

Board Questions 12-10-20

Director Siegfried

P. 49, 50: If necessary, will CAWD be able to prove we cctv'd each section of the lines and inspected the manholes?

Yes, we store the CCTV data on the District servers. As we complete inspections, they are stored by date and line segment and can be retrieved at any time. The manhole data is stored in ARCGIS data base and can be queried at any time. A final map of line segments and manholes inspections will be used to guide the Asset Management Plan that Rachel will produce.

p. 56: What do we use propane for?

The forklift is fueled by propane. The forklift is used daily for unloading deliveries and moving material. The tank is changed, on average, every three weeks.

p. 82: How is effectiveness of the school outreach program being determined? How effective is it?

The Monterey County Water Awareness Committee (MCWAC) did a trial outreach program with Zun Zun music group to provide informative, interactive, and participatory distance learning packages (WEB Based) and assemblies about water conservation and water sources at 4 schools for approximately 2,200 students and 120 educators in Monterey County for a trial run during the months of September – November 2020. MCWAC /Zun Zun has many vetted distance learning tools available in Spanish and English. All materials include California State Education standards in Science, Math, History-Social Science, Language Arts and English Language Development, and Fine Arts so they easily tie into the classroom curriculum.

The effectiveness of the program is being determined by:

1. How many schools expressed interest in the trial announcement, which 10 schools want the program while only four were chosen in the first go around. With 12 schools on a waiting list.
2. Feedback from the educators and parents on the program from the take home kits provided to each student in person or by mail. Overwhelmingly positive reviews have been received by the MCWAC Members from parents of students.
3. MCWAC members who have joined in on the WEB based programs.

What does this mean, “And outreach programs for the general populations in Carmel, Monterey, Seaside, Pacific Grove, Salinas, Castroville, Marina, and other areas of Monterey County for 2021.”?

MCWAC is exploring the two main current pathways to supply materials and literature to the public during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

1. Setting up informational tables at the different Farmers Markets in Monterey County.
2. WEB based programs/classes sponsored by different members of the MCWAC offered through each one's newsletter. i.e., California American water class on tuning up irrigation systems, Marina Coast Water District rainwater catchment.

What did we propose in the TRE work plan?

Below is the main part of the Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE). If any Director wishes to read the full TRE it is currently located on the H drive under the Toxicity Folder (or by request we can email or print a hard copy). It is still under review for comment by the Regional Board Executive Officer. The TRE defines notification and sampling triggers for additional sampling under EPS Guidelines.

1. If initial whole effluent toxicity (chronic or acute) result in exceedance of daily maximum limitations, an immediate re-sampling and analysis must occur. The California State Regional Board must be notified of the violation within 24hrs. If the follow-up analysis results in exceedance of daily maximum limitations, or the regional board Executive Officer (EO) deems it necessary, continue to #2
2. Within 14 days of notification of a second test result that exceeds the numeric toxicity monitoring trigger, accelerated monitoring will be initiated. Accelerated monitoring will consist of four chronic toxicity tests in a twelve-week period (i.e., one test every four weeks) using the species that exhibited toxicity. If the results of four consecutive accelerated monitoring tests do not exceed the monitoring trigger, accelerated monitoring will be discontinued.
3. If the source of toxicity is easily identified (i.e., temporary plant upset), corrections will be made to the Facility, if appropriate, and accelerated monitoring continued until four consecutive accelerated test results are reported at levels that do not exceed the monitoring trigger.
4. If the result of any accelerated toxicity test exceeds the monitoring trigger, accelerated monitoring will be discontinued and a TRE initiated to investigate the cause of toxicity and to identify corrective actions to reduce or eliminate effluent toxicity. Within 30 days of notification by the laboratory of an accelerated monitoring test result exceeding the monitoring trigger, the District is required to submit a TRE Action Plan to the Regional Water Board. The TRE Action Plan will include the following items:
 - Specific actions the District will take to investigate and identify the cause of toxicity and a monitoring schedule.
 - Specific actions the District will take to mitigate the impact of the discharge and prevent the recurrence of toxicity; and
 - A schedule of these actions.

