

**MINUTES OF THE ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER RMWD
MAY 6, 2014**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Engineering Committee Meeting of the Rainbow Municipal Water District on May 6, 2014 was called to order by Member Fekete at 3:00 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 Prince

Absent: Member Saxon
Member Strapac
Member Rhyne

Also Present: Assistant Rubio
General Manager Buckley
RMWD Engineer Plonka

There was one member of the public present.

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

There were no public comments.

COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS

- *5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
 - A. April 1, 2014

Action:

Moved by Member Brazier to approve the minutes.

Mr. Taufer pointed out two grammatical errors. Ms. Brazier amended her motion as follows:

Action:

Moved by Member Brazier to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by Member Taufer.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

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

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

ABSENT: Member Saxon, Member Strapac and Member Rhyne.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING UPDATE ON FPUD APPLICATION TO LAFCO STATUS

Mr. Buckley said FPUD had to file a second application to LAFCO due to the fact RMWD's legal counsel pointed out prior to filing the first application FPUD did not provide proper notice of a public hearing. He mentioned on April 28, 2014 FPUD conducted a proper notice of public hearing where four individuals spoke on behalf of RMWD which included staff and Board Members. He said RMWD has not heard from LAFCO regarding receipt of FPUD's application. He stated RMWD would be filing an objection within the allowed 30 day time frame. He mentioned the ad hoc committee was tasked to prepare the resolution of objections providing the reasons and disadvantages for RMWD. He continued LAFCO would then conduct an analysis taking time for preparation of approximately 1-4 months and then may decide to take this action to their Board for a decision. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Prince asked Mr. Buckley to elaborate on the information letter sent out to the ratepayers. Mr. Buckley responded the letter was to inform the ratepayers that RMWD was self sufficient and has saved a large amount of funds by reducing staff the past four years. He continued the RMWD can govern itself and does not need to consolidate to be financially strong and in addition with the new revenue from upcoming developments the rates would stabilize. Mr. Prince recommended including information in the newsletter on a regular basis to keep customers informed. Mr. Buckley agreed. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Taufer asked if there were any implications during the trial consolidation that FPUD would close down RMWD facilities. Mr. Buckley mentioned back in the early stages Mr. Brady had inquired about the value of RMWD's property if it were vacated and sold although it was not looked upon favorably and he did not mention it again. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Buckley pointed out FPUD's savings came from shifting RMWD's funds to FPUD to pay for their personnel to supervise RMWD personnel. He noted this shift of funds added costs to RMWD while FPUD's savings were only coming from taking funds from RMWD. He said RMWD would be asking LAFCO to look into FPUD's alleged \$2M cost savings including the alleged \$2.5M cost savings in the future. He mentioned RMWD had nine staff vacancies and replaced approximately one-fourth of them whereas FPUD did not try to conserve and continued to fill their staff vacancies. Discussion ensued.

7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING CIP UPDATE

Mrs. Plonka provided a handout listing the project updates with the following brief discussions:

Beck Reservoir UV: Progress meeting scheduled on May 9, 2014 with the Consultant. Project is at 30% design and preliminary cost estimates have been received. A geographical map of the location of Beck Reservoir and Pala Mesa Tank was provided.

Horse Creek Lift Station: D.R. Horton the developer has chosen a contractor. The lift station will be located off of Pankey Road and will be paid for by the developer.

Highway 76: Caltrans are in the bidding process. RMWD staff is currently negotiating the construction expenses.

Lift Station 1: A map was provided showing current and future pipelines. There is a 5,000 foot old section of pipeline near Sweetgrass Lane that would be beneficial to replace at an approximate cost of \$1M. The type of sewer pipe used would probably be PVC or HDPE. Discussion ensued.

Waste Water Outfall replacement: Consultant is working on the 30% submittal. Design delayed due to the Highway 76 project.

Afton Farms: Project is at 90% design and staff is working on obtaining the easement. The new pipeline will create a loop, which will increase water quality and lower costs during CWA Shutdowns. Construction is to be completed by RMWD staff.

O&M Projects: Tank maintenance projects.

Valley Center Regional Infrastructure Coordination: Valley Center Water District (VCWD), Pardee, D.R. Horton and RMWD staff met to finalize and discuss water pressure zones, primary and secondary water sources and the basis for sewer EDU costs. An agreement with the details will be prepared and presented to the Board of Directors.

Mr. Petty asked if ultimately RMWD would be selling water to VCWD. Mrs. Plonka replied RMWD would be wheeling water to VCWD and per law the fee has to be at cost. She mentioned there would also be a fee for the use of RMWD's sewer system use. She said RMWD currently has an MOU with VCWD while preliminary contracts are being worked on. Discussion ensued.

Mrs. Brazier mentioned a UCLA project in which a portable treatment system the size of a cargo container was created for turning brackish water into good water at the cost of \$1.50 for 1,000 liters. She said it would be something to consider for future use. Discussion ensued.

Campus Park West: Moving forward with CWA and MET annexations in addition to initializing annexation into LAFCO. The CWA has required the inclusion of a conservation plan statement.

Polo Club: Currently under plan check.

Golf Green Estates: Received first plan submittal.

Horse Creek Ridge: Started grading.

Asset Management Plan: Preliminary pipelines have been completed and need to add the rest of RMWD's infrastructure. A draft would be provided when available. Discussion ensued.

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

Mrs. Plonka said Mr. Strapac would like the Engineering Committee to consider moving the Committee Meetings due to the fact he has City Council Meetings on the first Tuesday of the month. She said he suggested moving the meetings to the second or fourth Tuesday of the month. She pointed out the fourth Tuesday would not work being it is the Regular Board Meeting day. Ms. Brazier asked the committee members if anyone had a problem with the second Tuesday of the month, and after not hearing any objections, stated it appeared all members could adjust to the change. Mrs. Plonka recommended placing it on next month's agenda to change the Engineering Committee Meetings to the second Tuesday of the month. Mrs. Plonka would also suggest changing it to the first Wednesday as another option.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Action:

Moved by Member Fekete 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 Prince.
NOES: None.
ABSTAINED: None.
ABSENT: Member Saxon, Member Strapac and Member Rhyne.

Karl Fekete, Committee Member

Dawn M. Washburn, Board Secretary