

Minutes

Sacramento Suburban Water District
Facilities and Operations Committee
Monday, March 30, 2015

Call to Order

Chair Bob Wichert called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Roll Call

Directors Present: Chair Bob Wichert and Kevin Thomas.

Directors Absent: None.

Staff Present: General Manager Robert Roscoe, Assistant General Manager Dan York, David Espinoza, Heather Hernandez-Fort, Dave Jones, and John Valdes.

Public Present: William Eubanks, Dan Finocchio, Andy Davidson and one unidentified gentleman.

Public Comment

None.

Consent Items

1. Minutes of the January 21, 2015 Facilities and Operations Committee Meeting

Director Kevin Thomas moved to approve the Minutes; Chair Wichert seconded.

AYES:	Thomas and Wichert.	ABSTAINED:	
NOES:		RECUSED:	
ABSENT:			

Items for Discussion and Action

2. Request for Variance at 2134 Butano Drive

General Manager Roscoe presented the staff report explaining that staff's recommendation is to comply with District Regulations Governing Water Service, requiring an adequately sized water main be constructed at 2134 Butano Drive.

Mr. Andy Davidson, with Anton Development Company, stated the he feels confident that there is adequate flow using the existing 8" and 10" water mains.

Mr. Dan Finocchio, with Cunningham Engineering Corporation, explained how he did the hydraulic modeling, and responded to the Districts concern regarding the 20psi residual test. He explained that his company performed a friction loss calculation to see if they have adequate fire flow. Due to the existing main on the east and west sides of the project, they balanced the flows to the site using a roughly 60" diameter pipe, and applied

the pump to both of those facilities. This minimized the velocity in the existing pipes creating velocity below 5 feet per second.

Mr. David Espinoza clarified to the Committee that one of the water mains is what is considered a backyard main, and informed the Committee that the District does not tap backyard mains for new development. Director Thomas asked staff when this section of backyard water main was scheduled to be replaced in the roadway. Staff stated the subject water main is AC material, and could be several years from replacement.

Mr. William Eubanks encouraged the District to follow District Regulations with no deviation.

GM Roscoe added to staff's argument that in the event of a fire, the fire department would need to hook up to the nearest hydrant which would create velocity exceeding 5 feet per second. Then, if or when a second fire hydrant hook up is required, bringing water in from both sides of the property would be used, decreasing velocity. If only one hydrant was used, or until the second hydrant is operated, excessive stress on the District water mains and/or force to the joints would occur, which increase with the square of the velocity.

Chair Wichert stated that the District has Regulations in place, and he is disinclined to grant the variance due to the Regulations. Director Thomas agreed that the District needs to stick to the Regulations.

The Committee denied the Grant for Variance for 2134 Butano Drive.

3. Review of District Regulations Governing Water Service

GM Roscoe gave a brief description on the review process of the Districts' Regulations Governing Water Service. He informed the Committee that following a qualification based selection process, Coleman Engineering (C.E.) was hired to perform an independent review of the District's Regulations. C.E. Provided a summary spreadsheet with the recommended changes.

There was a discussion regarding the minimum easement width. Director Wichert suggested staff decide if they are recommending an actual minimum easement length, and if so, what that desired length would be. Director Thomas suggested the verbiage change to "desired easement of 20 feet."

GM Roscoe clarified that if it is a developer requested installation, the District would prefer a 20 foot easement. But to correct an existing situation, the District would be willing to accept less than the desired 20 feet. Director Wichert suggested that the Regulations state that existing situations are on a case-by-case basis; however, a "20 foot for new construction" would simplify enforcement.

Director Wichert requested staff to clarify Regulation number 9, section N, "Minimum water main size for all NEW construction on Residential property shall be 8". Single

family on ¾” meter on 6-inch line is being required. Mr. Espinoza clarified that if there is a service, and there is not a fire hydrant required, then a 6” line is acceptable. Director Wichert requested for staff to clarify this in the Regulations.

The Committee recommended for staff to bring back the Draft Regulations Governing Water Service with changes to the next Facilities and Operations Committee Meeting for further review. Staff was further directed to provide additional information regarding required easement widths.

4. 2015 Water Conservation Stage Declaration

Mr. Bundesen presented the staff report. Director Thomas requested clarification on the total labor cost for the temporary staff. Mr. Bundesen clarified that the total labor cost consisted of \$13,000 for the duration of a 10 month period. Director Thomas also suggested taking advantage of an additional bill insert for community outreach on the District’s Water Stage Declaration and/or Water Conservation.

