

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
ENGINEERING/EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE
OF THE VALLECITOS WATER DISTRICT
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23, 2022, AT 3:00 P.M.
VIA TELECONFERENCE

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

Present: Director Elitharp
 Director Hernandez
 Assistant General Manager Gumpel
 District Engineer Hubbard
 Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan
 Capital Facilities Engineer Santos
 Development Services Senior Engineer Lopez
 Asset Management Supervisor Bowman
 Engineering Services Assistant Fretwell

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

ITEM(S) FOR DISCUSSION

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION CERTIFYING A MITIGATED NEGATIVE
DECLARATION FOR THE EMERGENCY BYPASS REHABILITATION PROJECT

Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan provided background on the two pipelines contained within Emergency Bypass Rehabilitation Project. The 16-inch Emergency Bypass Sewer Pipeline redirects raw sewage inbound to Meadowlark Water Reclamation Facility (MRF) and redirects the flows to the Land Outfall Pipeline. The Failsafe Outfall Sewer (Failsafe Outfall) 12-inch pipeline conveys secondary effluent from MRF to the Encina Wastewater Authority's (EWA) Ocean Outfall. Both the 16-inch Emergency Bypass Sewer Pipeline and the parallel 12-inch Failsafe Outfall have experienced failures, which require emergency repairs. Due to the sensitive locations of the repair work between Melrose Drive and Carrillo Way in the City of Carlsbad, the District's Emergency Bypass Sewer Pipeline and the Failsafe Outfall need to be rehabilitated.

Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan stated the Board of Directors authorized a professional services agreement (PSA) for engineering design and environmental services with Recon Environmental, Inc. (Recon) on March 17, 2021. An evaluation of potential environmental impacts was needed per the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). After the Initial Study by Recon which stated the proposed project excavations may impact the environment, the project scope was adapted to add specific

trenchless technology, CIPP relining, to mitigate the potential impacts. Staff recommended, per CEQA Section 15070, that a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) be prepared by Recon. On October 13, 2021, staff commenced the required 30-day public review, and the District received a total of zero (0) comment letters.

Staff has prepared a resolution certifying an enhanced MND for the Emergency Bypass Rehabilitation Project as complete and adequate, which includes more effective mitigation monitoring measures. With the Committee's support, the resolution will be brought to the Board of Directors on April 6, 2022. If the Board adopts the resolution, staff will file a Notice of Determination with the San Diego County Clerk and a Certificate of Fee Exemption with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. Staff will also complete the final design and release the project for bid by the summer of 2022.

General discussion took place regarding the capacity of the Failsafe Outfall which allows MRF to discharge a maximum of 3 million gallons per day (MGD) of secondary effluent to the EWA Ocean Outfall. When peak wet weather conditions of 8 MGD occur, MRF can also send 5 MGD of treated, recycled water to the City of Carlsbad and the Olivenhain Municipal Water District through the Mahr Reservoir. If there is an emergency situation where there is too much water in the reservoir, the City of Carlsbad can discharge water to their ocean outfall.

The Committee supports staff recommendation to bring the resolution to the Board of Directors.

MEADOWLARK WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY PROJECTS UPDATE

Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan gave an update on recent and upcoming projects at MRF. Regarding the Headworks Improvements Project, the new augers are giving staff some challenges and require troubleshooting with the vendor. When those issues are resolved and the Biological Selector/Aeration Basin Improvements Project is completed, the Tertiary Structural Rehab and Repairs Project will begin. The Conversion to Sodium Hypochlorite Project is moving forward into 60% design. Staff recently reviewed proposals for the Chlorine Contact Tank Expansion Project and went through the selection process.

The Tesla Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) and Retaining Wall Project will accommodate the Tesla Mega Pack battery pack next to the electrical building. The 30-foot-long retaining wall will give operations working space and access through the existing road.

The Landscaping Improvements Project will overhaul hardscape and landscape which will provide aesthetic benefits and will improve the quality of stormwater runoff at MRF. This project is in the final design stage and will be open for bidding at the end of the summer.

General discussion took place regarding the footprint for the future Direct Potable Reuse (DPR) Pilot Project. Staff indicated it was too early to say, but one area to look at

would be the flat graded area just north of the aeration basins. Staff added there is area west of the secondary clarifiers, but it is very steep and contains rock. Additional discussion took place regarding the purpose of the BESS, whether it would be for emergency or to offset on-peak rate periods. Staff stated it would be primarily for emergency, but offsets would be looked at.

