

SSCSD. Interim GM Report 5/2/24

We have received all three of the final approvals for the WWTP Outfall Project: The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) Authorization MBNMS-2023-036 for the California Coastal Commission (CCC) Coastal Development Permit (CDP) No. 3-19-0020-A1

The Department of the Army (DA) Corps of Engineers permit for the proposed project, San Simeon Wastewater Treatment Pipe (WWTP) Outfall Repair (File No. SPL-2023-00563)

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION NO. 34023WQ37 FOR THE SAN SIMEON WASTEWATERTREATMENT PLANT OUTFALL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR PROJECT

Along with the approvals Padre Associates, our design and permit contractor received confirmation from JF Brennan, the actual marine construction contractor, that they will be submitting a proposal in the next few weeks for the construction of the project for later this summer

Project Significant Meetings this month:

I met with Supervisor Bruce Gibson, LAFCO Executive Rob Fitzroy, and Assistant SLO County Public Works Director Kate Ballentyne twice in anticipation of the district dissolution.

I met (by phone) with Dan Falat, Superintendent of CA State Parks, San Luis Obispo Coast District (Hearst Castle) regarding the fact that we have not been receiving the monthly WWTP meter reads for the park's wastewater. He was not aware of the problem and assured me he would make that happen. SSCSD do

not have a current WWTreatment agreement with Parks so we will charge them restaurant rates on a monthly basis with the meter reads he sends us. He is aware of the district desire to dissolve into a County Service Area. He was guessing the County would want to build a new WWTreatment agreement.

I attended a SLO LAFCO meeting. Rob Fitzroy, Executive Director, provided an excellent summation to the issues the district faces regarding our desire to dissolve and become a County Service Area. He was particularly prescient regarding the difficulties the Board faces due to the small voting districts and small staff.

I also attended a SLO County Small District Association meeting. Several of the other GM's were curious regarding our situation, as were the two representatives from Senator Laird and Assemblyperson Dawn Addis' offices.

Obviously, my main attention this last two weeks was finding a contractor to come repair our roads. The last two years of intense rain has exposed the problems of the district roads. Like so many other things, these old roads have not been maintained well, as you can see from the potholes opened up by the rain. Nonetheless, now that the rain is mostly over, we need to get the repairs done.

The real issue I've faced is that paving contractors are busy all over the County repairing roads. I've made well over a dozen phone calls in the last week, leaving messages, never getting a live voice. Monday after making another bunch of calls, I finally got to speak with a real person and scheduled a time on Tuesday to drive around the district looking at the condition of our roads. The diagnosis: Repairable for now. But several streets are definitely in need of repaving.

Our district bookkeeper, Kathy did some online sleuthing last week and found a company, with a home office in Atascadero, that sells and repairs the type of water meter reader wand that we use. As you know our wand died last month and FRM has had to read the meters by hand, which is not easy. I called to see if this company could repair our wand. For comparison our wand is a unit 14, they are currently selling the unit 53, which points out how old our meter reading system and software are. Luckily, however, they do still have the ability to repair our unit – so off to their repair shop in Utah it went. We expect to have the wand back in time to read our meters in May.

Finally, I want to commend FRM for their work with hand reading all of our water meters. The process requires opening up every water box to read the meter, and it is obviously quite time intensive. Thus our water bills went out today, a couple of days late, with a handfull that need to be re-read. We all look forward to having our meter reader wand back.