

**SAN LUIS & DELTA MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY
MINUTES - OPERATIONS & MAINTENANCE
TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
October 23, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Committee Chairman Chris White at the Authority's Board Room, 842 6th Street in Los Banos.

Committee Members Present

Exchange Contractors

Chris White, Central California Irrigation District

Friant Water Authority

Chris Hickernell, Friant Water Authority

Lower DMC Area

Jeff Bryant, Firebaugh Canal Water District

Mendota Pool Area

Danny Wade, Tranquility Irrigation District

San Felipe Area

Robert Haskins, San Felipe Area

San Luis Canal Area

Dan Pope, Westlands Water District

Bill Pierce, Westlands Water District, Alternate

SLDMWA

Bob Martin, Engineering & Planning Manager

Paul Stearns, Operations & Maintenance Manager, Alternate

Upper DMC

Bobby Pierce, West Stanislaus Irrigation District

Adam Scheuber, Del Puerto Water District

USBR

Allan Lindauer, Reclamation, SCCAO, Tracy Office

SLDMWA Staff Members Present

Jason Peltier, Executive Director

Frances Mizuno, Assistant Executive Director

Guy Wamocha, Supervisor of Accounting

Jim Lenhardt, Safety Engineer

Others Present

Ben Fenters, San Luis Water District

Juan Cardena, Panoche Water District

1. Corrections or Additions to the Agenda

None

2. Opportunity for Public Comment

None

3. Committee to Consider Approval of October 17, 2016 O & M Technical Committee Meeting Minutes

Bobby Pierce made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, and Dan Pope seconded the motion. The vote on the motion was follows:

AYE: White, Hickernell, Bryant, Wade, Haskins, Pope, Martin, Lindauer, Bobby Pierce.

NOES: None

ABSTENTIONS: None

4. Committee to Consider Recommendation for Approval to the Finance and Administration Committee the Proposed O&M Budget including the Extra-Ordinary, CIP, and Routine O&M Budget for FY20 and Preliminary O&M Budget for FY21

Frances Mizuno began the budget discussion by stating that this is an ordinary budget without a whole lot of changes or additions. She stated that there is a quite a bit of catching up to do on the RO&M PM side and we have some significant EO&M Projects particularly the O'Neill P/G Plant refurbishment projects and the Jones PP Unit 6 rewind project. She reviewed the Proposed Budget Summary table on page 5 of 97 in the package. She pointed out there is only a 4.49% increase from FY2019. She also noted that the EO&M budget has a 16.1% decrease and a 1.78% decrease on the CIP projects. Frances also explained that Reclamation funded the JPP Unit 6 Rewind Project and this budget assumes they will fund the Rewind of Unit 2 as well. If not, this will drastically impact on next year's budget. Frances stated that the Total O&M Budget for FY20 is \$21,746,223 which is a 0.80% decrease from FY19. She stated that there are no requests for additional positions with this year's budget submittal. While on the staffing discussion, Jeff Bryant asked how many people are in the weed control program. Paul Stearns stated that we have two staff dedicated to the spray program. Jeff noted that water hyacinth is a serious problem on the lower end of the DMC. There was a brief discussion and the SLDMWA agreed that they will pursue obtaining a NPDES permit to spray the water hyacinth in the DMC.

Paul Stearns went over the details of the Routine Operation and Maintenance budget. He explained any items that had more than a 5% variance from the FY18 budget. Frances reviewed the Microwave Tower Special Project and Paul reviewed the justifications for the request box scraper and tilt trailer. Chris asked if there were any further questions on the routine budget as submitted. There were no questions or comments from the committee on the routine budget.

Bob Martin began the review of the FY20/21 EO&M budget by explaining and reviewing the FY20/21 EO&M Project Funding Summary and 10-Year Plan provided in the budget package. Frances noted that the projects on the 10-Year Plan that are grouped under the USBR RAX PROJECTS category shown on the page 24 of 97 are high cost projects associated with the Pumping Plant reliability and DMC subsidence mitigation. These projects have been submitted to Reclamation for funding support. She further explained that even though the projects are funded by Reclamation, the cost of these projects are still the responsibility of the water contractors and will need to be repaid via a negotiated repayment agreement with Reclamation.

Frances noted that as a result of amount of projects on the 10 Year Plan, the SLDMWA is in the process of performing a full evaluation of what resources are needed to be able to properly manage all the RO&M activities and EO&M projects. The evaluation will include determining the staffing required to perform all the work with in-house crafts or increase engineering staff to begin contracting out the upcoming large scale EO&M projects. The plan is to present the labor analysis findings to the Committee at next year's meeting.

Bob reviewed the project details and cost estimates for each of the FY20 EO&M projects. Jim Lenhardt reviewed the list of vehicles and equipment proposed to be replaced in this year's budget.

After completion of the FY20 EO&M budget review, Bob reviewed the general scope of the proposed projects planned for FY21.

After completion for the FY21 EO&M Project review, Dan Pope noted in consideration of the amount of Routine O&M work and the number of upcoming EO&M projects he stated that the SLDMWA will obviously need additional staff to complete the work. He asked if we had an idea of the number of additional staff necessary to perform the work. Frances noted that we hired Steve Larsen, retired SLDMWA manager, to perform a labor resource analysis and the preliminary results for the labor analysis being performed is for the RO&M side, we will need about 1 additional craft for each crew. That would be an additional 4 employees to the existing staff. Dan emphasized that typically RO&M work suffers when there is not enough staff.

Chris White called for any further questions on the entire budget as presented. Dan Pope motioned to recommend for approval of the budget, as presented, to the Finance and Administration Committee, Chris Hickernell seconded the motion.

AYE: White, Hickernell, Bryant, Wade, Haskins, Pope, Martin, Lindauer, Bobby Pierce.
NOES: None
ABSTENTIONS: None

5. Review Status of JPP Unit 6 Rewind Project

Frances stated that Reclamation agreed to fund the JPP Unit 6 Rewind Project. One condition of the funding/repayment agreement, the SLDMWA is required to use 75% of its emergency reserves to support the project. As a result, the SLDMWA needs to fund \$1.2M towards the project. She did state that Reclamation is allowing us to credit in-kind work towards the \$1.2M. Approximately \$400K of completed/planned in-kind work was approved by Reclamation. She also noted, the Finance and Administration Committee approved using the emergency reserve funds to cover the remaining \$800K.

Bob informed the Committee that the preparation of the JPP Unit 6 Rewind project plans and technical specification has been completed and the “boiler plate” will be completed and submitted to Reclamation for a final review at the end of the week. Bob noted that the current schedule has the project being advertised the during the first in December, the contractor will have 45 days to prepare their proposals, after bids are received a review team of Reclamation and SLMDWA staff will review the proposals during the last week in January, and the anticipated award date for the contract is planned for the first week in February. The contractor will have 3 months to prepare the submittals, approximately 3 months will be needed on-site to perform the rewind and the anticipated completion date is in mid-November. Chris noted that during the future designs of the units should consider soft starts and/or variable frequency drives. Bob concurred.

6. Review Actions Items from Meeting

There were no action items from the meeting

7. Confirm Date, Time, and Location for Next Meeting

The date and location was not determined at the meeting

8. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Sec 54954.2

No Reports Given

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.