

Manila Water prepares for expected higher demand in summer

MANILA Water Co., Inc. said it would maximize the production of its treatment plants and water sources to meet an expected surge in demand during the summer months.

“These measures are part of Manila Water’s commitment to ensure that our customers continue to receive 24/7 water services, especially during the summer season where demand

normally spikes by 15% due to higher temperatures,” said Arnold A. Mortera, Manila Water chief operating officer for the east zone, in a media release.

The water concessionaire has implemented initiatives to ensure adequate reserves of water supply for its 74 million customers, the company said.

Manila Water said it has implemented some operational adjust-

ments in its Cardona water treatment plant in Rizal to maximize its daily water treatment capacity, while also being able to supply high-quality water to its customers.

To date, the Cardona plant treats an average of 106.2 million liters per day (MLD), which is 30.9 MLD higher than the average of 70.24 MLD of last year.

The company also said that two of its water treatment plants in Balara, Quezon City have also maximized their “backwash recovery program,” which pertains to retreating the by-product of the water treatment process. The program has resulted in the treatment of an average of 24.7 MLD in the past two months. —Ashley Erika O. Jose

FULL STORY



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Republika ng Pilipinas
LUNGSOD NG MAKATI
SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF MAKATI

PRESENT:

Vice Mayor	HON. MONIQUE YAZMIN MARIA Q. LAGDAMEO –Presiding Officer
Councilor	HON. DENNIS B. ALMARIO
Councilor	HON. MARIA DOLORES M. ARAYON
Councilor	HON. MARTIN JOHN PIO Q. ARENAS
Councilor	HON. JOEL M. ARIONES
Councilor	HON. SHIRLEY C. ASPILLAGA
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Councilor	HON. ANNA ALCINA M. YABUT
SK President	HON. RODOLFO C. SAN PEDRO, JR.

N.B.

LnB President HON. MARIBEL F. VITALES – Vacation Leave

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Secretary to the Sanggunian ATTY. DINDO R. CERVANTES

Upon motion of Hon. A.J. Cruz, duly seconded, the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Makati, by a unanimous vote, approved City Resolution No. 2023-019 on second and final reading.

CITY RESOLUTION NO. 2023-019

Authors: Hon. A.P. Padilla, Hon. R.A.Q. Saguisag, Jr., Hon. D.B. Almario, Hon. B.B. Baniqued, Hon. V.V. Hilario, Jr., Hon. M.D.M. Arayon, Hon. E.M. Marquez, Hon. A.J. Cruz, Hon. C.C. Ortega and Hon. R.C. San Pedro, Jr.

Co-Authors: Hon. M.J.P.Q. Arenas, Hon. J.M. Ariones, Hon. L.S. Javier, Jr., Hon. K.T. Sarosa, Hon. J.C. Villena, IV and Hon. A.A.M. Yabut

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HONORABLE MAYOR MAR-LEN ABIGAIL S. BINAY AND/OR HER DULY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE TO NEGOTIATE, ENTER INTO AND SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA), AND ALL OTHER PERTINENT DOCUMENTS RELATIVE THERETO, FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE CITY GOVERNMENT OF MAKATI, WITH COLINAS VERDES HOSPITAL MANAGERS CORPORATION (CVHMC), REGARDING THE FORGING OF PARTNERSHIP OF THE AFORECIDED ENTITIES IN RELATION TO THE MANAGEMENT AND CARE OF REFERRED AND/OR TRANSFERRED OSPITAL NG MAKATI (OSMAK) PATIENTS IN CVHMC, SUBJECT TO EXISTING LAWS, RULES, AND REGULATIONS.

WHEREAS, Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that “(T)he State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them.”;

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the City Government of Makati to provide the best possible health care to its constituents by strengthening the delivery of its health care programs and services;

WHEREAS, Colinas Verdes Hospital Managers Corporation (CVHMC) is a private medical institution duly approved by the Department of Health (DOH) to operate a Tertiary Care Level Hospital;

WHEREAS, the City Government of Makati, through the Ospital ng Makati (OSMAK), desires to obtain the services of CVHMC for the rendition of medical and health care services beyond the therapeutic capabilities of OSMAK;

WHEREAS, CVHMC manifest its willingness to accommodate and facilitate the management and care of referred and/or transferred OSMAK patients and to ensure the continuity of care and treatment appropriate to the needs of the patients;

