

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
ENGINEERING/EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE
OF THE VALLECITOS WATER DISTRICT
MONDAY, MARCH 8, 2021 AT 3:00 P.M.
VIA TELECONFERENCE

Director Elitharp called the meeting to order at the hour of 3:00 p.m.

Present: Director Hernandez
Director Elitharp
General Manager Pruim
District Engineer Gumpel
Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan
Capital Facilities Engineer Santos
Asset Management Supervisor Bowman
Executive Secretary Posvar
Administrative Secretary Johnson

ITEM(S) FOR DISCUSSION

SAGE CANYON TANK UPDATE

Capital Facilities Engineer Santos stated the Sage Canyon Tank, located in San Elijo Hills, is the next tank refurbishment project. The 3.7 million gallon tank was built in 2001. During routine tank maintenance, a dive inspection revealed that the condition of the tank requires complete rehabilitation including interior and exterior coatings, replacement of rafters, structural repairs as needed, and equipment and safety upgrades. The project is currently in design with a budget of \$1.03 million. Construction is anticipated to begin in November.

General discussion took place.

EMERGENCY BYPASS UPDATE

Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan stated the Emergency Bypass Project is a critical wastewater infrastructure project included in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget and is of regulatory concern due to the District's spill history in recent years. The emergency bypass is a 16" Techite pipe, a material manufactured in the 1970's that is of poor quality and associated with pipe breaks. The emergency bypass pipeline runs parallel with the District's reach of the failsafe pipeline through a common easement, separated by about five feet. The Emergency Bypass Project has been broken down into two phases. Phase One has less environmental impacts than Phase Two, which has serious impacts and is also topographically challenged.

Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan discussed key issues and objectives of the Emergency Bypass Project as well as project status and schedule. Staff submitted Request for Proposals to three as-needed civil engineering firms for final design and bid phase services. Staff has reviewed proposals received from NV5 and IEC and intends to present their recommendation for award of a professional services agreement to the Board at the March 17 Board meeting. Final design is expected to be completed by Summer of 2021, construction during Fall/Winter of 2021, with anticipated project completion before the 2022 rain season.

During general discussion, Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan clarified that staff's recommendation to the Board at the March 17 Board meeting will include the failsafe that parallels the Bypass Project in the scope of the professional services agreement. Due to the two projects' proximity to each other, it is financially beneficial to construct both projects at the same time as a large part of the construction cost is mobilization, set up, excavation, shoring, backfill, and compaction.

FAILSAFE (BUENA REACH) UPDATE

Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan stated the Failsafe Outfall Rehabilitation Buena Reach Project is another critical wastewater infrastructure project. Breaks occurred on the ductile iron failsafe pipeline in December 2018 and April 2020.

Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan discussed key issues and objectives of the project which include the risk of breaks and spills, regulatory and environmental concerns, lack of access points, existing utility conflicts, and the 50/50 shared agreement between Vallecitos and the City of Vista's Buena Sanitation District (BSD). A professional services agreement for design was awarded to NV5 in October 2020. Staff anticipates the final design will be completed in June 2021, bid phase during July and August, and construction from September 2021 to January 2022. Preliminary review of the project budget estimates probable construction costs to be approximately \$1,514,000 each for Vallecitos and BSD.

Asset Management Supervisor Bowman provided background on the failsafe outfall pipeline, built in 1981 with capacity and costs shared among the District, BSD, and the City of Carlsbad. The District and BSD have 50/50 shared responsibility for the Buena Reach, one of three sections (reaches) of the failsafe pipeline. BSD has requested to discontinue their participation in the shared agreement as they have not used the pipeline for quite some time. Preliminary discussions have taken place. Staff will be looking at the cost of returning the pipeline to like new condition, assessing future operations and maintenance costs, rehabilitation, and depreciation to determine a net value cost estimate for discussions with BSD to remove them from the agreement.

District Engineer Gumpel stated BSD has verbally committed to the current 50/50 cost sharing agreement to rehab the pipeline and they understand there will be a cost to exit the agreement.

ENHANCING GIS AND MAINTENANCE MANAGEMENT FOR FIELD STAFF

Asset Management Supervisor Bowman provided a brief presentation on Geographical Information System (GIS) enhancements planned over the next two years as follows:

- Where GIS and Maintenance Program fall in the overall components of the Asset Management Program
- What is GIS?
 - Spatial – involves geometry and mapping of assets
 - Attribute – involves specification data associated with geometry of assets
- Maintenance Management
 - Current process for field crews requires data input to be done in the office
 - Mobile solution possibilities for use out in the field
 - Mobile solution benefits

Asset Management Supervisor Bowman stated the goal is to provide continuous access to all asset management manuals, as-builts and repair history, simplify data entry forms for documenting maintenance, provide the ability to submit work requests and update asset information, optimize time in the field, and enter data as it is collected.

OTHER BUSINESS

Director Hernandez asked about the status of solar project at Lift Station No. 1. Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan stated that site is online but not currently producing commercially as both sites are not ready. Staff is waiting on San Diego Gas & Electric to complete their work at the Twin Oaks Reservoir site.

The next meeting of this Committee is scheduled on April 12. There may be a scheduling conflict with the Finance/Investment Committee on that day.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at the hour of 4:05 p.m.