

**MINUTES OF THE ENGINEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
AUGUST 7, 2012**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – The Engineering Committee Meeting of the Rainbow Municipal Water District on August 7, 2012 was called to order by Vice Chairperson Strapac at 3:03 p.m. in the Board Room of the District, 3707 Old Highway 395, Fallbrook, CA 92028. Vice Chairperson Strapac, presiding.

2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Present: Member Brazier
Member Fekete
Member Taufer
Member Strapac
Member Rhyne
Alternate Roth

Absent: Member Saxon
Member Prince

Also Present: Associate Engineer Plonka
Water Operations and Customer Service Manager Atilano
Engineering Intern Latorre
Engineering Intern Smith
Executive Assistant Washburn

One member of the public was present.

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

There were no public comments.

Ms. Brazier noted the Committee's September meeting would occur close to Labor Day and there was a joint Board meeting with FPUD and RMWD scheduled for September 11, 2012. She suggested the Committee meet earlier on September 11th and adjourn in time to attend the joint Board meeting. It was agreed the committee should vote on this prior to the adjournment of this meeting.

Ms. Rhyne asked if the pipeline which Governor Brown and the Government initiated would impact the water resources study. Mr Strapac said in theory RMWD would have better quality water, less expensive and more water. Mrs. Plonka said in theory this was true, although there was a great deal of politics involved in this matter which has been ongoing for many years.

COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS

***5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

A. July 3, 2012

Action:

Moved by Member Taufer 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, Member Strapac, Member Rhyne and Alternate Roth.

NOES: None.

ABSTAINED: None.

ABSENT: Member Saxon and Member Prince.

Discussion went to Item #7.

6. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING REPORT BY THE ENGINEERING COMMITTEE'S CONSOLIDATION AD HOC COMMITTEE AND POTENTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD

Mr. Strapac noted Ms. Rhyne had forwarded two letters to him for review; however, he has not heard from Mr. Saxon as of yet. He said the purpose was to prepare a letter to bring back to the Board for consideration; therefore, there was not much to report back to the committee at this time.

Mr. Strapac solicited the committee members for ideas and/or possible text to assist in preparing the letter for the Board's consideration.

Discussion went to Item #8.

***7. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING THE ALTERNATIVE WATER SUPPLY STUDY (PRESENTATION BY J.C. HEDEN AND ASSOCIATES)**

Mr. Heden asked whether or not there were any particular questions the committee had for him. Mr. Strapac said the committee would like for him to take the committee through the highlights of the study.

Mr. Heden said the first task completed in the study was the Water Supply Needs Assessment on Page 10 of the report. He pointed out the assessment was completed in accordance with the County of San Diego General Plan regarding future developments. He said the potential growth of the District was matched with the water use of that growth to develop the estimated maximum demand of 26K acre feet per year.

Mr. Strapac referenced Page 10 of the handout and inquired whether or not it was factored in that most users were not all zoned agricultural or domestic. He said he was not considered agriculture. Mr. Heden referenced Table 6.1 and 6.4. Discussion ensued regarding customers categorized as SR4.

Mr. Heden pointed out he has already addressed the water table shown on Table 6.3 which was in turn being worked on. He said he would look further into all of SR4 Category and Table 6-1 categories in the study.

Mr. Taufer inquired as to the community planning growth factor. Mr. Heden mentioned growth was a function of a democratic process. He said they want everyone to understand how the plans are developed and this was included in the scope of work being provided by J.C. Heden and Associates. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Heden offered to have Mr. Brian Mooney who was a private consultant attend the next committee meeting to explain the planning portion of the study being conducted.

Mr. Heden mentioned the zoning splits in the report. He then continued briefing the committee on Section 7 of the study.

Mr. Heden referenced the pie charts provided on Page 21 as he talked about Imperial Irrigation District transfers. He also mentioned how his firm and SDCWA worked together to prepare the findings on Page 22.

Mr. Heden noted the water use identified on Page 23 and how converting to raw water would create good revenue.