WHEREAS, the execution of a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), among other documents, between the City Government of Makati, and Colinas Verdes Hospital Managers Corporation (CVHMC) is necessary to guide the parties in carrying out the abovementioned purpose;

WHEREAS, Section 8 (a) (6) of R.A. No. 7854, otherwise known as the Charter of the City of Makati, provides that the City Mayor, as the chief executive of the city government, shall among others, represent the City in all its business transactions and sign on its behalf all bonds, contracts, and obligation, and such other documents upon authority of the sangguniang panlungsod or pursuant to law or ordinance;

WHEREAS, in consideration of the reasonableness and absence of any legal impediment to the proposed partnership, the Sangguniang Panlungsod of Makati, pursuant to the abovementioned provision of law, hereby approves this Resolution.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF MAKATI, METRO MANILA, BY VIRTUE OF THE POWERS VESTED IN IT BY LAW, IN SESSION ASSEMBLED, to authorize the Honorable Mayor Mar-len Abigail S. Binay and/or her duly authorized representative to negotiate, enter into and sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), and all other pertinent documents relative thereto, for and on behalf of the City Government of Makati, with Colinas Verdes Hospital Managers Corporation (CVHMC), regarding the forging of partnership of the aforesaid entities in relation to the management and care of referred and/or transferred Ospital ng Makati (OsMak) patients in CVHMC, subject to existing laws, rules, and regulations.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that copies of this Resolution be furnished to the Office of the Mayor, Office of the City Administrator, Law Department, Makati Health Department (MHD), Ospital ng Makati (OsMak), Budget Department, Accounting Department, Information and Community Relations Department (ICRD), Department of the Interior and Local Government – Makati City Field Office (DILG-Makati City), Colinas Verdes Hospital Managers Corporation (CVHMC), and other departments, offices, and agencies concerned for their information, guidance and reference.

This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its approval.

APPROVED BY THE SANGGUNIANG PANLUNGSOD OF MAKATI, METRO MANILA, in its Regular Session held on 13 March 2023.

Attested by:

DRC
ATTY. DINDO R. CERVANTES
Secretary to the Sangguniang Panlungsod

Certified true and correct by:

Monique Yazmin Maria Q. Lagdameo
HON. MONIQUE YAZMIN MARIA Q. LAGDAMEO
Vice Mayor & Presiding Officer



PAL to add seven aircraft, almost double 2023 capex

FLAG CARRIER Philippine Airlines (PAL) is set to add seven more aircraft to its fleet this year as it moves to bring back its pre-pandemic portfolio while expecting this year’s expenditure (capex) to almost double.

“It is a mix of dollars and pesos. The capex is quite big because it includes the maintenance of the engines. Most likely it is almost double because of all the improvements we want to invest in,” PAL President and Chief Operating Officer Stanley K. Ng told reporters on Wednesday.

Mr. Ng said this year’s capex would be internally funded after having a “good” year in 2022. He did not disclose specific figures.

“This is already funded. We had a good year last year so, somehow, we have a little cash fund to invest,” he added.

The additional aircraft are expected to increase the airline’s operating fleet to 75, with the new ones expected to be operating by the fourth quarter of 2023.

Spare parts for the additional aircraft have already been ordered in the middle of 2022, which was affected by supply chain problems, according to Mr. Ng.

“But we started taking delivery of the spare parts starting end-February so definitely [the delivery] will improve,” he said.

Of the seven aircraft to be delivered, three will be refurbished by PAL, which also expects to refurbish about 12 in its existing fleet.

Meanwhile, Mr. Ng said that PAL expects to report a profitable 2023 after having a positive first quarter.

“The first quarter is looking good. Based on the first quarter [results], of course, we are optimistic,” he said.

During the quarter, Mr. Ng said that the estimated load factor reached 85% for domestic destinations and 80% for international destinations.

He noted that there is room to improve the number of tourists from international destinations.

“There are other flights that are directional. There are a lot of Filipinos going to Japan, but the Japanese, Koreans, and Chinese coming here are still few,” Mr. Ng said in a mix of English and Filipino.

On its 82nd anniversary celebration on Wednesday, PAL announced the expansion of its global flight route network: direct flights to Perth, Australia, Manila-Macau flights, regional flights between Kalibo and Incheon in South Korea, and daily flights to Shanghai, Guangzhou, Jinjiang, and Xiamen in mainland China, among others.