Within 60 days of notification by the laboratory of accelerated monitoring test results exceeding the monitoring trigger, the District is required to submit to the Regional Water Board a TRE Work Plan for approval by the Executive Officer. The TRE Work Plan will outline the procedures for identifying the source or sources of toxicity and procedures for reducing or elimination effluent toxicity.

p. 85: Zero emergency work orders is impressive.

Thank you

- p. 86: Why are we negotiating with the insurance company? Seems proper for us to deal with the County, and let the County deal with their insurers for the reason that if the insurance company chisels us we would end up seeking the difference in compensation from the County.

The County referred us to their third-party administrator carrier. The County refers all claims to their third-party administrator – much the same as CAWD does with Carl Warren for property claims or Sedgwick for Worker Comp claims. A third-party administrator has the expertise, efficiency, and cost effectiveness that an agency likely does not have.

- p. 163: “resulting in ... a reduction of claims due to their expertise and full-time inspection of the projects.”

I do not understand whether this passage indicates a reduction in the amounts claimed or in the number of claims, or both.

I am unaware of claims against the District resulting from the Hatton Canyon project. Were there any? From the contractor?

In construction projects there can be claims for extra money by the contractor for unexpected conditions in the pipeline or soil or any other item that is different than on the plans. Having a Professional Construction Inspection team keeping track of the work progress and changes in conditions (both in favor of the District and in favor of the Contractor) full-time keeps the Contractor from making too many claims. There were changes in conditions, such as groundwater and decisions to alleviate the problem were quickly made and costs were closely monitored. Many contractors bid low and expect to make money on Change Orders. This did not happen for this project.

- p. 211: Please amend to update the board on progress in the following three areas:

1. The amount and characteristics of the data required to inform the rate model update.

There are plans for a Phase IV of the West Yost project to define the District basins. The existing reports only detail where there were flow meters. Once that report is completed, we will go to Turf Image and have them perform a “count” of the basin contents from GIS data. This is at least 12 months off.

2. Collection of experience mod ratings. Draft letter written and submitted to Admin staff who are working on acquiring the data.
3. Process improvement training. No meaningful progress made at this time. Have ordered 6 books from Amazon on Six Sigma for staff. I have made some preliminary efforts at finding a trainer, but I’m reluctant to engage a remote trainer. I have also looked at online training programs, which is also not a perfect vehicle. In short – still looking at options.

May the board get a brief presentation next month about the Naval Postgraduate School class that staff attended?

Yes. Let me clarify that staff did not attend the class. Rather the class was divided into teams, and Team Alpha was assigned CAWD as their class project. Team Alpha interviewed management staff or all direct reports to the GM and used those interviews as the basis for their report. I can include the Power Point and Final Staff paper in the January agenda.

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Director Rachel

Q1-21, page 125 top photo: I winced looking at this. Is there a safer method of extraction? Is the operator even remotely at risk of losing fingers, hand, etc.?

A hook is used to pull the rags and the operator can check by reaching in the pump. There is no risk of losing fingers or hand. The equipment is locked out per Lockout/Tagout policy and the local e-stop is pressed and the pump is removed from the control rotation. The optimal solution is to eliminate the ragging.

Q2-23, page 138: Is there a cost estimate for adding the third access road? Of course it will be buried in the total bid cost. Just curious.

Per p. 147 “The third access point is an existing graded dirt road off of Carmel Valley Road approximately 0.4 mile east of the PCRCP parking lot entrance at Rio Rad. The newly renovated road was constructed by the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District to access a fire staging area. The Modified Project would not require alteration of the existing road that would only be used to access the project site.”

The third access road is already graded and being used by the Parks people. It will not add any cost but will be a better/less invasive access from the standpoint of the people using the Banquet Rooms.

Q3-25, page 163: No problem at all with PSOMAS; however, are we OK with a sole source bid? Or were RFP's sent to others?

