

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

October 15, 2019
8:00 A.M.

President Corneille called the Operations Committee Meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT:

Richard Corneille, President
Melody McDonald, Vice President

STAFF PRESENT:

Daniel Cozad, General Manager
Erwin Fogerson, Senior Engineer/Project Manager
Katelyn Scholte, Assistant Engineer
Athena Monge, Administrative Specialist

OTHERS PRESENT:

None

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public present.

2. ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA

There were none.

3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM JANUARY 17, 2019 AND AUGUST 1, 2019

It was moved by President Corneille and seconded by Vice President McDonald to approve the Meeting Minutes from January 17, 2019, and August 1, 2019. The motion carried 2-0 with all directors present voting in the affirmative.

President Corneille: Yes

Vice President McDonald: Yes

4. FIELD SUPERVISOR UPDATE

Ms. Scholte presented a PowerPoint presentation on this item. She provided a brief update on the newest Field Operations Specialist, Michael Guizar, indicating that he is doing well. She reviewed a map of the field maintenance in Mill Creek, on the map hatched areas have been cleaned and red circled areas have been scrapped. Ponds 1, 2, and 12 have been either cleaned or channeled by Upland Rock. Field Operations Specialist, Tommy Purvis, is currently utilizing the loader loaned to us by Upland Rock to clean out Pond 3. Larry Jacinto and Field Staff also cleaned out some of the ponds noted on the map. Mr. Cozad said that the District operated at full capacity this year implementing aggressive recharge, which required additional maintenance. A discussion of recent storms ensued. He indicated that Valley

Municipal is considering the Borrow Pit as a secondary sedimentation basin, but they are still discussing. Ms. Scholte indicated that the District is still taking water on the Santa Ana River side during maintenance. Basin 13, 15, 17, and Dike D have been cleaned. She stated that there is a void in the canal out of Basin 17, where EBX construction was performed previously. Mr. Fogerson said that using native materials can sometimes cause a void underneath; adjacent to that location is grouted rock, which is known to have voids underneath it. He said that the lower flows are going into the old trench; the first approach is to grout the holes out there. Metropolitan Water District has begun grouting holes; however a long term solution is still trying to be identified. Metropolitan is responsible for the costs of correcting this issue. Mr. Cozad said that erosion is the primary issue and could damage the pipeline, but the problem was caught early, so he is optimistic it can be resolved. The removal of invasive species was briefly discussed.

5. MILL CREEK UPDATES AND CHANGES

Mr. Fogerson provided a verbal update on this item. He indicated that he reviewed this project when he worked at the Flood Control District, mostly concentrating on the levees. However, his review of this project since working for the Conservation District is primarily focused on functionality and how it will be maintained. He said that there are some major design changes that need to take place to make it easier to maintain. Ms. Scholte said design changes would also make it easier to obtain the 408 permit. Mr. Fogerson said that he has prepared an amendment to the design and contract for Board approval at next month's regularly scheduled Board meeting. There is also a recommended construction phase change, which will require an amendment to the contract with CWE. The 404 permit was submitted in June, and Jericho Systems was asked to resubmit with changes. The 1602 permit for Streambed Alteration has not been submitted yet but will be done soon. Staff is anticipating construction to begin next summer. President Corneille requested to review the proposed changes. Vice President McDonald asked for an overview of the project. Staff briefly reviewed the map and project. The purpose of the project is to open up the canal wider so that debris can pass through easier to allow for all-weather operations of that facility. President Corneille asked the status of the measurement for the North Canal. Ms. Scholte said that the quote from Jacinto to perform the work was only good through June, and there was water in the canal during that time. Mr. Fogerson reviewed the design, and the facility has been moved slightly upstream. Mr. Fogerson said that Jacinto would be giving a design standard to refer to meet requirements of that channel. The District has received an updated quote.

6. ACTIVE RECHARGE TRANSFER PROJECTS UPDATE

Mr. Cozad said that members had been appointed to the Active Recharge Transfer Projects (ARTP) Policy Committee. Staff will be meeting with Robertson's Ready Mix next week to discuss Plunge Creek. Mr. Fogerson presented a PowerPoint presentation on this item. There are five transfer projects:

- 1) Mill Creek - will dovetail with the Districts' current project. In order to increase flow in the North Canal, we will have to increase the flows under the levee as well. This project will require a 408 permit. The main issue is high silt.
- 2) Plunge Creek - The site challenges included environmental sensitivity and unstable creek invert. This basin continually fills with sediment, and there are SBKR in the area. The initial basin plan was discussed in detail.
- 3) City Creek - This area is environmentally sensitive, and there are high storm velocities. There needs to be a revised design, alternatives to build outside of flow path, and/or build on a smaller footprint. Flood Control is selling part of the land for \$4 million. This is a prime habitat area. The history of the project was reviewed in brief.

- 4) East Twin Creek – This site will require a 408 permit, and there are residents in close proximity. This is a restoration project and will require rebuilding the spillways that have been washed out. This will require a spreading agreement and agreement with FCD. There are certified levees within the site area.
- 5) Waterman Creek - This project is outside of the Districts boundary. The basins are currently being utilized for recharge by Valley Municipal, and the FCD does the maintenance. There are certified levees through FEMA in the area, so area work that needs to be done will have to avoid those. The site will require a 408 permit.

Mr. Fogerson reviewed the future steps for each of the sites, which include investigation of sites and developing an overall program. This item will come back to the Board and the ARTP Policy Committee once that is completed for review and approval. Mr. Fogerson briefly reviewed the project matrix.

7. PLUNGE CREEK UPDATE

Mr. Cozad provided a verbal update on this item. Staff will be meeting with CADFW next Thursday to discuss the project. Mikael Romich will have the report back to the District in the near future, and Ms. Miller will rewrite the 2081 permit to add SBKR after results from biologists are received. Vice President McDonald asked when we can move forward on the revised version. Mr. Cozad said that we could move forward at any time, but staff prefers to wait until after amendment to permit is done; it will likely come back in March next year. There is no SBKR in phase one area.

8. OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE UPDATE PLAN

Ms. Scholte updated the Operations and Maintenance Manual. There have been updates to the maps, including the new land purchases the District made, updates to new invasive species, and updates to aggressive recharge and equipment. The conceptual plan to enhance the recharge project has been included. The Committee was provided a copy of the updated manual, and one will be available in the library as well.

9. ADJOURN MEETING

It was moved by President Corneille and seconded by Vice President McDonald that the meeting be adjourned to field tour. The motion carried 2-0 with all directors present voting in the affirmative.

President Corneille: Yes

Vice President McDonald: Yes

There was no further business, and the meeting adjourned at 9:55 a.m.