

# **MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE SEWERAGE COMMISSION - OROVILLE REGION**

(Held at the Commission office on August 23, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.)

## **1. Call to Order ❖**

Chairwoman Mastelotto called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

## **2. Roll Call ❖**

Commissioners present were Mastelotto and Salvucci from the Lake Oroville Area Public Utility District, Reynolds and Thomson from the City of Oroville, and Taggart and Wristen from the Thermalito Water and Sewer District. Staff present was Manager Sturdevant, Plant Supervisor Salsi and Attorney Huber.

## **3. Salute to the Flag ❖**

Chairman Mastelotto led the Commissioners and staff in the salute to the flag.

## **4. Acknowledgment of Visitors ❖**

None

## **5. Board Meeting Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on July 26, 2022❖**

Upon motion by Commissioner Reynolds to approve the minutes of the meeting, and seconded by Commissioner Taggart, the minutes of the July 26, 2022 regular meeting were unanimously approved.

## **6. Authorization of Warrants ❖**

Commissioner Wristen met with Manager Sturdevant and reviewed the warrants, and having found everything to be in order made a motion for their approval. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mastelotto. Warrants 27619-27681 in the total amount of \$963,920.90 from July 27 to August 23, 2022, including Commissioner fees and electronic fund transfers, were unanimously approved and ordered paid.

## **7. Fiscal Reports ❖**

Manager Sturdevant reported there were no fiscal reports for July in the packet due to the annual audit in progress. The July and August reports will be included in September's meeting packet.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **8. The Commission will hold a Public Hearing on Resolution 03-22 – Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project ❖**

Chairwoman Mastelotto opened the public hearing up for public comment. Plant Supervisor Salsi stated that this resolution is to adopt the Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring Program. As a public agency seeking funds for the plant upgrade project, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is the agency that regulates public entities doing construction projects, and requires this study. The study determined that there will be no environmental impact on the surrounding environment from the construction that will occur in the near future. SC-OR met the requirements of CEQA for noticing this public hearing and for public comments on this document. We were required to notice the State Clearinghouse, Butte County, we published a noticed it in the Mercury Register, noticed it at the SC-OR office and on our web page, and sent it to the member entity managers. We received no public comments. Provost & Pritchard, who prepared this document and the notice of intent to adopt this document, did not receive any comments.

Commissioner Wristen said he understands that this requires protection of raptors during construction, but what about the endangerment of any ground animals or reptiles during construction. Manager Sturdevant said that biologists came to the plant and studied the construction area for what might be affected, and did not find any impact to ground species in their study. One of the mitigation measures in the monitoring program is, if during construction there is a certain endangered species found, a surveyor will come and remove that species and relocate it.

A motion was made by Commissioner Reynolds to adopt Resolution 03-22 – A Resolution to Adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration and Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wristen, and passed by the following vote: Wristen – Yes, Mastelotto – Yes, Reynolds – Yes.

Chairwoman Mastelotto closed the Public Hearing with no response from the public.

### **9. Closed Session ❖**

The Commission adjourned to closed session at 5:10 pm, with Commissioner Reynolds recusing himself from closed session. The Commission reconvened to open session at 6:10 pm. Chairwoman Mastelotto reported there was discussion but no reportable action taken in closed session.

## 10. Attorney's Report ♦

Reported under closed session.

## 11. Manager's Report ♦

Manager Sturdevant reported we received our first delivery of Sulfur Dioxide from Jones Chemical of Torrance, California. We are paying for third-party transportation because Jones Chemical is not allowed to deliver to Northern California. It seems to be working out. We are still gathering costs to install a liquid dichlorination system, and will bring those costs to you once we have them compiled.

Upgrade Funding: The County received \$72M in disaster relief funds from the Federal Government. We applied for \$45M of those funds for our upgrade/expansion, but because the County only received 45% of what they had requested, they will not fully fund our project. We were told we might get a quarter of what we asked for, so possibly \$12M. Some Commissioners will contact County Representatives to ask for help in obtaining more of the grant funds for this project. Manager Sturdevant said we might have to phase the project, and that could work in our favor to get more grant monies. The first phase, in which we would use grant funds combined with our own funds, might be the technological or modernization to remove all of the 1970's equipment and fixtures. The second phase could be an expansion phase, and the third could be the recycle phase, and recycled water is where the grant money is right now. Phasing may also make the project more competitive. One issue we might run into with the County grant funds is there is a time limitation for when the money must be spent.

Next month the SC-OR employees will receive their cost-of-living increase (CPI). By policy they receive up to 5%; anything over that must be approved by the Commission. Manager Sturdevant will bring the CPI rate for August to the next meeting for consideration.

Influent Pump Station: The project got extended out to March 2023. The contractor cannot get any of the electrical components needed. They will build the electrical building instead of trying to get the pre-fab building originally in the plans, but now cannot even get the components to wire the electrical building until at least January.

Manager Sturdevant gave each Commissioner a copy of his annual self-review. He asked that they consider it during his evaluation at the September meeting.

## 12. Visitor Comments ❖

None

## 13. Commissioner and Staff Comments ❖

None

**14. Adjournment ❖**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:21 p.m. to the regular meeting scheduled for September 27, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



GLEN E. STURDEVANT, CLERK

Approved