

TUOLUMNE CITY SANITARY DISTRICT

TCSD
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REGULAR MEETING STAFF REPORT OCTOBER 6, 2021

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To: Board of Directors

Agenda Item: IV

From: Dave Andres, General Manager

Subject: Apple Colony Lift Station and Tailwater-Runoff Control Projects

Date: September 30, 2021

Background: Under discussion are two professional services contracts associated with proposed district facilities. On June 7, 2019, the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) implemented Order R5-2019-0058, Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) for the Baker Ranch Land Application Area (LAA) and the Tuolumne City Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Plant. This action rescinded the previous permit requirements for the Ranch and TCSD, and consolidated them into the new Permit. This Permit includes specific provisions which TCSD must implement in a timely manner in order to legally operate under the WDR, including the following:

1. Until June 1, 2021, TCSD must minimize diversion of unblended effluent to the Land Application Areas at the Ranch;
2. Effective June 1, 2021, TCSD is prohibited from discharging unblended effluent to the LAAs, and
3. By June 1, 2021, TCSD must submit a completion report demonstrating that all treated effluent from the WWTP is conveyed to the reservoir for blending with supplemental water prior to discharge to the LAAs.
4. In order to monitor the quality and volume of blended effluent discharged to the LAAs, two flow meters and a second effluent sampling station must be installed.

All of the above requirements have been met through the diligence of district staff and consultants. In addition, the RWQCB has established a requirement that a Tailwater/Runoff Control Workplan be established which was completed by Forsgren Associates and submitted to the RWQCB last year. The purpose of this requirement is to eliminate the potential for broken pipes to flood the LAA resulting in reclaimed water from directly discharging into Turnback Creek. Under our current WDR we are supposed to have a fully functioning Runoff Control System by June 1, 2021. The district is not in compliance with this requirement and may be subject to a *Notice of Violation* (NOV) or a *Cease-and-Desist Order* (C&D) by the RWQCB. In-lieu, staff is proposing preparing a report that will recommend a

preferred alternative. Once approved, the district could seek grant funding for construction.

In respect to the Apple Colony Lift Station, district staff is proposing acquiring a site as close as possible to the current lift station near the entry bridge to the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). The current lift station was built in the 1960's, does not have redundant backup pumps and is located close to Turnback Creek. Reconstructing the lift station on site is not feasible. In addition, due to the limitations on space at the WWTP property, the new site is proposed to also house up to a 30' X 100' maintenance/storage building. The purpose of the professional services contract is to evaluate alternative sites and conduct the preliminary design and environmental assessment. Rincon Environmental has been retained under the Forsgren contract to conduct the environmental work.

Discussion:

In respect to the Runoff Control System, additional analysis needs to be completed before a recommended direction can be made by staff. Traditionally, the RWQCB includes berms or ditches as a standard condition for runoff control for Land Application Areas near streams to avoid potential contamination. However, we are in a unique situation in that Turnback Creek is typically dry near the LAA during irrigation season, the LAA includes steep terrain, large, buried boulders and berms that would be subject to high maintenance due to disturbance by the cattle moving from various locations in the LAA. In addition, the site has cultural resources that the district would like to avoid disturbing. It is hoped that an electronic control system in the event of pipe breakage can be designed and accepted by the RWQCB. This additional contract work is recommended to determine the best alternatives for meeting these requirements.

The site analysis work for the proposed relocation of the Apple Colony Lift Station and construction of an additional maintenance / storage building is required under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The district will evaluate four vacant sites in the analysis and a "no project " alternative. From this analysis we can determine the best site and anticipated construction costs for the project. Once a site is acquired we can seek grant funding to construct the project.

Fiscal Impact: Tailwater/Runoff Control Workplan - \$53,000; Apple Colony Lift Station Alternatives Analysis - \$72,000.

Attachment(s): Tailwater/Runoff Control Workplan Task Order No: 21-01
Amendment No. 1; Apple Colony Lift Station Alternatives Analysis Task Order No:
21-03

Recommendation: Approve and authorize the General Manager to sign the
attached agreements.

Recommended Motion: I move to approve and authorize the General Manager to
sign the following professional services contracts with Forsgren Associates:
Amendment No. 1 to Task Order 21-01 for a cost not to exceed \$53,000 and Task
Order 21-03 for a cost not to exceed \$72,000.