Mr. Heden asked Ms. Brazier regarding her recollection of RMWD turning down the water rights for San Luis Rey. Ms. Brazier said to her recollection a number of years ago RMWD had the opportunity to secure the water rights for \$50K and the Board turned it down. She mentioned Mr. Seymour may have some information regarding the San Luis Rey water rights. Ms. Plonka said she would have Dawn look into it.

Mr. Heden went over the dual piping systems for irrigation systems on Page 43. Mr. Strapac suggested using the existing piping for raw water and installing a new smaller pipe for domestic water. Mr Heden mentioned it would be possible to use the raw water for fire hydrants.

Mr. Fekete asked about the high pressure system running parallel with the low pressure system and what the hydrants were hooked into. Ms. Plonka explained the fire hydrants were hooked up to the potable distribution system, and currently there was no parallel system. She said if RMWD decided to install a raw water system new or existing pipelines would be used and the best use for the fire hydrants would have to be coordinated with the fire department. She noted it would take a much more analysis which was not included as part of this study. Mr. Strapac noted the entire scope of this study was to determine whether or not there was enough feasibility for the committee to make a recommendation to the Board of Directors for their consideration.

Mr. Fekete pointed out it was forecasted in this study that by the year 2050 the area will be more domestic than agricultural. Discussion ensued. Ms. Plonka pointed out these types of projections are conducted on a regular basis due to economic changes as well as a number of other conditions.

Ms. Washburn reported the Bonsall Reservoir was currently still under lease with RMWD; however, she was unsure as to whether or not that lease was renegotiated. She stated this would need to be confirmed with Mr. Seymour.

Mrs. Plonka asked Mr. Heden to prepare a hypothetical payback in order to demonstrate there was a cost associated as well as a savings.

Mr. Heden referenced Page 46. He noted it was suggested the Hutton Tank could be converted to raw water.

Mr. Strapac noted most of the solutions are hinged to parallel pipeline; therefore, it may need to be emphasized in the forefront of the report that should the District desire the use of alternative water supplies it would require parallel pipelines.

Mr. Taufer asked if other districts were using alternative sources of water. Mr. Heden noted there were other districts using recycled water systems. It was noted the alternative water source the committee was currently considering was raw water and only if treated would it become potable water. Discussion ensued regarding a water treatment facility in Orange County turning wastewater to drinking water.

Mr. Heden referenced Page 48 and talked about captured return flows including how the flows already dropped off by the distribution system could be pumped back up and re-irrigate the nursery crops.

Mr. Heden talked about the information provided on Page 51 relating to Lower Moosa Water Reclamation Facility. He said it needed to be verified whether or not Vista Valley Country Club utilized wells. Discussion followed.

Mr. Heden mentioned FPUD wanted to serve recycled water to some of their customers located on the far west end of their boundaries as noted on Page 53. Mrs. Plonka noted the area being discussed was quite far from RMWD's boundary lines. Mr. Heden also mentioned the study included the limited abilities due to RMWD's contract with the City of Oceanside. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Heden noted extensive research would need to be conducted at the County of San Diego in order to determine who had what water rights and where.

Mr. Strapac solicited the committee for questions regarding the content. Mr. Fekete said he read most of the document and found it to be very well done. Mrs. Plonka stated in order to allow the committee more time to read the complete document, any comments and input should be presented to the Engineering Department no later than two weeks from this meeting date.

Mr. Strapac made global comments: 1) parallel pipeline should be emphasized in the beginning of the study, and 2) the net results should be included in the executive summary in the conclusion of the report.

Mrs. Plonka pointed out for construction cost efficiencies multiple CIP projects might be constructed at the same time if RMWD installs a parallel pipeline system.

Mr. Heden noted it sends a good message to the public that RMWD was looking at all available alternative water supply resources. Discussion ensued.

The committee thanked Mr. Heden for his time in making the presentation to the committee.

No action taken.

Discussion went to Item #6.

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

It was noted the ad hoc report would be an agenda item for the next meeting.

9. ADJOURNMENT

Action:

Moved by Member Strapac to adjourn the meeting to a committee meeting on September 11, 2012 at 3:00 p.m. Seconded by Member Rhyne.

After consideration, the motion CARRIED by the following vote:

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

The meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Steve Strapac, Committee Vice Chairperson

Dawn M. Washburn, Board Secretary