



Report!

Board of Directors Summary for **August 22, 2001**

Report! is prepared by the Community Involvement Department for all interested individuals. This brief summary of selected items from Eastern Municipal Water District Board of Directors' meetings is distributed after each meeting. Please circulate it to others having an interest. For more information, call 909/928-3777, ext. 4226; or FAX: 909/928-6160.

BOARD MEETING

The Board of Directors recognized three employees for service to the District:

- **Terry Arndt**, Water Operations Area Manager, 20 years.
- **Brian Agner**, CMMS and Planning Operations Manager, 15 years.
- **Mark Chamberlain**, Wastewater Collection Manager, 15 years.

...adopted a proclamation expressing appreciation and commendation to Samuel W. Goepp, General Manager of Valley-Wide Recreation and Park District.

...adopted a resolution in support of District Treasurer **Joe Kuebler** for vice chair of ACWA (Association of California Water Agencies) Region 9.

...conducted a legally required public hearing to inform interested parties of the status of fresh water served by the District in relation to Public Health Goals (PHGs) established by the State of California. EMWD water has been found to contain five substances with established PHGs, which are non-enforceable goals set to levels far more restrictive than the Maximum Contaminant Levels that we must meet by law. Drinking water EMWD serves meets or betters all legal requirements for purity.

...appropriated \$110,810 to install a SymBio system to help balance oxygen needed in the treatment process at the Perris Valley RWRF. When operational, the improvement is expected to save \$175,000 per year in electricity. The project is funded from the Service Area 35 Replacement and System Betterment Construction Reserve Fund.

...appropriated \$1,548,000 (for a total project appropriation of \$1,740,000) and authorized administrative award of the contract for construction of the De Anza Sewage Lift Station and Forcemain in San Jacinto. The San Jacinto Redevelopment Agency will pay for half the project, while EMWD's portion of the cost will be covered by the Service Area 31 Restricted Sewer System Expansion Fund, which consists of developer connection fees.

...appropriated \$4,092,100 for construction of the North San Jacinto Water Supply facilities which include 30,000 lineal feet of pipeline, service connections and a pump station to meet urgent needs in the Lakeview Basin which result from increasing salinity and diminishing groundwater levels. The project will be paid for from the Service Areas 41 and 42 Water Facilities Expansion Funds.

...appropriated \$570,000 (total project appropriation of \$600,000) and authorized administrative award of the contract for annual maintenance services on ten water storage tanks throughout the District. The work will be paid for with monies from the Replacement and System Betterment Construction Reserves of Service Areas 41, 42 and 43, and of I.D. 24.

...set Sept. 19, 2001 at 1:00 pm for a public hearing on whether to adopt a Resolution of Necessity to acquire by eminent domain easements for the McLaughlin Road Menifee Desalter Transmission Pipeline.

...approved a preliminary report and set Oct. 17, 2001 at 1:00 pm for a public hearing on the proposed establishment of Assessment District 20 in the Menifee Valley area to provide water service.

...appointed **Tony Pack** to succeed the retiring **John Brudin** as Commissioner on the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA), and reappointed Director **Dick Hall** as EMWD's second commissioner as well as **Ravi Ravishanker** and Director **Rodger Siems** as alternate commissioners.

...amended sewer rates for a few customers being served within I.D. U-10 in Canyon Lake and who are served water by Elsinore Valley MWD. The monthly sewer rate for those customers will increase by \$2.50. No other areas of EMWD are affected by this rate change.

...approved two annexations at the request of the property owners:

- 67-1/2 acres owned by Pacific Century Homes in the Temecula area into I.D. U-8 (sewer).
- 227 acres owned by Richland Pinehurst in the Murrieta Hot Springs area into I.D.s 22 and 23 for sewer and water service.

...approved a five-year extension to the existing agreement with Rancho California Water District for sale of wastewater treatment effluent -- recycled water -- from EMWD's Temecula Valley plant to allow RCWD to meet live stream discharge requirements into the Santa Margarita River. The extension also increases the annual maximum flow allowed from 2 MGD to 4 million gallons per day.

...approved a \$180 increase to the monthly compensation of the District treasurer.

...approved CEQA certification of a mitigated negative declaration for proposed sites of the Perris desalter project.

...approved CEQA certification of a mitigated negative declaration for construction of 7,250 lineal feet of water pipeline to serve several tracts in the Menifee Valley.

...approved CEQA certification of a mitigated negative declaration for construction of 6,500 lineal feet of water pipeline to serve the Murrieta Valley Unified School District.

...deferred certification of a CEQA negative declaration for the Manzanita II Tank and Supply Pipeline project in Moreno Valley, pending further examination of the site selected for the tank.

...accepted a report showing that the District had 489 total employees at the end of July, the same as the previous month. That figure includes part-time employees and students, with a full-time equivalent of 471 employees.

WORK SESSION

The Board of Directors heard from Dr. Bob Wheeler, President of the Elsinore-Murrieta-Anza Resource Conservation District, and Pat Boldt, Coordinator for the San Jacinto Watershed Council, with an update that two council goals have been accomplished so far: (1) About 400 stakeholders have been identified, and (2) a database of technical resources has been assembled. By the end of September, Dr. Wheeler said he was expecting the council, which is a "consensus-based body," to begin a summit on watershed issues facing the stakeholders, including EMWD.

...heard **Marion Ashley**, EMWD director on the MWD board, discuss several issues that affect EMWD. These include MWD's \$5.5 million commitment to continue partial funding of conservation programs for its 26 member agencies; EMWD has been among the most active in the conservation arena. In other matters, discussions continue among directors on boating rules and other general public access to Diamond Valley Lake. **John Brudin** noted that MWD is considering a rate structure proposal which, if approved, would go into effect January 2003. A detailed report on the form of that proposal is scheduled with the EMWD board in September. One final note was made that the Inland Feeder, which would provide northern California water for Diamond Valley Lake, has a revised completion date of 2007.

...received the monthly report from **Chuck Rathbone**, Director of Finance. After one month of the new fiscal year, July water sales and total expenses are on target with budgeted forecasts. New connections in July totaled 343 EDUs for sewer service and 170 for water service.

...discussed the biosolids disposal outlook with **Mike Luker** and **Jayne Joy**. Regulatory and public acceptance issues have made land application of Class B biosolids a thing of the past. The District is considering processing all biosolids to the Class A level with a six-to-12-month pasteurization pilot program to be undertaken at the Temecula Valley RWRP. There are several alternatives for disposal of the material, but if the least costly -- land application of Class A in Riverside County -- is chosen, the District will need to undertake an aggressive public acceptance program.

...heard about rising electricity rates from **Dan Howell**. It was noted that commercial-industrial accounts (like EMWD's) are significantly more heavily impacted than residential accounts. The current rate structures provide even greater incentives for all the things EMWD has long been doing already: load reductions, peak shaving, and dual-fuel

flexibility. District-wide, electricity costs in July were \$958,974 (17.8% over budget) and natural gas costs were \$276,641 (13.9% *under* budget).