

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
INDIAN WELLS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

PLANT AND EQUIPMENT COMMITTEE
REGULAR MEETING

REPORT

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6, 2024 – 2:00 PM
BOARD ROOM
500 W. RIDGECREST BLVD., RIDGECREST

Attendees: Mallory Boyd, Stan Rajtora, George Croll, Ty Staheli, Jason Lillion and Renee Morquecho.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm.

2. Committee/Public Comments

None.

3. Drinking Water Administrator Program: Request for Qualifications

Staff presented the Committee with information regarding the Drinking Water Administrator Program and the requirement to submit a Statement of Qualifications (SOQ). The State Water Resources Control Board Drinking Water Program has requested that the District submit an SOQ in preparation for possible request to become the Administrator of the Inyokern Community Services District. The Committee discussed their concerns and will be continuing the discussion at the next Board meeting. Staff is looking for direction from the Board.

4. Rademacher Way Mainline Extension: Notice of Exemption

The Committee reviewed a Notice of Exemption for Phase 1 of the Rademacher Way Mainline Extension Project. The District is working with the Groundwater Authority to fund this approximately 1000 ft 8-inch pipeline extension as a Phase 1 that will eventually see all homes in the area off of wells with high TDS and arsenic. The second phase will continue north on Rademacher and loop to Gordon Street. Well destruction will be included in Phase 2 of the project. Plans for the first phase were approved by the District several years ago but the pipeline was not installed. The GA has received grant funding that will pay for these types of projects.

5. Lead Service Line Inventory: Update

All public water systems in California are required to inventory their service lines from the main to the meter and from the meter to the home by October 24, 2024. There are many ways to do this. The District has around 12,000 service connections and was able to narrow down those that have to be

visited in person by eliminating the connections installed after 1986 when lead was no longer allowed in plumbing supplies. For the remaining connections, staff is visiting each one, opening the meter box, and taking a look at the material connected to the meter on both the District and customer side. So far, the District has inventoried around 8000 connections and approximately 4000 remain. Staff is working overtime to get this accomplished and has made great progress in only a few weekends. It is expected that the inventory can be completed in 3-4 more weekends.

6. NW Transmission Pipeline Replacement Project: Update

Nicholas Construction has been removing the old 30-inch CMLC pipe and has completed removal up to Primavera where you can see the Navy's water tanks on the north side of the fence. Tomorrow they will have a second crew begin installation of the new 24-inch PVC pipe at Victor Street. During pipeline removal/potholing, it appears as though some of the existing 24-inch CMLC pipe along Victor Street may also need to be replaced. After further investigation, a decision was made to also replace the CMLC pipe in Victor up to Well 30 (the closest to Hwy 178). This is approximately 700 additional feet of 24-inch PVC. The cost is approximately \$213,000 but Nicholas has submitted a request to use native soil for backfill which will give the District a credit of \$200,000. In addition, at Jacks Ranch Rd, additional fusible PVC will be needed to cross under the road so as not to tear up the new intersection/light there. That additional cost is about \$80,000 but the District will be receiving yet another credit for eliminating 6 of the 10 planned blow offs along the pipeline (cost \$14,000 each). In the contract there is a line item of \$100,000 for "unforeseen conditions" and ultimately after accounting for all deductions/credits, about \$16,000 of the credit will be used.

7. Dune 3 and Hometown Water Consolidations: Update

Last week the District received a draft general counsel opinion letter and request for a letter designating the authorized representative from the District to sign documents for the Hometown Water System consolidation funding. Staff and legal are reviewing them at this time. Staff expects to receive the same type of request soon for the Dune 3 consolidation. In addition, the staff will be reviewing a proposal from GHD consulting engineers for handling the bidding and project management/inspections for the project. GHD is the consultant that has done all the planning and design for this project with all costs paid by the State. The agreement will be between the District and GHD but will be covered by the grant funding.

8. Arsenic Treatment Facilities: Update

The new media has been installed at Plant 1 and staff is running through the testing of the plant in order to bring it online in the next few days. Plant 2 is offline due to a metering error. The cause of the error is being investigated.

9. Future Agenda Items

- Lead service line inventory update
- La Mirage Housing Area Grant Funding
- Transmission pipeline(s) inspection

- Springer Ave pipeline schedule
- Imported pipeline infrastructure upgrades

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 pm.