



Report!

Board of Directors Summary for **June 5, 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.

WORK SESSION

The Board of Directors recognized three employees for ten years' service to the District:

- **Don Barton**, Customer Service Field Representative II, Customer Service Dept.
- **Stella Denison**, Laboratory Technician II, Water Quality Dept.
- **Dean Gill**, Customer Service Field Representative II, Customer Service Dept.

General Manager **Tony Pack** reported on several items:

- Discussions continue with Metropolitan Water District regarding its portion of efforts to resolve the Soboba Band's water rights lawsuit.

- Biosolids disposal continues to occupy much of staff's time as a final report on disposal alternatives is expected from Carollo Engineers within the next couple of weeks. A discussion of that subject will be scheduled for a Board work session immediately after the report is received, and it is hoped a decision can then be reached on whether to support Synagro, Inc. efforts to locate a new composting facility in Lamb Canyon.

- Staff has been meeting with representatives of the Santa Margarita Four Party Agreement, and will soon meet with the EPA and the Regional Water Quality Control Board to address difficulties related to discharge requirements.

- The District has received a \$143,000 state grant for improvements at Rancho Club booster and Warren Road pump station. Other large grant applications for a variety of projects are still pending.

- Groundwater recharge operations began Monday (June 3) at Grant Street ponds. Lake Hemet MWD is also interested in participating in the project, as it affects groundwater in areas where LHMWD has wells.

- UCR graduate student **Anna Racheva** will be working with the GM's office this summer to update the benchmarking program.

AGM/Operations and Maintenance **Mike Luker** noted that progress continues on the hydrogasification research program for biosolids disposal that EMWD is co-funding at UC Riverside. The initial phase could be completed within a month.

- He also reported that the sludge pasteurization operation at the Hemet-San Jacinto RWRF came online this morning.

Director of Community Involvement **Dick Heil** outlined the District's plans for running an advertising campaign during July and August promoting water conservation. Efforts will be made to relate the campaign to a similar campaign planned by MWD and to include other area water agencies. The public's knowledge of the hot, dry winter will help generate support for conservation practices.

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority assistant general manager Daniel Cozad outlined current matters being dealt with by the regional agency including governance issues, administration and operation of the brine disposal line, watershed integrated planning and groundwater desalination. He said there will be two water-related bond measures on the November ballot. The SAWPA budget adopted in April will address a wide variety of projects with no increase in member agency annual financial contributions of \$230,000; EMWD is a SAWPA member agency.

Director of Finance **Chuck Rathbone** presented an overview of the proposed EMWD \$111.1 Million balanced operating budget for FY 2002-03. The budget assumes no water or wastewater rate increases and no wholesale water rate increase from MWD; 78% of the District's fresh water is expected to come from MWD while 22% comes from groundwater wells. Energy costs are expected to increase further over the current year. Fresh water sales are predicted to rise 2% to 88,500 AF while 2.4% more EDUs are added to the wastewater system. Recycled water sales are projected at 24,000 AF. General obligation bond rates will be reduced in seven improvement districts.

Directors took action to...

...ratify appropriation of \$90,000 to rehabilitate six tertiary filters at Moreno Valley RWRf, funded from the Service Area 32 Replacement and System Betterment Construction Reserve.

...approve two five-year agreements totaling \$395,000 with Empire Oil and The SoCo Group for purchase of fuels and oil and lubricants.

...approve award of a \$994,000 contract with T.B. Penick & Sons, Inc., for construction of an 18-inch water transmission pipeline and replacement of a leaking 20-inch pipeline along A Street in the Good Hope area. Total project cost is estimated at \$1.5 million from the Service Area 41 Replacement and System Betterment Construction Reserve Account.

...approve a joint financing agreement with the City of San Jacinto's Redevelopment Agency for the DeAnza Lift Station, Sanderson Avenue Gravity Sewer and Forcemain, and other water system improvements. \$1.8 Million of the cost will be financed by a federal loan to the SJRDA while the remaining \$1.7 Million will be funded by EMWD's Service Area 31 and Service Area 42 Restricted Water and Sewer System Expansion funds that will be repaid over time by new development connection fees.

...authorized the General Manager to contract for \$363,000 with Krieger & Stewart, Inc., for design of secondary clarifier #3 at the Perris Valley RWRf. The money will come from the Service Areas 31, 32, 33, and 35 Restricted Wastewater Treatment Expansion funds.

...approved several small adjustments to the scheduled retail agricultural and irrigation water rates schedule.

...approved agreements for construction contract services with The Keith Company (surveying -- \$55,000) and with Leighton and Associates (soils testing -- \$98,670) as well as an increase of \$54,250 in the overall appropriation for the \$5.7 Million project to construct sewer and water pipelines in the Winchester area. Funding will be from the Service Area 34 Restricted Sewer System Expansion Fund and the Service Area 43 Restricted Water System Expansion Fund, as well as from Community Facilities District 2001-01.

The next Board of Directors' work session and formal meeting will be Wednesday, June 19.

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