

**MINUTES OF THE ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
MARCH 4, 2025**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Engineering and Operations Committee Meeting of the Rainbow Municipal Water District on March 4, 2025, was called to order by Chairman Nelson at 1:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the District, 3707 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook, CA 92028. Chairman Nelson presiding.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Members Nelson, Marnett, McKesson, Irvine

Also Present: General Manager Wiley, Operations Manager Gutierrez, District Secretary Quintanar, Information Technology Specialist III Espino, and Engineering and CIP Program Manager Williams

Absent: Member Gasca, Member Johnson

Also Present Via Teleconference or Video Conference:

Senior Project Manager Tamimi, Administrative Assistant Montano, Safety & Risk Management Officer Johnson,

One member of the public, Rodney Smith was present in person.

4. **SEATING OF ALTERNATES**

None were seated.

5. **ADDITIONS/DELETIONS/AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

None were needed.

6. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Motion: To approve the Agenda as presented.

Action: Approve, Moved by Member Irvine, Seconded by Member McKesson

Vote: Motion carried unanimous (summary: Ayes = 4)

Ayes: Members Nelson, Marnett, McKesson, Irvine

7. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were none.

8. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. February 4, 2025

Motion: To approve the February 4, 2025, minutes as presented.

Action: Approve, Moved by Member Nelson, Seconded by Member McKesson

***Vote: Motion carried unanimous (summary: Ayes = 4)
Ayes: Members Nelson, Marnett, McKesson, Irvine***

9. COMMENTS & REQUESTS

- A. General Manager's Comments
- B. Engineering & CIP Program Manager's Comments
- C. Operations Manager's Comments
- D. Committee Member's Comments

General Manager Wiley reported that the State Water Project allocation is 35 percent, which reflects that MWD has sufficient water supply and no drought restrictions are expected for the near future. He also spoke of the \$1.6M grant through the EPA, a federal cybersecurity grant, and the potential for government funding. Answering Chairman Nelson, Mr. Wiley shared that when regulations change at the federal level, they don't always change at the state level. Most projects we have planned, such as replacements, are not environmentally impactful, but regulations are very strict in California. Staff is watching the Zero-emission Vehicle Program, which impacts utilities by requiring the purchase of an EV vehicle for every heavy-duty vehicle purchased. The federal government is trying to change the legislation and CSDA is co-sponsoring legislation to reform the Act.

Mr. Williams reported that staff is working on the five-year budget, which he will cover in detail.

Mr. Gutierrez reported that Hutton Tank was taken off-line for internal repairs and maintenance, and the Rainbow Heights Tank will be taken off-line next week as well. Both tanks should be back in service by the end of June. He also reported on a recent main break on Sugarpine Road which requires work to bring up to standards. In regard to electronic vehicles (EV), he explained that navigation through the requirements and what we need is complicated. Further, EVs have not been designed for much of the utility work.

Member Nelson stated that he had been notified of a potential water service interruption in his neighborhood today but has not experienced one. He expressed gratitude to staff.

Member Marnett reported that ten days ago, the fire department was near his home, at the Hutton Tank. Staff explained that an injury had occurred when a subcontractor performing maintenance on the tank fell. He also mentioned that a large tree was trimmed, and the larger cuttings were left behind. In addition, the tree now looks awful. He asked staff to look into the matter.

10. BOARD ACTION UPDATES

Mr. Williams reported on items approved by the Board of Directors at the February 25, 2025, meeting. The Board did not approve the contract with Dexter Wilson for the design of the Gopher Pump Station Project. More information will be provided for the Board's consideration of that project in March. Mr. Wiley added that a Mutual Aid Agreement with Rainbow, FPUD, Yuima MWD, and Valley Center MWD was approved and he provided some information on what the agreement outlines for the shared services. From time to time, this Committee may be presented with items related to the Agreement, for consideration.

11. CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT OF A STAFF ALTERNATE COMMITTEE MEMBER

Motion: To appoint Konstantin Shilkov as the staff alternate on the Engineering and Operations Committee.

