

Board Update Meeting Summary | Friday, August 15, 2014

This summary may not include all agenda items and is not considered minutes of the meeting. Click on the link below for complete meeting agenda items.

[LINK TO COMPLETE AGENDA ITEMS & MINUTES](#)

Board Actions:

Board of Public Utilities approves the following consent calendar item:

- Approval for Work Order No. 1412378 in the amount of \$51,572 was given. It will support Riverside Community College's new student and administration building located at 4800 Magnolia Avenue; the Riverside Public Utilities Water Division will construct one 4-inch domestic water service with a 3-inch water meter, one 4-inch fire service, and relocate an existing fire hydrant from Fairfax Avenue to Magnolia Avenue.

Board approves Professional Consultant Services Agreement Amendments and Project Cost Shares for the Riverside North Aquifer Storage and Recovery Project

Water Engineering Manager Todd Jorgenson gave a presentation that provided background and history of the project also known as the "Rubber Dam Project" in order for the board to:

- Recommend that the City Council approve the First Amendment to the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) Cost Share Agreement between Western Municipal Water District (WMWD) and San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District (SBVMWD) for the project and extend the contract term until December 31, 2018 and a supplemental agreement outlining the cost sharing of the EIR and authorize the City Manager or designee to approve supplemental agreements when additional cost share opportunities are identified.
- Approve the First Amendment to the Professional Consultant Service Agreement with CH2M Hill Engineers, Inc., for the design of the project and to extend the term until December 31, 2018.
- Recommend that the City Council approve the Design and Permitting Cost Share Agreement for the project between WMWD and SBVMWD and authorize the City Manager or designee to approve any supplemental agreements when additional cost share opportunities are identified
- Approve the Third Amendment to the Professional Services Agreement with RBF Consulting for the EIR for the project in the amount not to exceed \$363,375.

When completed, the project will yield approximately 14,000 acre-feet annually. This project will assist with groundwater recharge by capturing storm water runoff by utilizing an inflatable rubber dam across the Santa Ana River near Colton and the Interstate 215. Water will be diverted to recharge basins and to flumes located along the river.

Board receives and files an update on the Digital Electric Meter Replacement Project for Residential Customers

Assistant General Manager, Michael Bacich explained the need for upgrading to digital meters because mechanical meters are no longer manufactured and as the older meters age they slow down and represent lost revenue. He indicated that over 80,000 meters have been replaced with less than 15,000 more to be installed by April 2015. Field Services Manager Fred Stoiber demonstrated how they are read from a wireless hand held device and answered questions about accuracy, and future technologies that can be employed.

General Manager's Report:

General Manager Girish Balachandran requested Assistant General Manager Michael Bacich to provide the latest information on drought outreach activities. Bacich stated that letters were mailed to our 65,000 water customers and ads were placed with the letter in Press Enterprise, Unidos and The Voice. Customer response has peaked at approximately 5,000 calls through 311 with mostly customers asking what else they can do. The mass media markets have been covering the drought since January; therefore awareness of the issue is high. Customer Relations staff is working hard to return all calls they receive. A customer communications team has been formed to provide community presentations on the drought in the coming weeks. So far 4 presentations have been given with 20 more to be scheduled. A public service announcement has been created to run on the local government channel. He also outlined the current action steps that the city is taking in regards to restrictions. Outreach/Education will come first, then enforcement if necessary.

Board requests for future updates - None at this time