

THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF STOCKTON EAST WATER DISTRICT WAS HELD AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE
6767 EAST MAIN STREET, STOCKTON, CA
ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2020 AT 12:00 NOON

A. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND ROLL CALL

President Panizza called the regular meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and Administrative Assistant Curtis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at roll call at the District was Directors Sanguinetti and Watkins. Also present were Manager Moody, Assistant Manager Hopkins, District Engineer Evensen, Finance Director Vega, Water Operations Manager Wunderlich, Administrative Services Manager Carido, Administrative Assistant Curtis and Consultant Barkett. Present at roll call via teleconference were Directors McGaughey, McGurk and Panizza. Also present via teleconference was Legal Counsel Zolezzi. Directors Atkins and Cortopassi were absent.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR (None)

C. PUBLIC COMMENT (None)

D. SCHEDULED PRESENTATIONS AND AGENDA ITEMS

1. Disinfection Alternatives Study Presentation

Manager Moody reported staff has been working with Carollo Engineers (Carollo) regarding disinfection alternatives for the Water Treatment Plant. Manager Moody reported the biggest concerns the District currently faces using gaseous chlorine is the safety of staff and public and that there are only 2 gaseous chlorine providers within deliverable proximity to the District. The District's current vendor is located in Torrance, California and must cross the Grapevine to make deliveries and the back-up provider is located in Nevada and would need to cross the Sierra Mountains to make a delivery.

Manager Moody reported at the September 8, 2020 Regular Board Meeting, Carollo was awarded the project to look at alternative disinfection measures for the District. Chris Cleveland, P.E., Carollo and Dr. Thomas Gillogly, Carollo provided a presentation to the Board regarding their recommendations on alternate disinfection measures.

Discussion focused on the District's existing chlorine gas facility, the evaluated alternatives, recommendations and next steps in moving forward. Mr. Cleveland reported there are 2 types of disinfection applications for drinking water; one primary and the other secondary. Primary disinfection is what occurs at the Water Treatment Plant to meet regulatory disinfection and can include methods, such as; chlorine gas, bulk sodium hypochlorite, onsite sodium hypochlorite generation, ozone, UV disinfection and chlorine dioxide. Secondary disinfection occurs in the distribution system to maintain regulatory requirements. Options for secondary disinfection include; chlorine gas, bulk sodium hypochlorite, onsite sodium hypochlorite generation and chloramines. Mr. Cleveland reported that even if a non-chlorine option is chosen for the primary disinfection, a chlorinated option will have to be chosen for the secondary disinfection as chlorine must be used to maintain regulations.

Mr. Cleveland reported that the District's current chlorine gas facility is a very well run system, simple to understand and the Operators know how to operate the system. The amount of maintenance required is relatively low.

Mr. Cleveland reported on some challenges and risks with the current chlorine gas facility. Some issues include; the current setup does have one cross connection within the system. The District's delivery process is relatively complex and somewhat risky. The current building was not created for the type of work that takes place in it now and there are not enough cradles in the room to jockey cylinders back and forth during a delivery. There is also the concern that this chemical is located inside a building where the majority of District operations staff works. It should also be noted that the availability of chlorine gas is decreasing, while the cost is increasing.

Mr. Cleveland reported that whether or not a switch in disinfection measures is taken, it is recommended that a new chemical disinfection storage and feed facility be built to help reduce liability. The current facility does not meet today's standards.

Mr. Cleveland reported that Carollo evaluated both cost and non-cost factors when reviewing 3 alternatives. The 3 disinfection systems reviewed were, a new chlorine gas facility, bulk hypochlorite facility and onsite hypochlorite generation facility. Mr. Cleveland added that only chlorine options were reviewed as it will be needed in the secondary disinfection stage anyway so it would be more efficient to stay with chlorine instead of having multiple disinfection methods.

The categories reviewed with each disinfection option were capital estimate cost, annual O&M estimate and 20 year life-cycle estimate. The least expensive options are a new chlorine gas facility and bulk hypochlorite facility. However, if you were to evaluate the risk and liability if a leak were to happen, it would make chlorine gas the most expensive option.

Mr. Cleveland reported on the alternative weighting that was performed on all 3 options. The categories that were weighted were costs, safety, existing and future regulations, redundancy and functionality and chemical availability, transport, storage. The recommendation would be to switch to a bulk delivery sodium hypochlorite solution, as it is safer and most water agencies are switching to this chemical from chlorine gas. Manager Moody pointed out that onsite hypochlorite generation would have an extremely high electricity demand increase and additionally, the District would be responsible for disposing the waste product as a result of this process.

Director Sanguinetti inquired how these options fit with how the City of Stockton currently treats their water. Mr. Cleveland replied the City uses chloramines, so there will be no difference from the water the District is currently supplying, no matter which disinfection method is used.

Director Sanguinetti inquired how the 2 options outside of chlorine gas would react with machinery, like mixers and pumps and if it will be compatible. Mr. Cleveland reported all materials and equipment would be new and would be selected to be the most compatible with the option the Board chooses. Once the liquid chlorine mixes with water, there will be no difference from the gas chlorine and all existing facilities will continue to work.

