



STAFF REPORT UTILITIES COMMISSION

Agenda Date: 6/5/2024
Agenda Section: Business Item

Department Origination: Public Works

Agenda Item: 2024 Well Rehabilitation Project Update

Approval Required: No Action Required

BACKGROUND

The City of Baxter recently contracted with Thein Well Company (Thein) to complete rehabilitation of Well Nos. 1R, 2R, 3R, and 4R because the 2024 annual inspection report indicated that all of the wells had a reduction in specific capacity throughout 2023, with Wells 2 and 3 experiencing the worst reduction. Well specific capacity is the volume of water that can be pumped from a well per foot of decreased water level during pumping, measured in gallons per minute per foot of drawdown (gpm/ft), and it can be used as an indicator of well condition. Generally, the higher the specific capacity value the more water a well can pump without negatively effecting aquifer water levels.

Based on the rehabilitation results for Well Nos. 2 & 3, SEH recommends that additional rehabilitation be completed on Well No. 3 to increase its capacity. In 2011, Well 1 also required back-to-back rehabilitations to improve its specific capacity. The additional rehabilitation will include another round of chemical cleaning, as well as a combination of development methods such as surging, jetting, and backwashing. SEH recommends that this work be completed on a time and materials basis to allow for Thein to monitor results and adjust treatment as needed to improve the specific capacity. The work was discussed at the May 22nd Special Utilities Commission Meeting where the commission made a motion to approve the work, SEH drafted Change Order 1 to be added to the existing Thein Well contract that is on the June 4th City Council agenda for approval.

SEH staff have been in communication with Thein to determine an expedited schedule for the rehabilitation of Wells 3, 1 & 4 to be completed this summer.

SEH staff has discussed with operations staff best practices for operating the WTP during the summer months, in order to, maintain historic drawdown levels in the Wells.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The 2024 Well Rehabilitation project expenses will be covered by the City's water fund.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

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COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

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