

**MINUTES
SANTA FE IRRIGATION DISTRICT
WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

September 5, 2019
Santa Fe Irrigation District
5920 Linea del Cielo, Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067

PRESENT: Chairman Andy Menshek, Director Marlene King, General Manager Al Lau, Executive Assistant Kim Johnson, Engineering Services Manager Bill Hunter, Associate Civil Engineer Marissa Potter, Water Treatment Plant Manager Tim Bailey, and Public Communications Officer Mary Montgomery were present.

Chairman Menshek called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Chairman Menshek announced that Item 11, Conference with Legal Counsel- Anticipated Litigation, would be considered at this time.

General Counsel de Sousa Mills joined the meeting via teleconference.

Chairman Menshek adjourned into Closed Session at 9:01 a.m.

Item taken out of order

11. Conference with Legal Counsel- Anticipated Litigation
Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9
Two (2) potential cases

Chairman Menshek reconvened into Open Session at 9:26 a.m. and reported no reportable actions were taken in Closed Session.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS - None

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 1, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

The Committee approved the minutes as presented.

2. CONSIDER REJECTING ALL CONSTRUCTION BIDS FOR THE MECHANICAL DEWATERING IMPROVEMENTS AND SAN DIEGUITO DAM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS J-1752/1753/1754 AND REJECTING BID PROTEST

ESM Hunter presented the item and responded to questions from the Committee. He reported that since the bids are substantially higher than the Engineer's estimate, staff recommends that all of the bids be rejected in order to assess whether modification to the project may be warranted in order to reduce project costs. In light of staff's recommendation that all bids be rejected, staff also recommends that the bid protest accordingly be rejected as moot. ESM Hunter added that over the next several weeks, Staff will be working with the Engineer of record to determine the reasons for the differences between the Engineer's estimate and the bids received, and identify potential modifications to the Project plans and specifications.

Director King asked if the combining of the projects did actually improve the economy of scale aspect. ESM Hunter replied yes, it helped specifically for the Handrail and the Concrete Refurbishment portions.

After discussion, the Committee agreed with Staff's recommendation to reject all bids and, therefore, deem the bid protest as moot, and directed staff to forward the item forward for full Board consideration at their regular September meeting.

3. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION QUITCLAIMING THE DISTRICT'S RIGHTS TO TWO EASEMENTS LOCATED ON APN 267-020-21 (6923 LA VALLE PLATEADA, RANCHO SANTA FE

ACE Potter presented the item and responded to questions from the Committee. Director King questioned why the easement was not quitclaimed in 1987.

After discussion, the Committee agreed with staff's recommendation for approval and directed staff to move the item forward for full Board consideration at their regular September meeting as a Consent item.

4. CONSIDER EXECUTING PURCHASE CONTRACT FOR CASE 570N SKIP-LOADER

GM Lau introduced WTPM Bailey to the Committee and WTPM Bailey presented the item and responded to Committee questions. He reported that the quote had been obtained in March; however, recent costs in materials used to produce the equipment have substantially increased, necessitating the budget amendment.

Director King requested the Water Resource Committee memos show the District specific financial impact, the percentage of shared financial responsibility with San Dieguito Water District.

Director Menshek questioned the use of TNT Auction Services Surplus instead of San Diego County. WTPM Bailey reported he would get that information and include it in the Board memorandum.

After discussion, the Committee agreed with Staff's recommendation for approval and directed Staff to move the item forward for full Board consideration at their regular September meeting as a Consent item.

REPORTS

5. FY20 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS STATUS REPORT – No report
6. ENGINEERING SERVICES MANAGER'S REPORT – ESM Hunter reported that the FEMA website reports the District's grant has been approved; however, formal written notification has not been received.
7. DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM MANAGER'S REPORT – No report
8. WATER TREATMENT PLANT MANAGER'S REPORT – WTPM Bailey reported that flows have been up over the past 4 weeks or so, averaging 19.8 million gallons per day with 40-45% of local water being used. He also reported on the recent EPA health advisories for PFAS based on the agency's assessment of the latest science to provide drinking water system operators with information on the health risks of these chemicals.

PFAS, which stands for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, are waterproof, grease-repellent, and heat-resistant chemicals that are fairly ubiquitous, found in popcorn bags, firefighting foams, and nonstick pans. The EPA had set a standard of 70 parts per trillion; however, recent actions by the State have established the level of 5.1 parts per trillion, with customer notification required if the levels exceed that benchmark. WTPM Bailey reported that the District tested for these chemicals in 2015 with no detection. He added that groundwater is at higher risk for contamination.

9. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT – GM Lau reported on the following:
 - Introduced the District's new Public Communications Officer, Mary Montgomery
 - The PFAS compliance issue is gaining traction State-wide, and is a huge issue in Orange County, noting that MODOC reported imported water purchases will quadruple as a result of its retail agencies not taking groundwater, which creates a remarkable financial impact.
 - He had sent the draft letter from the Department of Safety of Dams to the Board on the conditions at Lake Hodges which will restrict the Dam level and reduce the number of days for level compliance after rain events. GM Lau continued that the Districts continue to work with the City of San Diego and the SDCWA to develop operational guidelines to stay compliant with the State DSOD.

10. COMMITTEE MEMBERS' COMMENTS

Chairman Menshek asked if the District had heard anything regarding potential litigation against water agencies as a result of the recent bluff collapse in Encinitas, citing outdoor irrigation as a contributing factor in the failure.

INFORMATION ITEMS – None

CLOSED SESSION

At any time during the Regular Session, the Board may adjourn to Closed Session to consider litigation, or discuss with Legal Counsel matters within the Attorney/Client Privilege, subject to the appropriate disclosures. Discussion of litigation is within the Attorney/Client Privilege and may be held in Closed Session. (Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9)

11. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
SIGNIFICANT EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF
SUBDIVISION (D) OF
GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9
TWO (2) POTENTIAL CASES

Item taken out of order. Please see minutes on Page 1.

INFORMATION ITEMS – None

ADJOURN

Chairman Menshek adjourned the meeting at 10:12 a.m.



Andy Menshek, Chairman