Action: Approve, Moved by Member Nelson, Seconded by Member McKesson
Vote: Motion carried unanimous (summary: Ayes = 4)
Ayes: Members Nelson, Marnett, McKesson, Irvine

12. NOTICE OF COMPLETION AND ACCEPTANCE OF THE WEST LILAC, RANCHO AMIGOS, & DENTRO DE LOMAS PUMP STATIONS PROJECT (DIVISION 1)

Mr. Williams explained that the pump stations are online, and punch list items have been completed. Staff plans to present this item to the Board for consideration on March 25, 2025. Chairman Nelson asked for the initial award amount to EFI. Staff responded that it was approximately \$7M. Staff also clarified that the Dentro De Lomas and West Lilac Pump Stations do not have generators.

Motion: To approve the recommendation for the Board to Approve the NOC for the West Lilac, Rancho Amigos, & Dentro De Lomas Pump Stations Project
Action: Approve, Moved by Member Marnett, Seconded by Member McKesson
Vote: Motion carried unanimous (summary: Ayes = 4)
Ayes: Members Nelson, Marnett, McKesson, Irvine

13. REVIEW THE DRAFT FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PLAN

Mr. Wiley recalled last year's budget planning workshops and work to develop a five year budget that would meet our goals for reasonable rates. At year one, the majority of those CIP projects have been completed. He compared this year to the next four and reported that the District is on track to accomplish our goals. This includes reprioritizing the Sara Ann Project to complete it ahead of the original schedule. Costs for projects, by category, were provided with about 85 percent of the projects being rehabilitation or replacement of existing facilities.

The recoating of tanks extends the life of the facility and the costs will be capitalized and removed from the operating budget. Mr. Wiley explained modifications were made to simplify the budget process and tracking. He explained that staff is allocating funds, such as restricted funds and grant funds to the Capital Improvement Program. Chairman Nelson asked for an update on the North River Farms Project. This project is in the City of Oceanside's service area. Rainbow sends its sewer flows to Oceanside through a metering structure, and the developer of that housing project will expand the sewer to a larger diameter, which will front that development. That pipeline will eventually become the property of the City of Oceanside.

Mr. Wiley also clarified for Member McKesson that if large developments don't occur, there will be no need for expansion projects. But, if they do come to fruition, the costs are funded by developers and capacity fees.

Mr. Williams and Mr. Wiley reviewed the year-one project listing in detail, which includes: District Headquarters, Isolation Valve Installation Program, Camino Del Rey Waterline Relocation, Eagles Perch Water Pipeline Improvements, EV Charging Stations, La Canada Pipeline Replacement, Rancho Monserate, Rancho Viejo, and HQ B-Plant Emergency Generators, North River Road Sewer Replacement, and the Water and Wastewater Master Plan. Discussion ensued and staff answered a variety of questions about the projects. Chairman Nelson expressed his satisfaction with the pipeline replacements and rehabilitations planned, and the method of accounting being applied.

14. AS-NEEDED SERVICES EXPENDITURES SUMMARY

There were no questions about the information that was included in the meeting packet.

15. SUGGESTED AGENDA ITEMS FOR THE NEXT MEETING

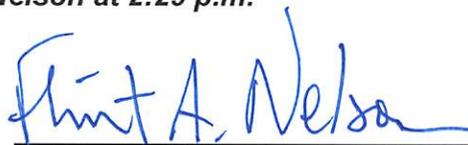
Member Irvine introduced Rodney Smith, who attended the meeting with an interest in joining the Committee. Mr. Smith addressed the Committee to provide his background, which includes financial management, civil litigation, due diligence, and more. He stated that he attended to observe and was pleased with today's discussions.

Mr. Wiley introduced Mary Aykroid, the District's Interim Finance Manager. He explained what an asset Mary has been and relayed his appreciation for her efforts.

Chairman Nelson explained the committee appointment process and invited Mr. Smith to attend again in the future.

16. ADJOURNMENT - To Tuesday, April 1, 2025, at 1:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Nelson at 2:29 p.m.



Flint Nelson, Committee Chairperson



Terese Quintanar, District Secretary