BOARD OF DIRECTORS
EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

375 - 11th Street, Oakland, CA 94607 Office of the Secretary: (510) 287-0440

Notice of Time Change

PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
9:45 a.m.
Tuesday, October 8, 2019

Notice is hereby given that the Tuesday, October 8, 2019 Planning Committee Meeting of the Board of Directors has been rescheduled from 9:15 a.m. to 9:45 a.m. The meeting will be held in the Training Resource Center of the Administration Building, 375 - 11th Street, Oakland, California.

Dated: October 3, 2019

Janetta M. Johnson
Acting Secretary of the District

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS
EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

375 – 11th Street, Oakland, CA 94607 Office of the Secretary: (510) 287-0440

AGENDA

Planning Committee
Tuesday, October 8, 2019
9:45 a.m.
Training Resource Center

(Committee Members: Directors Linney {Chair}, McIntosh and Mellon)

ROLL CALL:

PUBLIC COMMENT: The Board of Directors is limited by State law to providing a brief response, asking questions for clarification, or referring a matter to staff when responding to items that are not listed on the agenda.

DETERMINATION AND DISCUSSION:

1. Wet Weather Program Management Update (White)

2. Electrical Engineering Support (Irias)

ADJOURNMENT:

Disability Notice

If you require a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in an EBMUD public meeting please call the Office of the Secretary (510) 287-0404. We will make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility. Some special equipment arrangements may require 48 hours advance notice.

Document Availability

Materials related to an item on this agenda that have been submitted to the EBMUD Board of Directors within 72 hours prior to this meeting are available for public inspection in EBMUD's Office of the Secretary at 375 11th Street, Oakland, California, during normal business hours, and can be viewed on our website at www.ebmud.com.

EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

DATE: October 3, 2019

MEMO TO: Board of Directors

THROUGH: Alexander R. Coate, General Manager ARC

FROM: Eileen M. White, Director of Wastewater EMW

SUBJECT: Wet Weather Program Management Update

INTRODUCTION

Protection of public health and San Francisco Bay are among the District's highest priorities. In order to help achieve these goals, the District carefully analyzes its performance during and after each wet weather season to identify improvements to the Wet Weather Program. Eight significant storm events occurred during the 2018/2019 wet weather season and have provided ample opportunity to assess the effectiveness of earlier Wet Weather Program changes and identify additional areas for improvement. Staff will provide an update on the District's Wet Weather Program at the Planning Committee meeting on October 8, 2019.

BACKGROUND

During large storms, flows in the interceptor system increase dramatically due to inflow and infiltration from the District's satellite agencies' collection systems, as well as from private sewer laterals. Under a Consent Decree issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the District is working collaboratively with the satellites and private property owners to reduce inflow and infiltration to achieve more manageable flows during wet weather events. This may take over 20 years to achieve. Until this work is completed, the flows in the system can quickly overwhelm the capacity of the District's interceptor pipes. The District uses a combination of operational strategies at the Main Wastewater Treatment Plant (MWWTP), as well as at the three Wet Weather Facilities (WWFs), to manage these flows and comply with regulatory requirements.

DISCUSSION

Eight significant storms occurred during the 2018/2019 wet weather season that required the use of some combination of the WWFs, the MWWTP storage basin, and blending at the MWWTP. January, February, and March were particularly wet months, with a number of very wet storm systems, referred to as atmospheric rivers, travelling through the District's service area.

During the 2018/2019 wet weather season, there were no sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) from the District's interceptor system and all regulatory requirements were achieved at the MWWTP and three WWFs, with the exception of one pH violation at the San Antonio Creek WWF. On February 13, 2019, excessive stormwater in the system lowered the pH of flows in the

interceptor system to 6.23, just below the Consent Decree-prescribed range of 6.5 to 8.5. The District uses a blend of sodium hypochlorite and sodium hydroxide (NaOH) to raise pH levels at the San Antonio Creek WWF. The District will use sodium hypochlorite with a higher concentration of NaOH in the mixture to help prevent the reoccurrence of a pH exceedance at the facility.

Key areas of success during the 2018/2019 wet weather season include:

- Conducting ongoing WWF refresher training during the wet weather season to strengthen operators' confidence and skill in operating WWFs.
- Conducting WWF wet tests throughout the season to exercise equipment and ensure that staff can bring the WWFs online during storms without incident.
- Coordinating MWWTP and remote facility operations and maintenance staffing and operating strategies prior to each significant storm, and documenting the plan to ensure all staff is operating under a common approach.

Key areas for improvement include:

- WWF refresher training should occur monthly even if the WWFs have been brought online in order to meet the key goal of providing practice for all operators.
- Update WWF training to emphasize that the required pH range for WWF discharges, 6.5 to 8.5, is different from the pH range for MWWTP discharges, which is 6 to 9.
- Maximize treatment ability and improve reliability at the MWWTP secondary facilities by completing modifications to the drive controllers for the return activated sludge pumps. The existing drives are approaching the end of their useful life and do not reliably maintain speed settings for the pumps they control. The secondary process is dependent on proper feed rates to balance the return activated sludge with oxygen supply and ensure the removal of suspended solids in the waste stream. This is particularly important when flows at the plant are at their maximum.

