

MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC AWARENESS/PERSONNEL/POLICY COMMITTEE
OF THE VALLECITOS WATER DISTRICT
MONDAY, JANUARY 12, 2009 @ 2:30 P.M.
AT THE DISTRICT OFFICE, 201 VALLECITOS DE ORO,
SAN MARCOS, CALIFORNIA

Committee Chair Poltl called the meeting to order at the hour of 2:30 p.m.

Present: Director Hannan
Director Poltl
General Manager Rucker
Deputy General Manager Lamb
Director of Human Resources Caudle
Director of Finance Scaglione
Public Information/Conservation Supervisor Urabe
Public Information Representative Webb
Executive Secretary Lewis
Administrative Secretary Posvar

PUBLIC INFORMATION AND CONSERVATION ACTIVITY REPORT

Public Information Representative Webb presented the Activity Report for November and December, 2008. Brief discussion took place.

Water Education:

11/07/08: Presentation to Alvin Dunn @ Jack's Pond Park
11/14/08: Presentation to Alvin Dunn @ Jack's Pond Park
11/21/08: Presentation to Alvin Dunn @ Jack's Pond Park

Meetings:

11/25/08: SDCWA JPIC Meeting (Conference Call)
12/2/08: MWD Turf Removal Pilot Program (Conference Call)
12/16/08: SDCWA JPIC Meeting

Landscape Surveys: (Year-to-Date)

11/25/08: 427 Washingtonia, San Marcos (residential) (Alicia)
11/26/08: 937 Cycad Drive, San Marcos (residential) (Alicia)
12/4/08: 850 Antilla Way, San Marcos (residential) (Alicia)
12/8/08: 1202 Rancho Luiseno Rd, San Marcos (residential) (Alicia)
12/8/08: 2735 Sarver Lane, San Marcos (residential) (Alicia)
12/30/08: 1361 Milnaracielo, San Marcos (residential) (Alicia)

Training:

- 11/13/08: Emergency Response Training (Statewide Drill)
- 12/11/08: Media Relations Training (SDCWA)

External Communications:

- Outreach to agricultural customers regarding Interim Agricultural Program Election
- "Splash!" Winter 09

Drought Preparation:

- Water waste call-in complaint spreadsheet
- California Urban Water Conservation Council 2008 BMPs (completed)

Articles:

- SM Chamber Newsletter: Is Your Business Water Restriction Proof? (Dec.)
- SM Chamber Newsletter: Preventing Small Leaks Leads to Big Water Savings (Jan.)

Ads:

- Business Buzz Chamber Ad: "Harvest Time = Less Irrigation"
- San Marcos Magazine: The Cost of Tap Water
- Scholastic Sports Poster Ads: San Marcos High & Mission High
- Scholastic Sports Program Guide

Press Release

- 12/10/08: Board Directors Sworn In
- 12/10/08: Trish Hannan President after Board Reorganization

This item was for information only. No action was required.

SPLASH

Public Information Representative Webb presented the draft SPLASH newsletter. Brief discussion took place.

Public Information/Conservation Supervisor Urabe stated that staff plans to add more graphics/pictures in future SPLASH issues.

The Public Awareness/Personnel/Policy Committee recommended that the draft SPLASH newsletter be submitted to the Board for consideration and approval.

TAXABLE FRINGE BENEFIT – DUTY TRUCK USE

General Manager Rucker stated that, per correspondence directed to Legal Counsel Scott from Levitzacks, Certified Public Accountants, District staff is subject to taxation for use of a duty vehicle unless the vehicle meets very specific exemptions that are based upon the utility body and function. Due to the fact District vehicles do not meet the specific exemptions, the truck's regular beds would need to be removed and a utility type bed installed in order to comply/meet the exemption requirements. The cost to modify the District trucks (4 total) would be approximately \$20,000. An alternative considered by staff would be to reimburse the duty employee for the additional tax burden. Staff completed an evaluation which indicated the additional average cost to the District would be \$1.72 per day per employee. There are currently four duty employees which would result in an annual cost of approximately \$2,967. The General Manager shared this tactical administrative solution with the Committee prior to implementation/application which lies outside of any "Meet & Confer" requirements.

The Public Awareness/Personnel/Policy Committee concurs with the General Manager that his administrative solution to implement reimbursement to duty staff by including additional compensation to the daily duty stipend in the amount of \$1.72 per person to provide a net zero income expense is a good business solution (Memorandum attached).

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION EVENT

The Public Awareness/Personnel/Policy Committee discussed the Employee Recognition event and its various components for planning purposes. The Committee selected the tentative dates of April 8, 22, or 29 for the Employee Recognition event this year. These dates will be presented to the Board for consideration/selection.

This item was for information only. No action was necessary.

OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion took place on the Conservation and Public Information programs and ways of moving forward with the changing paradigms which includes the potential water shortfall.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at the hour of 4:10 p.m.