RFP's were circulated last year and PSOMAS was selected for various projects within the District.

Q4-27, page 178: Have we received Rate Relief Rebate requests from others, beyond The Barnyard? Nice job on this including the Novato and LA County background information.

Yes – Carmel Belle, Village Corner, Flaherty's, A.W. Shucks and all businesses in the Dowd Arcade. In a ZOOM meeting with Flaherty's he indicated that he would likely discuss sewer user fees at their restaurant group meetings.

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Director D'Ambrosio

P. 73 Perimeter Tree Plan

What is the status of the Rio Park Project?

Why are we not being more aggressive in planting now?

What is the status of the bird study? Any birds in the eucalyptus trees?

We have a call with the drone pilot and Scott Hall on December 9th for the Rio Park/CAWD Bridge Trail flyover. The drone flyover photogrammetric imagery will be utilized in preparing presentations to stakeholders and potential grant sources. The Plant Engineer obtained LiDAR imagery from the County as suggested by Director Siegfried and obtained the necessary software to view and manipulate the LiDAR point clouds. The LiDAR has a wide array of uses, including as relates to determining tree heights for the Perimeter Tree Planting. The photogrammetric drone flyover is still desired for the Rio Park Trail concept to convey more realism in project materials than LiDAR can provide.

Scott is working on finalizing the plant landscaping design before we move on to the Perimeter Tree Planting study. Once the plant landscaping design is complete, the first deliverable for Scott on the Perimeter Tree Planting work will be a table of possible tree species with discussion of attributes of each type of tree. We will run this table by State Parks to get their feedback on tree species and narrow down the possible options for a decision by the board. In addition, Scott Hall suggested we take soil samples to determine if nutrient augmentation would be needed as part of the ultimate planting work.

The bird study is complete and there were no signs of bird nesting or bat roosting activity in the eucalyptus trees. The biologist's opinion was that there are so many other native trees in the vicinity that were better for nesting it is unlikely a bird would choose the eucalyptus over the cottonwoods, oaks and willows surrounding the area. The biologist also said that one of the things making the eucalyptus undesirable for nesting is that the branches from the trunk grow at a steep angle upwards and so do not provide any level surfaces on which to build a nest. Eucalyptus trimming work is on hold pending coastal commission finalizing our coastal development permit.

P. 74 Carmel Valley Gravity Sewer Improvements – have you got a price on demolition of the existing line yet?

We have asked for an amendment to the contract for the Environmental part of the work. We are also working with a contractor to get an idea of the cost to remove the line by hand methods in order to protect the slope stability, listed animals/birds and plants.

P. 84 Compliments to staff on rebuild of gearbox and savings to the District

P. 87 Compliments to staff on award from American Public Works Association for Hatton Canyon Access Road Project

P.89 Revenues were up, why?

Total amount of water sold was 17.2% higher than in fiscal year 2018-19. Last year total water sales included 909.27 acre-feet of reclaimed water. That figure contrasts with 1,066 acre-feet of reclaimed water for fiscal year 2019-20

p.122 Is Ken White interested? Bob Siegfried? Mike Rachel?

I have not had any conversations with Board members on this issue.

P. 124 Suggest that we use one of these photos for our next newsletter. They are very persuasive.

P. 135 What kind of bone?

Bovine – likely a cow. According to Director White there was a dairy called “Hatton Dairy” at the site of the current Crossroad Shopping Center many years ago. Perhaps an animal wandered away a bit and ended up in the canyon?

P. 137 Is there an additional cost for the addendum to the Mitigated Neg Dec?

Is there any additional cost for the bid?

Yes and no. There was money left in the original contract so the addendum was completed within the existing contract.

P. 137 Is the additional access road permanent?

The third access road is already graded and being used by the Parks people. It will not add any cost but will be a better/less invasive access from the standpoint of the people using the Banquet Rooms

P. 190 Which engineer left PBCSD?

Justin Ferron, Assistant Engineer has moved to Colorado