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Seal Rock Water District

General Manager's Report:
 Board Meeting June 14, 2018

This report is an executive summary provided with this Board agenda to Commissioners with recommended actions if any. Detailed information, staff reports, and supporting materials are provided within the full agenda packet.

• PHASE-3 USDA-RD GRANT FUNDED AMI PROJECT:

District contractors and crews have completed installation of all the residential/commercial meters within the system. District Staff is coordinating with the contractor to install three repeaters located at various district pump stations to provide added coverage for those meters that are currently not receiving signal at the towers. Repeaters are scheduled for installation in mid-June. It is anticipated that with the installation of the repeaters the read rate will be at 98%.



While the system is still in its infancy, the District has already received an overwhelming positive response from customers who have received notification of high water use generated through the AMI program. The District has contacted several customers with an alert to the potential of a water leak in their system. With the old system, high usage was detected only through monthly meter readings and generally left the customer with a high volume of water usage to pay for before fixes were made. With 2,525 connections, detecting water leaks early with AMI is already having a positive impact on the District, our customers and, ultimately, the environment.

AMI installation is a \$1.5 million-dollar project, fully funded through a grant provided by the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development (USDA-RD) through its Water and Waste Disposal Loan and Grant Program.

PHASE-4 SOURCE WATER PROJECT:

District staff and engineer are working cooperatively with representatives from USDA-RD to certify the District's Biological Assessment for the Beaver Creek Source Water project. Environmental consultants provided a draft copy of the Beaver Creek biological assessment to National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) in early March 2018, and again in May 2018. Staff and consultants are reviewing comments provided by NMFS in June 2018.

District staff and consultants notified the Wetlands Conservancy that the District is currently in the final planning stages to develop a primary source water intake and treatment facility located near Beaver Creek in Lincoln County. One of the elements of this project is the placement of the raw waterline which runs along Beaver Creek Road and up through private property adjacent to the proposed water treatment facility located above the Makai Community. The District has been working with the property owners for the last year, or so,

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to develop an approved route through their property which would allow the District to provide raw water to the proposed water treatment plant on District owned property.

We learned recently that a section of the property near the proposed water treatment plant site is also in a conservation easement. After engaging representatives from the Wetlands Conservancy staff learned that the conservation land is likely too restrictive to allow the district to use for the district's raw water line.

District staff and consultants are considering the best alternative option to access the proposed treatment site through the Makai Community. This option avoids impacts to the conservation easement, but obviously adds additional cost to the overall project. Staff have been in contact with one property owner affected by this option to allow the District to access property for the installation of the raw water line to access the Makai Community. Property owner is willing to allow the District to use the property as long as improvements do not prevent the property from being developed in the future.

District staff will continue to work with representatives from NMFS to provide additional information in an effort to expedite the review process. Phase-4 improvements project continues to move forward with several critical path tasks currently in progress:

- Biologist Assessment is being reviewed for final submittal to NMFS.
- Geotechnical investigation was completed in May.
- Easement and access agreement for construction and maintenance have been revised by the District's Legal Counsel. Draft copies of the easement agreements have been provided to the various property owners affected by the project.
- District staff will continue coordinating with USDA-RD funding representatives to provide information and updates related to the project.
- District crews have begun working with consultants to begin the Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) required as a condition of the District's water right permit for use of water on Beaver Creek.
- Engineer continues to provide water quality and treatability testing in preparation for developing specification for membrane procurement.

- **OTHER NOTABLE ACTIVITIES FOR THE MONTHS OF MAY/JUNE INCLUDE:**

- Attended weekly meetings with engineers and contractor to discuss AMI and source water improvements.
- Coordinated site visits with property owners to discuss intake and pipeline route for the Beaver Creek Source Water project.
- Facilitated District personnel staff/safety meeting.
- Supported staff effort to revise the 2018/2019 budget.
- Provided presentation to the RCAC Regards to Rural Bridges Between Rural and Urban Conference in Portland on May 19th.
- Met with engineer and representatives from USDA-RD to discuss Phase-IV improvements.
- Hosted first aid/CPR/AED training provided by SDAO Consultants.
- Attended Mid-Coast Integrated Water Resources Coordinating Committee meetings.
- Hosted regional municipal and water district working group meeting.
- Met with consultants to install sampling stations located on Beaver Creek.