Director McGurk inquired on bleach de-gassing and leaving bubbles in pipes and commented that Clorox ionizes water to make it more stable and if ionization could be used to make the

bleach more stable if hypochlorite was selected. Dr. Gillogly replied there are processes that will minimize the accelerated degradation and a filtration process that can be integrated into the system to also help minimize degradation.

Mr. Cleveland reported that Carollo also looked at future alternatives, like ozone, UV and chlorine dioxide on a weighted scale. It was reported that there are multiple benefits with ozone that help with oxidation and things like taste and odor, algal activity and disinfection byproducts. There is potential benefit for ozone in the future and possible master planning that can be done to see how it will fit the District's needs.

Mr. Cleveland reported the recommendation from Carollo and from discussion with staff, would be bulk hypochlorite. A potential site plan for the addition of a hypochlorite feed building and storage was presented. It was discussed that there would be minimal additional paving needed and there is already an ability for trucks to turn around. The location behind the Operations Building, that is recommended, seems to be the most cost efficient and operationally efficient.

Mr. Cleveland provided a simple rendering of what this storage facility would look like. There would be bulk tanks that would allow for several weeks of hypochlorite storage. The building adjacent to the tanks would have a feed system, eye wash and showers and comply with all safety measures. The storage area would be recessed to have full containment if a leak were to happen.

Mr. Cleveland reported the potential next steps would be confirmation of disinfection selection, preliminary engineering report, a workshop to review the report, and a final report in early 2021. Detailed design and construction would be the next phase of the project.

Director Watkins inquired where the injection point into the Water Treatment Plant were located. Mr. Cleveland replied they would remain where they currently are which is at both the front and back of the Plant.

Director McGurk inquired if hydrogen peroxide would be a viable alternative. Dr. Gillogly replied peroxide would be extremely expensive in the doses that would be required for the District.

Director Sanguinetti inquired if changing from the District's current process would change the flavor of the water. Mr. Cleveland replied no, there will be no impact. Should an ozone option be introduced at some point, it would help improve taste and odor.

Director McGurk commented that it seems most of the water industry is moving away from gaseous chlorine and the District should not be the last entity to still use this chemical. The District should look at keeping in line with how other water entities function.

Director Sanguinetti commented that the safety of staff and public is a big issue with gaseous chlorine, and availability of the chemical is just as much of an issue, especially if it came down to being unable to disinfect the water because of a delivery issue.

Manager Moody suggested it may be helpful to gather input from the Urban Contractors and bring this item back to the Board after comments have been received. Director Sanguinetti agreed.

President Panizza advised this item should be brought back to the Board in two weeks for further discussion. President Panizza thanked Mr. Cleveland and Dr. Gillogly for their presentation.

2. Minutes 10/13/20 Regular Meeting

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the October 13, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Atkins, Cortopassi

3. Warrants – California Public Employees’ Retirement System

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the October 20, 2020 Warrants – California Public Employees’ Retirement System, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Atkins, Cortopassi

4. Stockton East Water District – Fiscal Year 2020 – 2021 Budgeted Vehicle Purchase Memo, 10/20/20

Manager Moody provided the Board with a memo regarding a budgeted vehicle purchase. Manager Moody reported staff narrowed the search down to Chevrolet and Ford. Based on input from the Board last week regarding purchasing an American made vehicle, Chevrolet rises to the top.

Manager Moody reported the only add-on staff is requesting is for hands-free for cell phone use. Manager Moody reported there is ~16-week lead-time for this particular vehicle.

Manager Moody requested that if the Board decides to move forward with this purchase, that there is a contingency in the motion that should there be issues with delivering prior to the end of the Fiscal Year (March 31, 2021), that Manager Moody can work with a local dealership to ensure the vehicle is onsite by the deadline, while staying within the approved purchase amount.

A motion was moved and seconded to approve the purchase of a 2020 Chevrolet Express 2500 under State Contract pricing in an amount not to exceed \$30,077.38, as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: McGaughey, McGurk, Panizza, Sanguinetti, Watkins

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Atkins, Cortopassi

Director McGurk commented that the motion did not include the contingency Manager Moody requested. Director McGaughey amended her motion to include allowing Manager Moody to

work with a local dealership should the vehicle be unable to be delivered prior to the March 31, 2021 deadline. President Panizza seconded the motion.

5. Stockton East Water District – Phytophthora Study Memo, 10/20/20

Manager Moody provided the Board with a memo regarding a Phytophthora Study. Manager Moody reported staff contacted U.C. Davis (UCD) and the UCD Extension in Stockton to inquire about updating the 1997 phytophthora study. The UCD lab expressed interest in performing an updated study, may team up with the UCD Extension and has provided the District with a proposal to conduct a new study during the 2021 irrigation season.

Manager Moody reported the updated phytophthora study will include collection of two samples each month, between April and October, from the Calaveras River, Mormon Slough, Mosher Creek and Potter Creek. The total of 56 samples will be taken to the UCD lab for microscopic observations and molecular identification of the phytophthora species.