To ensure the District continues to adequately prepare for each wet weather season, the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board requires the District to provide an annual Wet Weather Program Readiness Report by September 30 of each year. This year's report was submitted on September 30, 2019. It documents all work completed by the District related to the management of the Wet Weather Program from October 1, 2018 through September 30, 2019.

NEXT STEPS

The improvements the District has made to date have had a positive impact on the District's ability to meet regulatory requirements. The District is committed to evaluating and improving its Wet Weather Program on a continuing basis to ensure it meets all regulatory requirements during wet weather events.

ARC:EMW:sak

EAST BAY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT

DATE: October 3, 2019

MEMO TO: Board of Directors

THROUGH: Alexander R. Coate, General Manager ARC

FROM: Xavier J. Irias, Director of Engineering and Construction 30 for XJI

SUBJECT: Electrical Engineering Support

INTRODUCTION

This memorandum provides an update on the District's ongoing efforts to recruit electrical engineers and the need for interim electrical engineering support services. Two consulting agreements will be presented to the Board for consideration on October 8, 2019, for electrical engineering planning, design, and field support services for the Camanche and Pardee Powerhouse facilities; and for ongoing operations and maintenance of water operations facilities. Staff will discuss these consulting agreements and the District's electrical engineer recruitment efforts at the October 8, 2019 Planning Committee meeting.

DISCUSSION

Staff presented to the Legislative/Human Resources (LHR) Committee on April 9, 2019, on the District's efforts to recruit and retain electrical engineers in light of concerns raised by AFSCME Local 2019 about contracting out electrical engineering work. The following provides an update on recruitment efforts and on contracting needs.

Electrical Engineer Recruitment Efforts: To better coordinate electrical engineer recruitment efforts across multiple departments, the District formed an electrical engineer recruitment working group made up of five managers, six senior electrical engineers, two AFSCME Local 2019 representatives, and two human resources analysts. This new working group, which has met monthly since August 2019, focuses on electrical engineer recruitment efforts and topics of common interest, such as the status of current vacancies, options to improve recruitment, including flex-staffing and use of positions that allow for budget-limited promotions within an organization, use of alternative job application requirements to simplify the hiring process for external candidates, open-continuous recruitments for both the assistant and associate job classes, efforts to establish a new industrial control systems specialist job classification, outreach, and training opportunities.

Since the April 9, 2019 LHR Committee meeting, two regular (permanent) electrical engineer positions have been filled with qualified external applicants and two positions were filled with internal transfers. Recruitment for the remaining six regular vacant positions is underway; the present vacancies reflect the addition of one associate electrical engineer in June 2019. These

recruitments will provide an opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of the various recruitment approaches under consideration by the District's electrical engineer recruitment working group. In addition to the existing open-continuous recruitment for associate electrical engineers, the District will also initiate an open-continuous recruitment for assistant electrical engineers starting on October 7, 2019.

Electrical Engineering Support Services Contracts: To provide continued electrical engineering support for the District's upcountry powerhouse and distribution facilities, and to allow sufficient time to fill vacancies and rebuild its in-house expertise, the following electrical engineering support services contracts will be needed for up to two years, starting in October 2019:

1. Electrical Design and Support Services for Powerhouse Facilities: This agreement, in an amount not to exceed $550,000, will provide electrical engineering planning, design, and field support services for the Camanche and Pardee Powerhouse. A majority of this agreement is for a one-time capital upgrade of the Camanche Powerhouse, including design services for replacement of circuit breakers and generator switchgear.

2. Water System Engineering Support: This agreement, in an amount not to exceed $160,000, will provide electrical engineering design and field support services for the ongoing operation and maintenance of distribution facilities, including installation of portable generator connections; chlorine boosting stations, and photovoltaic systems; and performing arc flash evaluations and consultation.

The first agreement requires highly specialized expertise the District does not currently have; the second agreement is necessary due to current electrical engineer vacancies. The District is committed to filling current vacancies as soon as possible, with the goal of building in-house expertise and having adequate staffing to provide day-to-day electrical engineering support for the powerhouse and distribution facilities. The goal is for recurring electrical engineering support work for the operation and maintenance of District facilities to be brought in-house.

NEXT STEPS

Two consulting agreements will be presented to the Board for consideration on October 8, 2019, as an interim measure to provide continued electrical engineering support services, and to allow time for the District to fill its remaining vacancies and to build its in-house expertise to support maintenance and operations of its facilities. The District will continue its efforts to actively recruit electrical engineers to fill current vacancies through interdepartmental coordination and implementation of new initiatives to improve recruitment.

ARC:XJI:svt