

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
ENGINEERING/EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE
OF THE VALLECITOS WATER DISTRICT
MONDAY, APRIL 19, 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 Pruiem
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

SAN ELIJO HILLS AND LAND OUTFALL CONDITION ASSESSMENT UPDATE

Asset Management Supervisor Bowman stated the ductile iron pipeline condition assessment in San Elijo Hills is scheduled to begin next month. The assessment will be conducted over a four-week period and will include soil corrosivity testing, potholing in select areas, and leak detection of 25 miles of pipeline throughout the community. Staff will be providing a presentation regarding the assessment at the San Elijo Hills HOA meeting on April 20 at 6:00 p.m. A virtual meeting is scheduled for April 27 at 6:00 p.m. to provide more information to the community and another meeting will be scheduled prior to the start of the leak detection activities as brief shutdowns will occur during that time. Appropriate notice of the shutdowns will be given.

Asset Management Supervisor Bowman further stated the Land Outfall Condition Assessment is scheduled to begin toward the end of May. The assessment will be conducted over a two-week period using CCTV and sonar technologies to assess the condition of the primarily steel pipe. The assessment is a joint effort between the District, Buena Sanitation District and the City of Carlsbad, and will be conducted at night to take advantage of lower flows that occur at night. Staff is coordinating public outreach with the City of Carlsbad. Staff is preparing a letter agreement of the cost sharing and work to be performed as funding for the assessment is shared between the three agencies.

MRF PROJECTS OVERVIEW

Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan provided an overview of six upcoming CIP projects at the Meadowlark Reclamation Facility (MRF) that are in various stages of design and construction. The projects are anticipated to be completed within the next two to three years, will require the services of multiple outside contractors, and include:

- Headworks Auger Replacement
- Aeration Basins & Bio Selector
- Tertiary Structural Improvements and Coating
- #1 Odor Scrubber Replacement
- Conversion to Sodium Hypochlorite Chlorine Building
- Chlorine Contact Tank Expansion

CONSULTANT PM AWARD FOR MRF WORKLOAD

Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan stated the planned projects at MRF over the next several years will take significant staff time away from other priority projects. To better manage the MRF workload, staff solicited interest for Staff Extension Services from consultants on the District's Engineering As-Needed List to assist staff with project management for an average of 20 hours per week. Black & Veatch was selected due to their experience with treatment plants and availability of a project manager.

Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan further stated funding for the MRF Staff Extension Services will be funded in the current fiscal year directly through the individually budgeted CIP projects at MRF. Funds will be allocated each fiscal year accordingly within the CIP for Staff Extension Services. Staff is proposing only the first phase which extends from May through June 2021 and FY 2021/22 at a cost not to exceed \$149,567 and would evaluate the services after the first year. Subsequent years would be presented to the Board for approval.

The Committee supports staff's recommendation to bring this item to the Board for approval.

VWD/VID ANNEXATION AREA DISCUSSION

District Engineer Gumpel stated the Vista Irrigation District (VID) has requested four of their customers currently receiving water service from connections to the VID flume be removed from the flume and annexed into the Vallecitos Water District. VID has offered to pay the water annexation fees (\$31,982.92) as well as the District's capital facility fees (\$43,643.00). The customers would be subject to Temporary Off-Site Water Service Agreements as the new meters would not be directly along the frontage of each parcel. After reviewing the proposal, staff determined that the offer is fair and would provide better water pressure and more consistent service to the customers. VID is trying to remove direct customers from the flume to give VID more options to pressurize the flume in the future to make it more of a transmission main to gain more capacity in it. Staff would like to present this item to the Board for approval to move forward with the annexation and off-site agreements.

The Committee supports staff presenting this item to the Board.

LADY BUG LANE EXTENSION AND OFF-SITE AGREEMENT DISCUSSION

District Engineer Gumpel discussed a complex situation where a property owner on Lady Bug Lane is proposing to build a new 3,000 square foot residence and is calling the existing 750 square foot residence an Accessory Dwelling Unit. The property is currently on a Temporary Off-Site Water Service Agreement which stipulates that construction of a new home would void the agreement and they would have to get a water line extension to their property. The adjacent property also has a Temporary Off-Site Water Service Agreement which requires them to participate in the line extension, would cancel their temporary agreement, and their meter would have to be relocated to the new water main. The temporary agreements date back to 1990. There is a good chance that the property owners are unaware of this situation. This item was brought to the Committee for discussion as there will be more situations like this in the future.

General discussion took place on how this and similar situations should be handled. District policy would require the line extension. In the past (1990's to early 2000's) the policy was not always enforced as temporary agreements were often missed; however, with the modern technologies used today, this no longer happens. Issues to be considered include the cost to the property owners and fire flow concerns.

Staff will look at available options and contact the property owners regarding District policy regarding the line extension.

OLIVE STREET OFF-SITE DISCUSSION

District Engineer Gumpel stated that as part of the Papp-Lundblade Annexation near Olive Street, approved by the Board on August 19, 2020, the property owners of APNs 182-101-43 and 182-101-44 will be required to construct a new water main along the private road fronting their properties which will trigger removal of existing Temporary Off-Site Water Service Agreements with several nearby properties. APN 182-101-29 has an off-site meter, but no temporary agreement has been found. APN 182-101-22 may have been split in two at some point and has a VWD meter that serves a nursery on the property. APN 182-101-30 is served by VWD via an existing exchange agreement with VID that does not require VID or the property owner to pay to have the service relocated.

District Engineer Gumpel presented three options for discussion to resolve this situation:

- 1) Allow the installation of the Papp-Lundblade water main without relocating the existing off-site meters.
- 2) Require the property owners of APNs 182-101-29 and 30 to relocate their off-site meters to the new main at their expense to follow District policy; however, the agreements do not fully support this option and enforcement may be challenged by the property owners.
- 3) Since it may be desirable to achieve compliance with District policy, require the Papp-Lundblade owners to relocate the off-site meters as part of their construction with District reimbursement to the owners for this additional work.

General discussion took place. The Committee favored Option 3 as the reimbursement to the property owners would not be excessive. Staff will work with the annexation property owners to set up a reimbursement agreement.

CIP QUARTERLY UPDATE

Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan provided a FY 2020/21 Third Quarter CIP update which included the following projects:

- San Marcos Interceptor Phase 2
- Emergency Bypass Rehabilitation
- MRF Failsafe Rehabilitation – Buena Reach
- Sage Canyon Tank Refurbishment

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at the hour of 4:32 p.m.