



Report!

Board of Directors Summary for February 20, 2002

Report! is prepared by the Community Involvement Department for all interested individuals. This brief summary of selected items from Eastern Municipal Water District Board of Directors' meetings is distributed after each meeting. Please circulate it to others having an interest. For more information, call 909/928-3777, ext. 4226; or FAX: 909/928-6160.

BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors honored three employees for their lengths of service:

- **Julia Burns**, Purchasing Manager, 20 years;
- **Henriette Nieblas**, Construction Project Administrative Supervisor, 20 years;
- **Brad Helfrich**, Senior Facilities Location Technician, 15 years.

...approved a joint funding agreement with the City of Perris Utility Authority for \$500,000 -- phases one and two of shared-use sewer transmission line replacements serving the Enchanted Heights area. Project funds to be financed from the Perris Valley Replacement and System Betterment Construction Fund and North Perris Sewers Improvement District.

...approved additional funding for biosolids reuse/disposal at District's reclamation plants in an amount not to exceed \$470,000. The need for additional funding results from the county's ban on land application of class "B" biosolids. The additional funds will be paid from this year's Operating Budget.

...approved a four-year agreement with McCall's Meter Sales and Service for water meter testing and repair services for an annually estimated amount of \$100,000 to be funded from the District's Operating Budget.

...approved engineering services with Psomas, Inc., for the Hemet/San Jacinto Groundwater Storage Program Feasibility Study for \$399,579. It will be partially funded from a California Department of Water Resources (DWR) grant and the balance from the General District's Research and Development reserve.

...adopted a resolution authorizing execution of a feasibility study grant contract with DWR which provides for engineering services with Psomas in development of continuing groundwater programs.

...adopted resolutions revising special capacity charges, effective Mar. 1, 2002, to address creation of special benefit areas and consideration of imposing a fee-in-lieu charge for various land development scenarios.

...approved several annexations into the District at the request of the property owners:
 85+ acres owned by Opportunity Properties in the Winchester area, into I.D.s U-23 and U-24 for water and sewer services;
 22+ acres owned by Tava Development in the Romoland area, into I.D.s U-31 and U-32 for water and sewer services, and
 39+ acres owned by Forecast Group in the Menifee area, into I.D.s U-35 and U-36 for water and sewer services.

...adopted a resolution for a joint communities agreement with the Moreno Valley Unified School District and Western Pacific Housing in the amount of \$17,000,000 for financing public facilities. By law, EMWD will provide, own and operate the water and sewer facilities within the boundaries of the agreement and such facilities will be funded from revenue realized from bond sales in accordance with the joint agreement.

...accepted a staffing status report for January indicating 479 full-time equivalent employees as of Jan. 30, 2002.

...received a revised statewide water supply report from the Department of Water Resources showing precipitation at the Northern Sierra 8-station index (source waters for the State Water Project) at 108% of normal, snowpack at 94% of normal, and reservoir storage as of Jan. 31 at 62% of capacity, but 99% of historical average. The current water year began Oct. 1, 2001.

...adjourned to Mar. 13, 2002.

WORK SESSION

The Directors received a report on district activities from the General Manager.

- **Tony Pack** noted that development within Eastern's service area continues to increase in the economic recovery, and that nine community facilities districts and two assessment districts are at various stages of development.

- Concurrence has been reached with Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District on a new agreement (replacing the 1991 agreement) for EMWD to provide recycled water for Lake Elsinore. The new agreement is a one-time-only sale of 1,500 acre feet this spring; future agreements would be considered as conditions at the time warrant.

- Eastern will be decommissioning its West Reservoir in the Fruitvale portion of the system because it is no longer needed.

- The District continues to discuss with other wastewater agencies proposed biosolids processing facility at Lamb Canyon. Long term, the District will need a variety of methods to dispose of these materials.

- The U.S. Department of Labor recently completed an on-site audit of EMWD's compliance with labor laws, noting that the district is in compliance fully with the law. One terminology issue was addressed and is being corrected.

- Assistant General Manager **Mike Luker** outlined recovery efforts at the Hemet-San Jacinto RWRf and related facilities in the wake of a major power outage about 10 days

ago. Edison restored power more quickly than anticipated, and in the meanwhile EMWD operations staff responded and kept the facilities operating without any service problems.

- Assistant General Manager **Charlie Bachmann** briefly highlighted two future projects that may be undertaken with MWD and with Rancho California WD in the Temecula area.

...learned from Community Involvement Director **Dick Heil** of plans for a new district outreach program that will involve the directors as well as staff to ensure that key community leaders have a clear understanding of EMWD's activities and achievements.

...heard several items from Eastern's MWD Director, Director **Marion Ashley**. Among them:

- MWD will be working with member agencies to better define long-term future water sources and to develop a rolling 20-year plan.

- \$5.6 million has been appropriated for additional security measures throughout the MWD system.

- Plans continue for recreational development at Diamond Valley Lake despite the recent decision to seek new, private proposals for build-out of the recreation facilities. MWD is going ahead with the museum and the paleontology center as well as a major trails development program.

...learned from Eastern's SAWPA Commissioner, Director **Dick Hall**, that major projects constructed as a result of SAWPA participation will normally be governed by a joint powers agreement. Also, possible relocation of the Santa Ana Regional Interceptor (SARI) disposal line is being urged by several agencies for flood protection.

- heard Finance Director **Chuck Rathbone's** monthly financial report, after seven months of the fiscal year. Through January, budget projections are being met almost exactly, on both the revenue and expense sides of the ledger, although there are some minor, offsetting variations within each category. Revenues of \$63.2 million are at 100% of the budgeted expectation. New connections are up, with 3,468 sewer EDUs and 1,832 water connections.

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