

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
WATER ISSUES COMMITTEE  
ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
April 9, 2025 @ 12:00 p.m.

Director Green called the Water Issues Committee meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. in the District Boardroom. Public access was also provided via Zoom webinar. The Secretary called the roll and reported a quorum as follows:

Committee Members

Cathy Green  
Erik Weigand  
Roger Yoh (arrived 12:16 p.m.)  
Van Tran (arrived 12:07 p.m.)  
Dina Nguyen (absent)

Alternates

Valerie Amezcua  
Fred Jung (arrived 12:05 p.m.)  
Natalie Meeks (arrived 12:07 p.m.)  
Steve Sheldon  
Denis Bilodeau

OCWD

John Kennedy – General Manager  
Chris Olsen – Executive Director of Engineering  
Mehul Patel – Executive Director of Operations  
Jason Dadakis – Executive Director of Water Quality  
Lisa Haney – Executive Director of Planning and Natural Resources  
Bruce Dosier – Director of IS/Property Management  
Roy Herndon – Chief Hydrogeologist  
Dave Mark – Principal Hydrogeologist  
Bill Leever – Principal Hydrogeologist  
Brendan Neel – Hydrogeologist  
Adam Hutchinson – Recharge Planning Manager  
Megan Plumlee – Director of Research  
Randy Fick – Treasurer/CFO  
Ryan Bouley – Director of Engineering  
Larry Esguerra – Senior Engineer  
Shawn Neville – Principal Planner  
Alicia Harasty – Legislative Affairs Liaison  
Jeremy Jungreis – General Counsel  
Leticia Villarreal – Assistant District Secretary  
Janice Kovacevic – Executive Assistant

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

The Consent Calendar was approved upon motion by Director Amezcua, seconded by Director Weigand and carried [5-0], as follows:

**Ayes: Green, Weigand, Amezcua, Sheldon, Bilodeau**

1. Minutes of Water Issues Committee Meeting

**The Minutes of the Water Issues Committee meeting held March 12, 2025, were approved as presented.**

2. Reject Bid Protest and Award Contract SB-2025-1 Bond Basin Slope Repair to Innovative Construction Solutions Authorize Amendment No. 2 to ENGEO and Establish Project Budget

**This item was removed from the Consent Calendar and considered separately.**

3. Terminate the Inactive Conjunctive Use Program Storage Agreement with Metropolitan Water District

**Recommended for approval at April 16 Board meeting: Terminate the Conjunctive Use Program Storage Agreement with the Metropolitan Water District.**

4. Execution of Access Agreements for Existing Monitoring Well Sites SCS-3, -4, -8 and OM-8 on County of Orange Property

**Recommended for approval at April 16 Board meeting: Authorize the General Manager to finalize and execute a no-cost 10-year term license agreement with the Orange County Flood Control District for continued access to existing monitoring wells SCS-3, SCS-4, and SCS-8 and a no-cost 10-year term entry permit agreement with the County of Orange for continued access to existing monitoring well site OM-8.**

5. Field Headquarters Aboveground Gasoline Storage Tank Project Budget Increase

**Recommended for approval at April 16 Board meeting: Increase project budget by \$35,000 for a total project budget of \$155,000.**

6. Request for Qualification On-Call Environmental Services

**Recommended for approval at April 16 Board meeting: Authorize issuance of a Request for Qualifications for On-Call Environmental Consultants.**

#### **MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION**

2. Reject Bid Protest and Award Contract SB-2025-1 Bond Basin Slope Repair to Innovative Construction Solutions Authorize Amendment No. 2 to ENGEO and Establish Project Budget

Executive Director of Engineering Chris Olsen stated that Innovative Construction Solutions (ICS) was the lowest bidder, but a protest was filed by the second-lowest bidder, citing a lapse in DIR certification for one of ICS's subcontractors. He explained that upon review with legal counsel and verification through the DIR website, it was confirmed the subcontractor had a valid certification at the time of bid submission.

General Counsel Jeremy Jungreis advised that sufficient evidence has been determined, and that two letters from both sides were submitted for the Boards consideration. He recommended that the Board proceed with the staff recommendation.

**Upon motion by Director Weigand, seconded by Director Sheldon and carried [5-0], the Committee recommended for approval at the April 16 Board meeting:**

1. **Receive and file Affidavit of Publication of Notice Inviting Bids for Contract SB-2025-1 Bond Basin Slope Repair Project;**
2. **Ratify issuance of Addenda 1-2;**
3. **Reject the bid protest of Empire Equipment Service, Inc, (Empire) and accept bid and authorize award of contract SB-2025-1 to the lowest responsive bid and responsible bidder, Innovative Construction Solutions, in the amount of \$3,199,190.00;**
4. **Authorize Amendment No. 2 to Agreement No. 1555 with ENGEO a not-to-exceed amount of \$59,800.00 for engineering construction support services; and**
5. **Establish project budget in the amount of \$3,778,290.**

**Ayes: Green, Weigand, Amezcua, Sheldon, Bilodeau**

7. Amendment to Agreement with City of Santa Ana and Moulton Niguel Water District

Mr. Olsen presented an overview of the agreements history stating that the agreement was originally established to deliver up to 50 cfs of water during emergencies and is nearing expiration. He discussed the coordination efforts with the South Orange County agencies. Mr. Olsen said the amendment allows time to continue feasibility assessment, stakeholder coordination, and to move forward with design and CEQA.

**Recommended for approval at the April 16 Board meeting: Authorize execution of an amendment to the agreement with the City of Santa Ana and Moulton Niguel Water District, with quarterly updates to be brought to the Board.**

8. Request for Proposals for Stormwater Credit Banking Feasibility Study

Executive Director of Planning and Natural Resources Lisa Haney stated that the feasibility study would help to understand if municipal storm water could be an alternate source of water supply for OCWD. She provided an overview of the diverse water supply portfolio and summarized each supply source. She advised that the study would help to show cost benefit, benefit analysis, and potential water supply at each level. The Committee requested more information and this item was deferred to a future Water Issues meeting.

**INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

9. Proposed Fiscal Year 2025-26 Capital Improvement Program Budget

Director of Engineering Ryan Bouley provided an overview of the proposed fiscal year 2025-26 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) budget totaling \$87.2 million for 27 projects to be funded with operating revenues (Pay-as-you-go Program), grants and WIFIA loan. He presented the larger items that are included in the proposed CIP Budget.

**CHAIR DIRECTION AS TO ITEMS IF ANY TO BE AGENDIZED AS MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE APRIL 16 BOARD MEETING**

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:27 p.m.

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Cathy Green, Chair