

REPRESENTATIVE POLICY BOARD

FINANCE COMMITTEE

JUNE 10, 2024

MEETING TRANSCRIPTION

Vin:

I will call the Finance subcommittee of the RWA to order and we'll start with a safety moment. This is skin cancer awareness month. Again, its summer. The sun is strong. Make sure you're covering up, applying appropriate sunblock, and reapplying it as stated based upon which application you're doing. They say here every two hours and after swimming And if you can't stay in the shade, make sure you're properly covered up. All right? Again, skin cancer is a real thing that we need to be aware of.

Let's move on to the approval of the minutes. The May 13th, 2024 meeting, is there a motion?

Tom:

So moved.

Tim:

Second.

Vin:

Is there any discussion? All right, we have a motion and it's been seconded. No discussion. All those in favor?

Committee members:

Aye.

Vin:

Opposed? The ayes have it. All right, let's move on to the quarterly report on RPB-approved projects. Rochelle?

Jennifer:

I don't think Rochelle is here yet. I just tried calling her. I don't see her. I know she was planning on joining.

Vin:

All right, well, let's give her a brief moment and so I'll move on. We will be electing a chair of this committee in July if anyone's interested. Start thinking about it.

Next meeting is going to be Tuesday, not Monday. Tuesday, July 9th at 5 P.M. And again, it will be hybrid. So, anyone who would like to attend in person can do so at the Authority's headquarters at Sargent Drive. And anyone who wants to participate remotely can do so via the teams link.

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Jay:

That will be hybrid, right?

Vin:

We'll be hybrid, Jay. You can participate remotely.

Vin:

Rochelle, if you're ready, we have the quarterly report on the RPB-approved projects.

Rochelle:

Okay, thank you. I'm not going to read through. I'm just going to highlight some key things.

The first project is the Lake Gaillard water treatment plant clarifier recycle pump station and concrete restoration project. Looks like there's an echo maybe. So, Kovacs is the contractor here. This project is in progress. The clarifiers, by the end of the quarter, were arriving on the site. You might know, as we talked about, there were some supply chain challenges with this project, but it is progressing. We're now expecting completion November 2024 and we are expecting to get DWSRF financing for at least a portion of the project.

Next project is the Lake Gaillard water treatment plan HVAC and electrical improvements. This was approved in March of 2022. During this quarter, so this is March through May, we did get bids and the contract was awarded to the low bidder and we're now in pre-construction coordination.

The next project is the Lake Whitney Dam and spillway improvements. This was phase one so this is the design phase only. The project is progressing. From the design perspective, I think you got an update on what we're thinking about from the design a couple of months ago. From the financing perspective, we are still expecting [inaudible 00:06:04] and DWSRF. I think I may have also mentioned, we did submit a application to get a FEMA BRIC grant. If we do get that, that could be substantial, about 75% of the construction costs. We're not going to know the outcome of that until sometime this summer. We are also thinking and would apply for a small grant from SHPO based on upstream option. And there's also the potential to get some state-bonded money somewhere between 500 and 3 million. So, definitely pursuing multiple financing sources to keep the costs low.

For the CIS project, updates here are, during the quarter, we did close out the design phase. The core development work has been concluded. There is some additional development work that still needs to get done. And planning during the quarter was underway for what we call integration system testing. And that started June 3rd.

The Derby Wellfield facility chemical improvements. This project was approved in August of 2023. Kovacs is the contractor. They completed the roof replacement portion and the submittal process is underway for the remainder of the project.

And then, Lake Whitney water treatment plant chemical feed improvements, this was very recently approved by the RPB, May of 2024. And at this point, our consultant is finalizing bid documents and will be sent to DPH for review and approval.

Any questions on these projects?

Tim:

I got a question, if I may, Rochelle. With the design of the spillway anticipated to be done by 2025, I'm sure it's been stated before, but upon all of that and everything else, what are we looking at for a project completion estimate? Is it a two-year or three-year? Is it a, the dam won't break thing?

Rochelle:

I believe we now have the construction, I do need to confirm this, but it would be over three years.

Tim:

Okay. So, essentially it could be probably like a 2028 date is what three years added to the '25, unless design is actually going to progress sooner. Is there any sense of that?

Rochelle:

I think the reason that the design completion date is May of 2025 is not because of the design work because the design is already, I think, 90 or 95%. It's the permitting aspect.

Tim:

I see. Okay.

Rochelle:

So, that, we're envisioning is going to take a while. I can double check when we have the construction built into the five-year. If you give me a minute, I can actually do that as we speak.

Tim:

Yes.

Rochelle:

So, just hold on.

Tim:

And the permitting process is basically the state and then the federal engineers, whatever they're called?

Rochelle:

Right, it's Corps of Engineers.

Tim:

Corps of Engineers? Army Corps?

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Rochelle:

Yes. And we would need SHPO here. And from what we understand, without SHPO approval, we won't get Corps of Engineer approval.

Tim:

And who is SHPO? It's not as familiar. What is that?

Rochelle:

State Historic...

Jeff:

Preservation.

Tim:

Got it. Okay, fine.

Rochelle:

Tell you in a minute. I'm almost at our five years.

Tim:

So, is SHPO fully staffed? I mean, there's more than two people.

Rochelle:

Yes. I think SHPO's concern is more about the facade than some other permitting that we have to go through with the state. I would say yes.

Tim:

So, that's a showstopper. Not really, because it can't stop the show, but basically, it's like living in a historic district?

Rochelle:

Yes, I think as long as they're on board, which given the current plans are with upstream, that they would be supportive. And I am looking at our five-year and I would say the construction is really between '26, '27 and '28.

Tim:

Okay. '26 to '28. Okay. Thanks for that, very thorough. I appreciate that.

Naomi:

Rochelle.

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Rochelle:
Yes?

Naomi:
For the CIS system, you have here to schedule completion date and the anticipated completion. What would the anticipated bring us? Where would that bring us to? If you're saying that the schedule completion is for September, what more would happen thereafter for the anticipated?

Rochelle:
This is a change, Naomi, and the actual go-live date.

Naomi:
Okay.

Rochelle:
So, the original go live date was September 2024. Based on the updates, and you might remember what was discussed at the budget presentations, that date has slipped into third quarter of fiscal 2025. So, it's the continuation of the project and the time that we need.

Naomi:
Okay, thank you.

Rochelle:
Any other questions?

Vin:
Any other questions for Rochelle? Rochelle, thank you for that update.
Okay, let's move forward then. As we already discussed, next month we'll be electing chair of the subcommittee. And our next meeting is going to be Tuesday, July 9th, not Monday, but Tuesday at 5:00 PM. And it will be hybrid via the teams link or in person at Sargent Drive. Also, just remember there's a meeting tomorrow night. Dinner, I believe, will be served beginning at 5:30.

Vin:
Is there any other business that's come before this body? Hearing none.

Tom:
Move to adjourn.

Vin:
Can I get a second?

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Jay:
Second.

Vin:
Thank you. All those in favor?

Committee members:
Aye.

Vin:
The ayes have it. We stand adjourned at 5:13 p.m.