

**LEUCADIA WASTEWATER DISTRICT**  
 Minutes of an Engineering Committee Meeting  
 October 1, 2024

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A meeting of the Engineering Committee (EC) of Leucadia Wastewater District (LWD or District) was held on Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 2:00 p.m., at the LWD Administration Office located at 1960 La Costa Avenue, Carlsbad, California.

**1. Call to Order**

Chairperson Omsted called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Omsted, Pacilio

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: General Manager Paul Bushee; Field Services Superintendent Marvin Gonzalez; Field Services Supervisor Gabe Mendez; Field Services Supervisor Mauricio Avalos; Project Coordinator Ian Riffel; Director of Finance & Administration Ryan Green; Tim Lewis from Water Works Engineers (via zoom); and Kathleen Noel, from Dexter Wilson Engineering, Inc.

**3. Public Comment**

None.

**4. Batiquitos Pump Station Emergency Basin Rehabilitation Project – Award of Construction Contract and Authorize Additional Appropriation**

Recommendation 1: Authorize the General Manager to execute an Agreement with SCW Contracting Corporation for construction services to complete the Batiquitos Pump Station Emergency Basin Rehabilitation Project in an amount not to exceed \$1,279,239.

Recommendation 2: Authorize an additional appropriation of \$165k for project construction.

PC Riffel presented this recommendation to the EC. PC Riffel stated this item is a FY25 tactical goal and provided a brief background and location of the project.

PC Riffel said that in April 2024, the Board authorized final design services with Water Works. PC Riffel stated that in August 2024, Water Works completed project design and staff advertised the project for bids. PC Riffel continued that the estimated construction cost was \$1.110M. PC Riffel said that the District received one (1) bid by the September 17<sup>th</sup> deadline and SCW Contracting Corporation (SCW) had the only bid of \$1,279,239. He noted that SCW's bid was \$169k more than the cost estimate.

PC Riffel reviewed actions staff took to ensure the bid was competitive. Based on this analysis, the positive project history with SCW, and the risk of delaying the project another year, staff is recommending that the bid be awarded to SCW.

Chairperson Omsted asked about the \$165k additional appropriation and what part of the budget the funds will be withdrawn from. GM Bushee stated the District reserves. Chairperson Omsted asked if the engineer's estimate took into consideration the inflation that occurred as a result of COVID. PC Riffel answered affirmatively and noted that the engineer's estimate is a best guess at the cost of construction but is difficult to predict due to the current high bidding environment. The

EC and staff discussed a different approach to the next project advertisement and the risk of delaying the project.

Following discussion, the EC concurred with staff to recommend that that Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to award the contract for the Batiquitos Pump Station Emergency Basin Rehabilitation Project construction to SCW in an amount not to exceed \$1,279,239 as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder and authorize an additional appropriation of \$165k for project construction.

## **5. Batiquitos Pump Station HVAC Equipment Replacement – Award of Construction Contract**

Authorize the General Manager to execute an Agreement with Pacific Rim Mechanical for construction services to complete the Batiquitos Pump Station HVAC Equipment Replacement in an amount not to exceed \$94,665.

PC Riffel presented this recommendation to the EC. PC Riffel stated this item is a FY25 tactical goal and provided a brief background and location of the project.

PC Riffel stated that in July 2024, staff advertised the project for bids. PC Riffel continued that the District received two (2) bids by the August 6<sup>th</sup> deadline and Pac Rim had the lowest bid of \$112,665. He noted that Pac Rim's bid was \$25k more than the FY25 budget amount of \$87.5k and of this amount, \$18K was for the electrical upgrade needed for the new equipment.

PC Riffel mentioned that staff decided to reach out to an electrical contractor familiar with the District, Southern Contracting (Southern), to request a proposal for the electrical upgrade work. Southern's proposal was nearly \$9k lower than Pac Rim's. As a result, staff decided the best approach is for the District to complete the electrical upgrade work with Southern and reduce Pac Rim's bid by \$18k, resulting in a new bid of \$94,665. Therefore, the total project cost is reduced from \$112,665 to \$103,765.

Director Pacilio wanted confirmation that Pac Rim was okay with the contract revision to remove the electrical upgrade bid item from the overall contract. PC Riffel answered affirmatively.

Chairperson Omsted inquired about Pac Rim's contractual language that was included in the agenda. Staff clarified that the District will use its own contract that has been reviewed by District Counsel.

Following discussion, the EC concurred with staff to recommend that that Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to award the contract for the Batiquitos Pump Station HVAC Equipment Replacement construction to Pac Rim in an amount not to exceed \$94,665 as the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

## **6. Information Items**

PC Riffel provided an update to the San Marcos Creek Crossing Diversion Project. PC Riffel provided background information and stated the contractor is scheduled to mobilize later this week.

## **7. Directors' Comments**

None.

## **8. General Manager's Comments**

PC Riffel provided a brief background and location of a defective pipe support for the L1 force main. He continued that last week, the District was notified by the City of Encinitas (City) after the City completed an inspection of a bridge that crosses over the train tracks on La Costa Avenue, about 250 feet east of Highway 101. The EC and staff discussed the details of the defect. PC Riffel said

that staff is currently coordinating an emergency temporary repair and plan to inspect all pipe supports on the bridge with a future project.

**9. Adjournment**

Chairperson Omsted adjourned the meeting at approximately 2:36 p.m.



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Paul J. Bushee,  
Secretary/Manager  
(Seal)