

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
MINUTES OF THE OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

May 5, 2021
9:00 A.M.

Vice President Corneille called the Operations Committee Meeting to order at 9:04 A.M. The meeting was held virtually on Zoom.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Corneille, Vice President
Melody McDonald, President

STAFF PRESENT:

Daniel Cozad, General Manager
Erwin Fogerson, Senior Engineer/Project Manager
Katelyn Scholte, Assistant Engineer
Athena Lokelani, Administrative Specialist
Betsy Miller, Land Resources Manager/Assistant General Manager
Manuel Colunga, Field Supervisor

OTHERS PRESENT:

Robert Stewart, San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public present.

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

There were none.

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM JANUARY 27, 2021

It was moved by Vice President Corneille and seconded by President McDonald to approve the Meeting Minutes from January 27, 2021. The motion carried 2-0, with all directors present voting in the affirmative.

**President McDonald: Yes
Vice President Corneille: Yes**

4. FIELD SUPERVISOR UPDATE PRESENTATION

Mr. Colunga presented a PowerPoint presentation on field activities. The District has obtained a new gaiter and field staff is being trained to utilize it. The Seven Oaks Dam release was reviewed, there was 100 CFS released from the dam. Mr. Colunga reviewed the Cuttle Weir, he indicated that the gate is three

to four feet below the water surface. Vice President Corneille discussed in brief the Enhanced Recharge Project and stated that he does not see the cost/benefit or added benefit to operations of adding a mechanical bar rack beyond Cuttle Weir. He does not believe it will catch any additional debris and recommended that staff discuss this with Valley Municipal. The costs of the mechanical bar rack are estimated to be \$3.7 million. Vice President Corneille asked about the forty flow measuring devices and if they are on SCADA and if the District will have access to that information. Mr. Colunga said that with the devices field staff can see where flows are going and direct the flows. He continued with his field update. The field intern, Adam Carranza from Steps 4 Life assisted in the cleanup of homeless encampments. Approximately twenty tribal members from San Manuel had a harvest festival gathering out in the field. Field staff used the new gaiter to remove invasive mustard. An abandoned Mercedes was removed from the Mill Creek area. Hairy-vetch is an invasive species in which 90% percent has been removed. He indicated that there have been lots of snakes out this season, suggested that the District post warning sign. Stinknet continues to be removed from District operations. Additional maintenance activities discussed were vegetation removal, Santa Ana River roads clean up and homeless encounters and encampment removals. Mr. Colunga said that the Enhanced Recharge sedimentation basin will be sealed. The sedimentation basin was not used this winter due to lack of flows and the issue with Redlands Tunnel. The Committee thanked Mr. Colunga for his detailed report.

5. ACTIVE RECHARGE TRANSFER PROJECTS

Mr. Fogerson provided a verbal update on this item. Staff is working on developing alternatives for the Plunge Creek Basins (retitled “Former Silt Basin Quarry Basin”), a map was reviewed via Zoom. Request for Proposals (RFP) are being worked on for the feasibility study. Consultants are needed for professional services support to study the basin design(s) and potential impacts. The feasibility study will be written by the District with technical assistance from the outside consultants. There will be a minimum of two RFP’s, 1) Waterman Spreading Grounds, Twin Creek Spreading Grounds and Lynwood Basins and 2) The remainder of the sites that do not have levee certification related work. The RFP’s will be issued within the next couple of months. Staff will develop a program wide schedule for the next ARTP Policy Committee and will create a detailed schedule on one of the projects for discussion.

6. MENTONE SHOP IMPROVEMENTS

This item is included on package page 29. The District released an RFP and received two proposals. Staff discussed scope of work with potential consultant, but the proposal was higher than what the Board approved. Mr. Fogerson asked if the District would like to move forward with a design build instead. The Committee spoke in support of the design build approach.

It was moved by President McDonald and seconded by Vice President Corneille to move this item forward to the Board recommending a design build approach. The motion carried 2-0, with all directors present voting in the affirmative.

**President McDonald: Yes
Vice President Corneille: Yes**

7. UPDATE ON MILL CREEK NORTH CANAL MEASUREMENT DEVICE

This item is included on package page 32. Mr. Fogerson introduced this item for discussion. A bid has been received from Larry Jacinto Construction, but they have been unavailable. The project layout must be revisited before we build it to ensure environmental requirements are met. The project should then be re-bid.

8. MILL CREEK FLUME PROJECT

Mr. Fogerson provided a verbal report on this item. It was indicated that the District paid to expedite the 408 permitting process. Construction is anticipated for next fiscal year.

9. ADJOURN MEETING

There was no further business, and the meeting adjourned at 10:18 A.M.