Chair Wichert inquired how the District was planning on enforcing the restriction on restaurants from serving water. Mr. Bundesen informed the Committee that the District created a window cling, advising to customers that “this restaurant will only serve water upon request.” Enforcement would be more of a word-of-mouth, whereas the District would respond to complaints in the same manner as any other water waste complaints.

Director Wichert also inquired about the Media Release requesting clarification on 2 days per week, versus the District’s current position. Mr. Bundesen clarified that if your district has a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (the District’s Regulation Governing Water Service, 15 Water Conservation), then your district has to adopt a stage that restricts watering days. Discussion ensued regarding evapotranspiration rate.

Mr. Eubanks requested further information on the 20% reduction in the proposed Stage 1 Water Warning Declaration compared to 20% reduction in SBX7. Mr. Bundesen clarified that the State Water Resources Control Board’s current request to conserve 20% of water consumption is due to the drought situation. He stated the SBX7 is a long term reduction strategy. Chair Wichert requested staff to present a report to the full Board clarifying the difference between the 20% reduction in the proposed Stage 1 Water Warning Declaration, the 20% reduction in SBX7, and the 20% reduction that the State Water Resources Control Board is requiring. He would like to see all of these percentages into a matrix in hopes to clarify any confusion.

Mr. Eubanks also had comments regarding fiscal impacts. Director Wichert directed staff to include fiscal impacts in the staff report that are consistent with the reduction in water sales associated with the 20% reduction in water use.

Director Thomas inquired about outreach to schools and park districts. He also inquired about cash for grass and reclaimed water. GM Roscoe helped clarify all of these inquiries.

The Committee recommended moving the purposed Stage 1 Water Alert Declaration along with the changes to Regulation 15, for consideration and acceptance by the full Board.

5. Water Meter Asset Management Plan Update

Mr. John Valdes gave a presentation on the Water Meter Asset Management Plan Update.

Director Wichert recommended projecting the graphs and images from a projector, in full color, for better clarity when presented to the full Board.

Director Thomas recommended that staff also discuss the 5 year rotation with the Asset Management Plan to potentially extend the life of some of the Asset Management Plans in order to save money.

The Committee recommended taking this item to the full Board with a recommendation of approval.

6. Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District – Notice of Violation

GM Roscoe presented the item. He reported that staff is in the process of updating the procedures to prevent violations in the future. Mr. York informed the Committee that staff has contacted the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District requesting an analysis to potentially increase the limit on the amount of hours on District generators.

Director Wichert requested that staff update the procedures to either limit the time contractors are allowed to run the District generators, or somehow make them aware of the time left on a individual generator. Director Wichert suggested staff review our contracts to determine if they need to address risk transfer.

The Committee requested staff to convert this report into an updated staff report to present to the full Board as an Information Item.

7. San Juan Unified School District Landscape Irrigation Services Customer Partnership proposal

Mr. Bundesen presented the report and defended the goal of this partnership proposal. He clarified that the District will be able to track the usage by using fixed network meter reading equipment in the individual irrigation meters. These meters will be retrofitted at District cost, at roughly 25 different school sites.

The District proposes to allow a variance in the watering days for these participants, since the District is supplying them with an allocation based water rate. The proposed State Regulations for watering days are for residential customers, commercial/industrial/institutional; therefore, the District will still comply with State Regulations.

Director Thomas requested staff to report exactly how many meters will be installed. Director Wichert requested the fiscal impact, including the actual cost for all of the meters to be incorporated in the staff report to the Board.

The Committee recommended taking this item to the full Board with a recommendation of approval.

8. Grant of Easement at 2163 Fulton Avenue

GM Roscoe presented the report regarding staff installing infrastructure before easement was approved by the District Board, apologized for the oversight, and explained measures being implemented to prevent recurrence.

Responding to a question from Director Wichert, Director Thomas verified that in the 5 years he has served on the District Board, he has never had an issue like this presented, verifying that the District doesn't frequently make these types of errors.

The Committee recommended taking this item to the full Board with a recommendation of approval.

9. Grant of Easement at 2600 Fulton Avenue

GM Roscoe presented the report regarding staff installing infrastructure before easement was approved by the District Board.

The Committee recommended taking this item to the full Board with a recommendation of approval.

Adjournment

Chair Wichert adjourned the meeting at 7:39 p.m.

Robert S. Roscoe
General Manager/Secretary
Sacramento Suburban Water District