



Report!

Board of Directors Summary for **July 16, 2003**

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: 909/928-6171.

BOARD MEETING

The Board endorsed the selection of **Al Javier**, Biologist, Water Quality Department, as Employee of the Quarter for July – September 2003. Joining EMWD in 1988 as a Laboratory Technician, he earned recognition over time, including “Lab person of the Year” in 1991 by the California Water Environmental Association. He has been active with the Employees Activities Committee, the First Responder Team, emcee for the holiday party and for other activities at EMWD and in his community.

...recognized several employees for their years of service:

- **Ronni B. Haworth**, Executive Assistant, New Business Development, 15 years;
- **Michael Luker**, Assistant General Manager, Operations and Maintenance, 15 years;
- **Jack Eastwood**, Safety/Risk Manager, 20 years;
- **Charles Daniel**, Construction Inspection Manager, 25 years.

...inaugurated an Excellence in Customer Service award to honor employees quarterly who have performed admirably. **Scott Parrott**, representing the Service Plus Committee, made the Initial awards to:

- **Cecilia Jackson**, Recycled Water Program Coordinator, Water Operations, for recent assistance to the Hemet Unified School District, and
- **Debra Haskell**, Special Funding District Coordinator, New Business, for help in coordinating and organizing assessment districts.

...approved administrative items dealing with the Pacific Palms Community Facilities District (Menifee), following a public hearing.

...approved consulting services with O'Reilly Public Relations regarding issues of water reliability, groundwater management, expanded use of recycled water, growth and development within the District and more.

...ratified an emergency services contract estimated at \$151,000 with CP Construction, Inc. to repair trench subsidence on a 27-inch sewerline at Pico and San Jacinto Avenues in Perris. The project will be financed from Service Area No. 35 (Perris) Replacement and System Betterment Construction Reserve.

...approved additional funding with Kemiron Pacific, Inc. for ferric chloride, used at reclamation facilities to control hydrogen sulfide and to help meet air quality standards and provide clean fuel for digester-fired engines. Because of certain operational changes, it is estimated that the contract's annual amount will increase from \$119,100 to \$322,300 annually.

...approved a five-year agreement with Layne Christensen Company for professional consulting, well maintenance and repair services in an estimated full term of \$1,250,000. Annual expenditures are provided in each fiscal year's operating budget.

...authorized providing potable water to the Moreno Valley Ranch Lake because of regulatory restraints that prevent the use of recycled water at that location. The lake is within a "blue-line stream" which is tributary to Canyon Lake, a potable water supply.

...authorized an administrative award of contract for Murrieta Road Pipeline Cathodic Protection. Estimated total project cost estimate is \$775,500, and will be financed from Service Area No. 41 (Mills) Replacement and System Betterment Construction Reserve.

...approved and authorized an engineering design services agreement with Kevin Cozad and Associates for an amount not to exceed \$225,000 for the 2003 leaky pipe replacement project. The project will be financed from the Replacement and System Betterment Construction Reserve for Water Service Area No. 41.

...approved and authorized an administrative award of contracts for a total estimated project cost of \$39,060,000 for the Temecula Recycled Water Pipeline & Booster Station Project. The project will be financed from a portion of the 2003A Certificates of Participation bond proceeds and the state revolving fund.

...approved water supply assessments for

- Peppertree Specific Plan (Hemet),
- Tentative Tract Map 29835 (Sun City)
- Plot Plan No. PA03-072 (Moreno Valley),
- Tentative Tract No. 30598 (San Jacinto).

...approved and authorized an administrative award of contact for construction of the North San Jacinto Regional Sewer (Phase 1). This brings the total estimated project cost to \$2,342,550, which will be financed from the General District Restricted Sewer System Expansion Fund.

...adopted Resolution No. 3782, which provides \$230,090 for the General and Specific Project Budgets of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority for Fiscal Year 2003/2004. This budget is the same amount as last year and is included in the General Manager's department budget.

...received the staffing status report for June, which showed 518 employees. The total actual number of full-time equivalents is 499.

...rescinded authorizing renewal of self-insured workers' compensation excess insurance coverage for an annual premium of \$81,418. Considering that EMWD has never used excess workers' compensation coverage, and that with continued covered it would assume at least \$750,000 as a deductible, it was decided to place the amount of the premium in the Self-insured Workers' Compensation Reserve.

...approved and authorized execution of the Interim Principles for Water Management for the Hemet/San Jacinto Groundwater Management Plan.

...adopted Resolution No. 3075.7 deleting the fee postponement program for qualifying non-profit organizations from EMWD's financial participation policies and charges programs. Since the program was initiated in 2000, approximately \$750,000 has qualified for postponement. In light of the uncertain impact of the State's budget cuts on EMWD's revenue, it was decided to eliminate the program.

...approved and authorized CEQA Certification of several projects:

- Temecula Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility Digester Gas Flare Replacement—Initial Study and Negative Declaration,
- North San Jacinto Water Supply Project—Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration and mitigation monitoring program,
- Moreno Valley Regional Water Reclamation Facility Bardenpho Plant modification project—Initial study and mitigated negative declaration and mitigation monitoring program.

WORK SESSION

Among several items, **Tony Pack**, General Manager, announced:

- the potential change of land use zoning on 53 acres east of headquarters, adjacent to Trumble Road.
- He also noted receiving the first Southern California Edison bill after EMWD's micro-generators began regular operation. Because of the increased local energy generation, EMWD netted \$18,000 savings, compared with the same time last year. This reflects a drop in electricity costs and an increase for natural gas.
- Daily system-wide water demands of 140-145 million gallons are getting close, but have not yet exceeded our one-day peak demand day of 151.9 million gallons (July 12, 2002).
- The Perris Water Filtration Plant is expected soon to begin 24-hour operation after we receive expected approval from the county's Department of Health Services.
- That he has been meeting with all employees to discuss the latest department-wide strategic plan.
- That with the conclusion of the first half of the year, the total number of projects in plan check (110) are on track with last year, while the number of individual units (5,820) are down slightly compared with the same time period. Areas of highest growth are Temecula/Murrieta and Sun City/Menifee.
- He also noted that since his appointment as GM two years ago, 30 new employee positions had been filled.

In other staff reports, **Chuck Rathbone**, Director of Finance, gave the preliminary stats for the year ended June 30. Total Operating Revenues were reported at \$91.9 million, compared with a budget of \$86.7 million. Total net assets at beginning of the year were \$846.8 million, with year-end figures of \$892.2 million. Other notable items were that the total sewer equivalent dwelling units for the fiscal year totaled 11,230, nearly double the new sewer connections the previous year. Domestic water sales were 86,896.5 acre-feet, compared with a budget of 80,949.4 AF.