

DOMESTIC WATER POLICY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

October 13, 2022

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Foster called the meeting to order at approximately 8:40 a.m.

Present:

City of Modesto (COM): Sue Zwahlen
City of Modesto (COM): David Wright
Modesto Irrigation District (MID): Nick Blom
Modesto Irrigation District (MID): Paul Campbell

Other Attendees:

Jeremy Parnell, COM
Manuel Martinez, COM
Josh Foster, MID
Gordon Enas, MID
Jessica Stillwell, MID
Jennifer Wright, MID
Elizabeth Martinez, MID

2. Public Comment

N/A

3. Approve April 7th, 2022, Meeting Minutes [Action item]

Wright moved, seconded by Blom. Motion carried.

4. Domestic Water Project Update

- Domestic production total as of October 1, is 12,539 AF. Previous year production at this time was 15,425 AF for a difference of 2,531 AF. 5-year running average for this time is 15,425 AF.
- Conventional Plant has averaged ~20.2 MGD for the current water year.
- Membrane Plant has averaged ~6.5 MGD for a total average delivery of ~26.7 MGD for current water year.
- Delivered above target during May through September as requested by City.
- 53% of 2022 allocation delivered to date.
- City to switch over to the winter watering schedule starting Nov. 1st from 3 days to 2 days/week which will decrease demand for surface water.
- System pressures have been maintained between 58-62 psi and demand has been met as requested by the City of Modesto.

Operations:

- Currently in recruitment for (2) Operator/Senior operator positions. Objective is to increase overall head count from 8 to 10 operators by 2023 to provide the additional flexibility needed to cover various Leaves of Absence (FMLA, Baby Bonding, illnesses, and other extended absences) and meet the operational demand of the dual treatment facility.
- Completed all membrane washes including a trial wash aimed at removing iron fouling and reducing citric acid cleaning and disposal. Trial chemistry improved recovery but more washes needed to gauge long term effectiveness.
- Solids removed from lagoons 3-4; lagoons 1-2 will be completed next summer.
- Preparing for winter preventative maintenance projects: Filter profiling, sed basin cleanings, clear wells/Termina Reservoir tank inspections and cleaning, and other related tasks.
- Maintenance: planning/coordination taking place for the ~2-3 week planned winter outage in Jan/Feb to perform larger maintenance work such as:
 - (3) Plant service pumps replacement
 - Ozone Contactor valve rebuilds
 - WTP Switchgear installation

Projects:

- Chemical Recording & Automation – Jacobs Engineering has completed the 60% design report. 90% report due around the end of November. Phase II scheduled to start beginning of next year which will cover procurement, installation, and commissioning. Project expected to be completed by end of 3rd quarter assuming no major delays associated with supply chain.
- Raw Water pH Study – Carollo Engineering is performing a raw water pH study to determine the potential effects a pH control system would have on our finished water quality with respect to corrosion. pH in our raw water has steadily risen since ~September 2021 and reached a critical level of over 9.0 this summer (historically this hovered in the 7-8 range). This caused efficiency issues with our Ozone disinfection systems/chemical usage rates. State has required a professional engineering review prior to granting authorization for future control methods. Study is expected to be completed by end of December.
- WTP Switchgear replacement – EPS (formerly HART electrical) was awarded contract in May to update and replace old unsupported switchgear components at the WTP. Engineering drawings have been completed and procurement of electronics is underway. Working through misc. PLC/SCADA requirements. Goal is to have all components procured by end of year with installation to take place during the planned winter outage in early Jan/Feb 2023.

5. 2023 Domestic Water Budget [[Action item](#)]

The DRAFT 2023 Domestic Water budget was presented to the committee by Josh Foster.

Foster noted that the DRAFT budget was reviewed and approved by the Technical Committee at the October 4th meeting.

Overall, the proposed 2023 O&M Domestic Water budget reflects ~1% decrease from previous year due primarily to the reduction in labor & benefits and maintenance costs. Labor and benefits saw a decrease across all projects and is due to benefit rate reductions for both medical and pension (market driven). Maintenance will see ~11% decrease over previous year or about \$315K. Proposed material and supply costs were reduced to better match actuals and is being influenced by the unavailability of parts due to the continued supply chain crisis. Outside services were also reduced as supply chain issues continue to delay projects. We are expecting a ~7% increase in the laboratory budget due to an expected increase in outside services for consultation costs related to TNI compliance.

The proposed Domestic Water Capital budget for 2023 reflects a 324% increase over previous year and totals ~\$1.48M. The large variance is due to an artificially low budget for 2022 since most of the costs were related to completion of various roll-over capital projects from previous year. Five projects are being proposed for 2023 which include phase 2 of the Chemical Recording/Automation, Membrane plant blower, Terminal Reservoir pump drive replacements, and Lab incubator and remodel. Outside resource availability has improved which should help push these projects to completion pending no significant delays in supply chain.

Approval of the DRAFT 2023 Domestic Water Budget

Zwahlen moved, seconded by Blom. Motion carried.

6. Proposed future meetings

April 6th, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.; WTP site

October 12th, 2023, at 8:30 a.m.; location TBD

7. Items too late for the agenda

N/A

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:29 a.m.