MEADOWLARK WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY CHLORINE CONTACT TANK
EXPANSION PROJECT DESIGN ENGINEERING PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
AGREEMENT AWARD

Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan provided an update on the design award for a professional services agreement for the Chlorine Contact Tank Expansion Project at the Meadowlark Reclamation Facility (MRF). The two chlorine contact tanks (CCT) were last improved during the 1980's plant expansion, and combined, they are rated to convey a design peak flow of 5.0 MGD. The CCT process at MRF is the primary bottleneck which prevents MRF from increasing its peak flow capacity. The Chlorine Contact Tank Expansion Project will increase the CCT flow capacity by 1.5 MGD up to 6.5 MGD. This will allow MRF to also increase its flow capacity to 6.5 MGD.

The project is an operational priority to the District and is scheduled for planning and design in the fiscal year 2021-2022 budget. The District has secured grant funding totaling approximately \$850,000 under Proposition 84, awarded by the State Water Resources Control Board, and there may be an additional 25% match under upcoming grant funding opportunities. The remainder of the cost will come from Reclaimed Water funds.

Capital Facilities Senior Engineer Morgan stated that the District submitted requests for proposals from four (4) local engineering firms on December 1, 2021. On January 14, 2022, staff received proposals from all four of the firms: Kleinfelder, Kennedy/Jenks, Michael Baker International, and LEE & RO. Staff reviewed proposals and rated them on experience, how well they addressed the request for proposal requirements, project approach, scope of work, estimated fee/labor hours, and schedule. Staff completed evaluations of the proposals on February 14, 2022, and Kleinfelder was determined to be the most responsive and qualified consultant. After further discussion, Kleinfelder provided a revised scope of work and not to exceed fee of \$355,385 for design and bid phase professional engineering and environmental services.

Additional staff, overhead, and materials bring the current total to \$520,385, and the construction contract amount is unknown at this time. The project is identified in the fiscal year 2021-2022 budget with an amount of \$4.719 million.

Staff asked for the Committee's support of their recommendation to execute a professional services agreement with Kleinfelder in the not to exceed amount of \$355,385 for project design and bid phase professional engineering and environmental services for the MRF Chlorine Contact Tank Expansion Project.

The Committee supports staff's recommendation.

CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT AWARD FOR SEWER LINING AND REHABILITATION 2021

Capital Facilities Engineer Santos provided an update on the Sewer Lining and Rehabilitation 2021 Project. During yearly scheduled cleanings, the Collections Department identified 44 segments, from manhole to manhole, that have deficiencies and must be rehabilitated to restore structural integrity and flow capacity. These 44 segments span 8,570 feet and are deficient due to various reasons including cracking, root intrusion, calcifying, corrosion, and offset laterals.

Capital Facilities Engineer Santos stated that the Sewer Lining and Rehabilitation 2021 Project began advertising in February 2022. Five (5) lining contractors submitted close bids. The top two bidders had disqualifying issues with their bids, so the third lowest bidder and the most responsive, Southwest Pipeline, was selected with a bid of \$634,086. Staff recommends this option and will present it to the Board of Directors on April 6, 2022, for contract award.

General discussion took place regarding the age and material composition of the District's sewer system.

Staff asked for the Committee's support of their recommendation for contract award to Southwest Pipeline in the amount of \$634,086 for the Sewer Lining and Rehabilitation 2021 Project.

The Committee supports staff's recommendation.

BARHAM DRIVE ILLEGAL SEWER CONNECTIONS

Development Services Senior Engineer Lopez gave a brief presentation regarding illegal sewer connections on Barham Drive. During the plan check process of a sewer main extension for the Sunrise-Orix Project, staff discovered illegal sewer connections on two parcels. It was discovered that correspondence with property owners dates back to 1996, however the improvements were not made. On February 1, 2022, the new property owner was notified of the illegal sewer connections and that the sewer main extension project could relieve the construction costs if they paid sewer capacity fees before the project began.

On February 24, 2022, the sewer capacity fees of \$27,932 were paid. The developer of the Sunrise-Orix project is scheduled to begin construction of the sewer main extension in April or May. Legal sewer laterals for each parcel will be installed at that time.

Development Services Senior Engineer Lopez stated no recommendation was requested from the Committee. The presentation was informational only to provide a brief history of the illegal connections and the positive outcome.

SUPPLY CHAIN DISCUSSION

Assistant General Manager Gumpel stated that some items from the current 2021-2022 fiscal year budget have been purchased but are delayed due to the worldwide supply chain problems. Most of the items ordered in the Operations Department such as vehicles have not been received.

These items will be re-budgeted for the next fiscal year. This was explained to clarify what will appear in the reporting: that purchases were low in fiscal year 2021-2022 and will be higher in fiscal year 2022-2023 due to the delay in acquiring material and equipment.

General discussion took place regarding pricing. It is not guaranteed the District will keep the same pricing currently agreed upon. The price may increase by the time the purchases arrive due to the current market conditions and the low priority for public agency fleet sales.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at the hour of 3:52 p.m.