Board Meeting was short with no urgent business and with no votes taken.

Ms. Brazier provided a copy of an Engineering Staffing Report prepared in November 2012, which she added as an agenda item for the next Board Meeting. She said there are concerns that as a result of the NCJPA there was a distraction from looking at the needs of the District's engineering projects and requirements. She said her concern was that in the interest of saving money the needs of replacing the engineer may be overlooked. She said it was her firm conviction that the Engineering Department was the heart of the District if there is no infrastructure then customers cannot be served.

Mr. Taufer asked what was the future of Beck Reservoir. Mrs. Plonka responded currently the CDPH has granted permission to move forward with UV disinfection without their permission. The District would be required to build the second tank at Pala Mesa. Discussion ensued.

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

Ms. Brazier would like to discuss the engineering staffing issue after the Board Meeting.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Action:

Moved by Member Rhyne to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Member Brazier.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

AYES: Member Brazier, Member Fekete, Member Taufer and Member Rhyne.

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

ABSENT: Member Saxon, Member Strapac, Member Prince and Alternate Roth.

Kurt Saxon, Committee Chairperson

Dawn M. Washburn, Board Secretary