Operations & Water Quality Committee
Summary Minutes
April 1, 2020
4:15 p.m.

Attendance
Directors: Judy Huang (Chair), John Weed
Staff: Robert Shaver, Kurt Arends, Mike Wickham, Dan Stevenson, Cris Pena, Geoffrey Brown

The monthly Operations & Water Quality Committee Meeting was held on April 1, 2020 at 4:15 PM. Due to COVID-19 and in accordance with Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-25-20 which suspends portions of the Brown Act, this meeting was conducted by Zoom Webinar and Teleconference and members of the public were invited to participate.

Discussion Topic

1. Update for Agreements for Technology Services: Geoffrey Brown, Operations Systems Analyst II, provided an overview of staff’s proposal to increase spending limits on two current technology services contracts. This issue will be presented to the Board of Directors for consideration at their April 9, 2020 meeting. These contracts are primarily for deployment and support within the SCADA environment and focus on networking, resiliency, and cybersecurity. Mr. Brown explained that two vendors were relatively new to the District and were selected in early 2019 through a competitive RFP process. An amendment had already been issued to Packard Consulting in the fall of 2019 in order to accelerate cybersecurity improvements. Both vendors have demonstrated their effectiveness and it is now requested to authorize amendments in the amount of $75,000 and $50,000 for Packard Consulting and Zag Technical Services for total contract amounts of $120,000 and $65,000, respectively. Mr. Brown stated that the contracts are billed on a time and material basis, and the District is not obligated to spend the full contract amounts.

   Director Huang asked how far along cybersecurity development is? Mr. Brown responded that for SCADA, it is approximately 50% with respect to what is planned for the next year, and further commented that cybersecurity is always a continuous process. Mr. Brown noted that IT sets the big-picture goals for cybersecurity and SCADA follows that framework. Director Huang stated that the District needs to complete the cybersecurity improvements which are required. Director Weed asked if in the event of a cyberattack breach, could the treatment plants and facilities be isolated and kept in operation? Mr. Brown responded, yes, the District is implementing systems to enable the plants to operate in an isolated mode in the event of a cyber breach.

2. 2019 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR): Mike Wickham, Water Production Manager, and Cris Pena, Engineering Supervisor presented a draft version of the 2019 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). Customers will be notified of the 2019 CCR by an article featured in the District’s Aqueduct newsletter, which will be mailed starting May 1, 2020. The District is
required to provide customer access to the CCR by July 1 of each year. A web link within the article will direct customers to the report on the District’s website. This is the fourth year the CCR will be “e-delivered” to District customers.

Mr. Wickham reviewed the key components of the CCR and highlighted the differences between the 2018 and 2019 reports. Specifically, total coliform positives were detected in 2019 finished water samples, but not in 2018. Data collected under the 2018 Lead and Copper Sampling Program were included in the 2019 CCR with updated information about the number schools requesting sampling under the School Lead Sampling Program. Ms. Pena provided an overview of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 4 (UCMR4) sample results and explained that detections of constituents from that monitoring program are included in this CCR as the sampling was conducted in 2019. In response to Directors Huang and Weed suggestions, staff will make changes to the data table format and footnotes to help clarify the information regarding school lead testing results.

Mr. Wickham reviewed the articles in the 2019 CCR, which include a new article titled: *ACWD Assists Tri-City Schools with Drinking Water Testing for Lead* which summarizes the school lead testing programs ACWD completed in 2019. In response to Director Huang’s suggestion, staff will add an article announcing ACWD’s upcoming Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substance (PFAS) monitoring.

3. **Public Comments**: There were no public comments received.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**
Topics discussed by the Committee were informational only and no recommendations were made.