

MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WATER ISSUES COMMITTEE
ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT
December 11, 2024 @ 12:00 p.m.

Director Whitaker 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

Bruce Whitaker
Dina Nguyen (arrived 12:32 p.m.)
Roger Yoh (arrived 12:03 p.m.)
Van Tran (absent)
Erik Weigand

OCWD

John Kennedy – General Manager
Chris Olsen – Executive Director of Engineering/Water Resources
Mehul Patel – Executive Director of Operations
Jason Dadakis – Executive Director of Water Quality & Technical Resources
Lisa Haney – Executive Director of Planning & Natural Resources
Megan Plumlee – Director of Research
Pat Versluis – Director of Water Quality
Randy Fick – Treasurer/CFO
Prem Parmar – Laboratory Director
Shawn Neville – Principal Planner
Jeremy Jungreis – General Counsel
Leticia Villarreal – Assistant District Secretary

Alternates

Denis Bilodeau (guest)
Steve Sheldon
Natalie Meeks (absent)
Valeria Amezcua
Cathy Green

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

Ayes: Whitaker, Weigand, Sheldon, Amezcua, Green

1. Minutes of Water Issues Committee Meeting

The Minutes of the Water Issues Committee meeting held November 13, 2024, were approved as presented.

2. Annex Building Roof Replacement Project – Publication of Notice Inviting Bids

Recommended for approval at December 18 Board meeting: Authorize publication of Notice Inviting Bids for Contract No. FV-2024-1: Annex Building Roof Replacement Project.

3. Garden Grove Wells 22, 26, and 27 PFAS Treatment Systems Engineer’s Report and Categorical Exemption

Recommended for approval at December 18 Board meeting:

1. **Approve the Engineer’s Report for the City of Garden Grove Wells 22, 26, and 27 PFAS Water Treatment Plants Project and determine the project feasible, necessary and beneficial to the lands of the District;**
2. **Authorize filing a Categorical Exemption for the Garden Grove Wells 22, 26, and 27 PFAS Water Plants Project in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines.**

4. Development of 2025-2050 Water Demand Forecast for Orange County

Recommended for approval at December 18 Board meeting: Authorize payment of \$106,526 to MWDOC for OCWD's portion of Orange County water demand forecast to be conducted by Hazen and Sawyer.

5. Award Contract No. LAB-2024-1 Laboratory Washroom Refurbishment to RBA Builders LLC, Authorize Increase of Existing Purchase Order to IDS Group, Inc., and Budget Increase

Recommended for approval at December 18 Board meeting:

1. **Receive and file Affidavit of Publication of Notice Inviting Bids for Contract Affidavit of Publication of Notice Inviting Bids for Contract LAB-2024-1 Laboratory Washroom Refurbishment Project;**
 2. **Accept bid and award contract LAB-2024-1 to the lowest responsive bid and responsible bidder, RBA Builders LLC, in the amount of \$959,927;**
 3. **Authorize increase of existing Purchase Order to IDS Group, Inc. in the amount of \$35,046 for construction support services, and**
 4. **Increase project budget by \$145,000 for a total project budget in the amount of \$1,125,000.**
6. Request to Increase On-Call Consultant Design Budget to Prepare PFAS Treatment System Designs

Recommended for approval at December 18 Board meeting: Authorize increase of Round 1 PFAS project design/CM services budget by \$5M for a total of \$30M.

7. Approval of Facility License Agreement with Delhi Center for South Basin Groundwater Protection Project Public Meeting

Recommended for approval at December 18 Board meeting: Authorize the General Manager to execute the Facility License Agreement with Delhi Center for the District's use to conduct public meetings for the South Basin Groundwater Protection Project.

MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION

8. Evoqua Water Technologies LLC Resin Media Agreement

Chris Olsen, Executive Director of Engineering, recalled that the Board authorized an agreement with Evoqua Water Technologies, LLC (Evoqua) for the purchase of ion exchange resin media in 2022 which will expire in December 2024. He stated that several PFAS water treatment systems will begin operations this year, necessitating resin and replacement media for existing systems. He stated that based on an evaluation of new pricing, he recommended executing a new two-year resin purchase agreement with Evoqua.

Upon motion by Director Weigand, seconded by Director Yoh and carried [5-0], the Committee recommended that the Board at its December 18 Board meeting: Authorize execution of a two-year Agreement with Evoqua Water Technologies, LLC for an amount not to exceed \$13,000,000

Ayes – Whitaker, Yoh, Weigand, Sheldon, Amezcua

9. Draft Local Agency Formation Commission of Orange County Feasibility Study on the Consolidation of the Orange County Water District and the Municipal Water District of Orange County

Mr. Olsen recalled that in June 2022 the Orange County Grand Jury report recommended the consolidation of the Municipal Water District of Orange County (MWDOC) and the Orange County Water District (OCWD). He stated that OCWD requested Local Agency Formation Commission of Orange County (LAFCO) provide a feasibility study of a consolidation which began in June 2023 and the Public Draft was released by LAFCO in November 2024. Mr. Olsen advised that LAFCO requested comments by December 30, 2024. He noted that staff made a total of 12 comments, and most were clarifications. Directors Yoh and Weigand requested verbiage to be restated in one paragraph of the response letter.

**Upon motion by Director Weigand, seconded by Director Sheldon and carried [5-0], the Committee recommended that the Board at its December 18 Board meeting: Transmit the comment letter to LAFCO with modifications as requested by Director Yoh and Director Weigand with discussion for public comment at a future committee meeting
Ayes – Whitaker, Yoh, Weigand, Sheldon, Green**

CHAIR DIRECTION AS TO ITEMS IF ANY TO BE AGENDIZED AS MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE DECEMBER 18 BOARD MEETING

Chair Whitaker requested Items #2 – 8 be placed on the Consent Calendar and Item #9 for Consideration for the December 18 Board meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:39 p.m.

DocuSigned by:


Leticia Villarreal, Assistant District Secretary