Manager Moody reported the UCD will provide the District monthly presence/absence reports for each location and develop a final report analyzing the phytophthora prevalence, detailing the phytophthora species, providing recommendations to address the phytophthora issues, and include related literature from other studies.

Manager Moody added that this study is included in the draft Fiscal Year 2021/22 Budget and will be called out specifically in the Budget. Manager Moody wanted to bring this before the Board prior to provide the opportunity to voice opinion on the study. Manager Moody added that this study would help with the argument of moving people off groundwater and on to surface water.

Director McGurk reported that he is happy that this study is being considered and staff is organizing the process. He added there are a couple points he would like to draw attention to, one being, that phytophthora does not affect the walnut itself, it effects the root stock and he suspects it will affect almond roots just the same. Director McGurk also drew attention to the amount of cherries within the District boundaries and inquired if the study should be expanded to identify the different species of phytophthora and match which species attacks which root style.

Director McGurk reported that phytophthora is in the soil. Once it comes out of the soil and into the water it will work its way downstream and the water users at the end of the line will be at more risk of being exposed to phytophthora. Director McGurk suggested instead of taking 56 samples, perhaps 112 should be taken. A complete series upstream and then an additional series of samples downstream.

Director Sanguinetti reported there should be a baseline sample taken right at the dam to see what species is found where the water starts.

Director Sanguinetti reported that sometimes it is not what is in the water necessarily, rather it comes down to irrigation practices.

E. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Joint Exercise of Powers Authority Meeting, 10/14/20

Directors Panizza, Watkins and Manager Moody attended the October 14, 2020 Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Joint Exercise of Powers Authority Teleconference Meeting. President Panizza reported the Board approved the resolution authorizing the Secretary of the GWA to approve expenditures and execute contracts within the designations and limitations of the approved budget. There was discussion on the DWR draft GSP proposal solicitation project. Majority of the time was used for a presentation provided by NSJWCD outlining their proposal utilizing 100% of their allotment. This would include running pipeline down the western side of the district and rehabilitating pumps at the current intake site. President Panizza reported SEWD was not called upon to provide presentation on the Grupe Lake Project. Manager Moody added that prior to the JPA Board Meeting the Grupe Lake landowner decided they did not want to use the grant process as it would slow them down and they will move forward on their own. President Panizza reported this group will only meet quarterly moving forward on the next meeting is scheduled January 13, 2021.

F. REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

1. Water Supply Report as of 10/19/20

Manager Moody provided a handout of the Water Supply Report for information only that included storage, release, and production data collected from various sources as of midnight last night.

There is 138,402 AF in storage at New Hogan Reservoir. Current releases are set at 62 cfs. There is 1,512,107 AF in storage at New Melones Reservoir. Current release at Goodwin Dam to Stanislaus River are set at 479 cfs and release to all water users are set at 873 cfs. There are 0 irrigator(s) on New Hogan, 0 irrigator(s) on New Melones and 0 Out-of-District irrigator(s). The water treatment plant is currently processing 31 mgd. The City of Stockton is currently processing 20 mgd.

2. Information Items:

Manager Moody noted items: F2a-1, F2a-2 and F2a-3.

3. Report on General Manager Activities

- a. Central Valley Project Water Association – Executive & Financial Affairs Committee, 10/16/20

Finance Director Vega attended the October 16, 2020 Central Valley Project Water Association – Executive & Financial Affairs Committee meeting. Finance Director Vega reported the schedule of meetings for 2021 was provided to the Committee. The CVP Water Users Association is continuing to look for a replacement for Larry Bowman, its current President, as he has put in his notice for retirement. Finance Director Vega reported the CVP irrigation and water rates have been released on the USBR website and will be finalized in spring. Ag rates remained relatively the same and M&I increased slightly. There was discussion on the USBR's upcoming reclassification of costs and rate impacts. The next meeting is scheduled for November 20, 2020.

- b. Stockton East Water District Activities Update

Nothing to report.

G. DIRECTOR REPORTS (None)

H. COMMUNICATIONS (None)

I. AGENDA PLANNING/UPCOMING EVENTS

1. San Joaquin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Advisory Water Commission Meeting, 1:00 p.m., 10/21/20
2. Greater San Joaquin County Regional Water Coordinating Committee Meeting, 3:00 p.m., 10/21/20
This meeting was cancelled
3. Stockton East Water District Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting – Bellota Project, 12:00 Noon, 10/23/20

J. REPORT OF THE COUNSEL

1. Closed Session - Potential Litigation
Government Code 54956.9 (c) – one case
2. Closed Session - Personnel
Government Code 54957

President Panizza adjourned the meeting to closed session at 1:46 p.m. to discuss closed session agenda items. Administrative Assistant Curtis was excused from the closed session meeting at 1:57 p.m. The regular meeting reconvened at 2:22 p.m., with no reportable action.

K. ADJOURNMENT

President Panizza adjourned the meeting at 2:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Scot A. Moody
Secretary of the Board

tbc