Also among its projects for 2023 is the new Mabuhay lounge for international departures at the Manila airport’s Terminal 1 and the launching of an online service portal called “MilesBack” program and a reworked customer services hub called “YourPAL.” — Justine Irish D. Tabile

Maynilad allocates P178 billion for wastewater spending plan

MAYNILAD Water Services, Inc. targets to spend P178 billion for its wastewater management program from 2023 to 2046, the company announced on Wednesday.

In a media release, the west zone water concessionaire said that it plans to expand its sewer coverage and manage water pollution.

“Besides improving the distribution of drinking water supply, our investment program also includes the laying of essential infrastructure to collect and treat the wastewater generated by households so we can ensure environmental sustainability,” Randolph T. Estrellado, chief operating officer of Maynilad, said in a statement.

Maynilad said it also plans to construct 18 new sewage treatment plants within its concession area.

The company said the installation of 360 kilometers of new sewer lines will catch and convey used water from households to sewage treatment plants.

Maynilad also plans to upgrade its existing 17 wastewater facilities to meet the amended effluent standards set by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources.

The company is also constructing new sewage treatment plants and laying sewer conveyance systems in Valenzuela, Caloocan, Las Piñas, and Muntinlupa’s Tunasan and Cupang areas.

The new facilities will have a combined capacity to treat around 419 million liters per day (MLD) of wastewater, which covers around 1.75 million residents.

Maynilad said the company is also planning to construct a 140-MLD capacity sewage treatment plant and install sewer lines in Manila.

The company said that since its re-privatization in 2007, it has spent around P41.2 billion in capital expenditures for its wastewater management projects, which resulted in an additional 20 sewage treatment plants to its only two existing sewage treatment plants.

Maynilad, a concessionaire of the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System, serves the cities of Manila, except portions of San Andres and Sta. Ana. It also operates in Quezon City, Makati, Caloocan, Pasay, Parañaque, Las Piñas, Muntinlupa, Valenzuela, Navotas, and Malabon. It serves the cities of Cavite, Bacoor and Imus, and the towns of Kawit, Noveleta, and Rosario in Cavite province.

Metro Pacific Investments Corp., which has a majority stake in Maynilad, is one of three Philippine units of Hong Kong-based First Pacific Co. Ltd., the others being Philex Mining Corp. and PLDT Inc.

Hastings Holdings, Inc., a unit of PLDT Beneficial Trust Fund subsidiary MediaQuest Holdings, Inc., has an interest in *BusinessWorld* through the Philippine Star Group, which it controls. — Ashley Erika O. Jose

D.M. Wenceslao posts 3% income growth to P2B

PROPERTY developer D.M. Wenceslao and Associates, Inc. posted a 3% profit growth to P2.1 billion last year largely on contributions from expansion projects and despite economic headwinds.

“We kept our leverage ratios low with peso-denominated and fixed-rate debt that kept us insulated from forex fluctuations and the rise of interest rates,” D.M. Wenceslao Chief Executive Officer Delfin Angelo C. Wenceslao said in a media release on Wednesday.

Mr. Wenceslao also said that the company locked in favorable prices for most construction materials used in projects, “safeguarding our costs from the run-up in prices.”

The company reported a 9% growth in rental revenues to P2.2 bil-

lion, which was driven by an increased take-up in its newly opened buildings. Parking revenues also increased due to higher mobility.

Additionally, 52% of total revenues for the year came from rental revenues, which include rentals from land and building, common-use service area fees, and parking fees.

Residential revenues more than doubled for the year to P1.3 billion as a higher number of units became qualified for revenue recognition.

D.M. Wenceslao said core net income grew by 13%, without disclosing comparative numbers, except to say that it excluded gains related to the Corporate Recovery and Tax Incentives for Enterprises Act or the

CREATE law and other one-off gains that resulted in the termination of a joint venture agreement with the company.

“We remained all systems go on our expansion plans all through 2022; we signed a 1.4[-hectare] land lease contract with St. Luke’s Medical Center,” Mr. Wenceslao said.

He also said that construction remains in full swing as the company had topped off its MidPark tower project, and 89% of its flagship commercial project Parqal had been completed as of December 2022.

Shares in the company slipped by 0.44% or 3 centavos to close at P6.85 each on the stock exchange. — Adrian H. Halili