

DRAFT Pending Approval

EAST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT ENGINEERING & OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

March 24, 2025

MINUTES

Ms. Van Meter called the meeting to order at 11:05 a.m., Director Goodrich led the flag salute.

PRESENT: Directors: Carrillo, Goodrich

STAFF: Patrick Milroy, Operations Manager; Jeff Noelte, Director of Engineering & Operations; Manny Moreno, Water Reclamation Manager; Ryan Ritualo, IT Manager, Mike Hurst, Water and Wastewater Compliance Supervisor; Brenda Van Meter, Senior Administrative Assistant

GUEST(s): District Staff

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Senior Administrative Assistant declared that there were no written or verbal comments and closed the public participation section.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 27, 2025, ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Director Goodrich recommended that the minutes be approved, and Director Carrillo agreed.

SUPERVISORY CONTROL AND DATA ACQUISITION (SCADA) RESILIENCY UPDATE

Mr. Ritualo presented the benefits of SCADA and explained how the Operations and Water Reclamation departments use the technology to monitor the District's sites and functions. He stated how the SCADA system currently uses radio communication. The technology allows staff to monitor activities remotely from the SCADA software and adjust activity remotely as needed. He explained that the District's SCADA system is old and requires updates to support operational activities. The SCADA Resiliency Project was developed to evaluate the District's current structure and provide recommendations for future needs. Mr. Ritualo stated that recommendations for infrastructure improvements will be presented in the 2025/26 fiscal budget.

The SCADA Resiliency Project includes reviewing options for backup power that include installing solar and generator power supplies at some of the locations.

One of the options being considered for SCADA upgrading is to change from radio frequency operations to cellular service operations. This would allow the District to work with two cellular suppliers so that if one supplier is down, the other can provide service. Mr. Ritualo noted that cellular options provide fiber resiliency and better data encryption, which increases cybersecurity.

Information only.

FOG PRETREATMENT PROGRAM UPDATES (FATS, OILS, AND GREASE)

Mr. Hurst provided a presentation about how the FOG program works and explained how the program is progressing. He stated that the customer base for the program is currently limited to commercial food service, auto repair, and car wash customers. He stated that the District is currently contracted with a service provider who inspects the customer sites and reports any non-compliance to the District. Any customer that is out of compliance is provided with a two-week window to correct the issue before the District takes corrective action.

The Public Affairs department worked with Water Quality to develop customer information brochures that aid them in proper disposal of fats, oils and greases. The educational materials won a 2024 MARCOM Gold award for the outreach campaign. Additionally, residential customers received educational materials as a bill insert to advise them about what is safe to put down the drain in their homes.

Mr. Hurst noted since the District took over the FOG program from the City of San Bernardino, the program has grown 25% in business participation, which includes businesses that were not previously permitted.

Information only.

EVWD SUMMER READINESS UPDATE

Mr. Milroy provided an update explaining East Valley Water District's plans for summer readiness. He reviewed the impact experienced when Sterling Natural Resources came online, noting that the Wells in Weaver Basin had to be taken offline due to State Regulations. This required adjustments to replace the 15 percent of groundwater production loss. In 2024, the summer water demand was approximately 20 million gallons per day. The District met this demand by increasing production at Treatment Plant 134.

The increased water production at Treatment Plant 134 required some changes within the production system, which included the addition of a new pressure valve at Plant 129. Additionally, Plant 120 was reactivated after being evaluated for use. Plant 120 came online in May of 2024 and provided an additional source for groundwater production.

The Operations Department has several activities in process for Summer 2025. These include Plant 129, which is a new well, analyzing Plant 134 for expansion opportunities and evaluating possible interties with neighboring agencies.

Information only.

CONSIDER APPROVAL TO RESCHEDULE THE MAY 26, 2025, ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING TO MAY 27, 2025

Ms. Van Meter stated that the meeting scheduled for May 26, 2025, falls on Memorial Day. The committee agreed to move the meeting to May 27, 2025.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Mr. Noelte reported on Engineering projects:

- The rehabilitation of the welded steel reservoir at Plant 56 is progressing well. The contractor is on track to complete the work in May.
- Plant 129's well drilling contractor is expected to mobilize this week.
- Plant 101's booster station rehabilitation is now under contract with a pump contractor who is preparing equipment submittals for review.
- Influent pumps have been modified at the Sterling Natural Resource Center to address issues with motors overheating. The last of four pumps is expected to be put back into service this week.

Information only.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52 p.m.

Phillip R. Goodrich
Governing Board Member

Chris Carrillo
Governing Board Member