NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2012

10:00 A.M.

SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE & AGENDA

WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
MICHAEL WINN, **CHAIR**
LARRY VIERHEILIG, **MEMBER**

PRINCIPAL STAFF
MICHAEL S. LEBRUN, **GENERAL MANAGER**
LISA BOGNUDA, **ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER**
PETER SEVCIK, **DISTRICT ENGINEER**

MEETING LOCATION
District Board Room
148 S. Wilson Street
Nipomo, California

1. **CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE & ROLL CALL**

2. **REVIEW WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM 2012 ACTIVITY AND DISCUSS PROGRAM DIRECTION IN 2013**
   ACTION RECOMMENDED: Receive Report and Direct Staff

3. **ADJOURN**

**** End Special Meeting Notice ****

TO: WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

FROM: MICHAEL S. LEBRUN GENERAL MANAGER

DATE: OCTOBER 22, 2012

AGENDA ITEM 2
OCTOBER 25,2012

REVIEW WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM 2012 ACTIVITY AND DISCUSS PROGRAM DIRECTION IN 2013

ITEM

Review District Water Conservation Program and discuss Program Direction [RECOMMEND RECEIVE REPORT AND DIRECT STAFF]

BACKGROUND

The District adopted its Water Conservation Program in February 2008 with the primary goal of reducing water use by 15% utilizing a number of 'core' and 'non-core' conservation measures.

The core program measures include:

- Public outreach and education
- Advertising
- Workshops
- Technical assistance (leak detection and water audits)
- Conservation-based, multi-tiered water rate structure

The non-core measures are rebates for plumbing retrofits, high efficiency clothes washers, lawn or 'turf' removal, and 'smart' irrigation controller installations.

Of the core measures, all with the exception of 'workshops' were implemented in 2012. Additionally, the non-core measure of clothes washer rebates continue to be offered in 2012.

In 2004, water use per person per day within the District peaked at 257 gallon. In 2007, the year prior to a formal Conservation Program adoption, per capita use stood at 226 gallons per day. By 2010, per capita use dropped to 174 gallons per day or a 23% decrease in per capita use (2007-2010). In 2011, District per capita use is up slightly from 2010 at 182 gallons per day – still a near 20% decrease since 2007 and a near 30% decrease from the 2004 use rate.

A memorandum summarizing District per capita usage rates and District compliance with California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC) Best Management Practices (BMP) for water conservation is provided – see Attachment A.

In 2006, the District established a full-time Water Conservation and Public Outreach position. The position was vacant most of 2011. The District utilized a combination of reassignment of duties and consulting services to continue program implementation and maintain compliance with State recommended Best Management Practices throughout 2011 and 2012. With the adoption of the District's 2012-2013 fiscal year budget, the full-time Water Conservation and Public Outreach position was eliminated and Water Conservation Program duties were formally transferred as follows (See 2012-2013 District Organizational Chart – Attachment B):

- Conservation Program Administration – Assistant Engineer, with consulting services as needed.

- Customer Service and Education – Office staff and operations Customer Service worker.
- Outreach – Public Information Assistant
- Classroom Education (grades K-6) – by contract

2012 Summary of accomplishments:

- Implemented a 4-tier water conservation rate structure that is compliance with California Urban Water Conservation Council guidelines and best management practices. In the structure, 4th tier water rates apply at 100 units of water use and above (average District customer uses ~40 units per two-month billing period). Fourth tier water cost 300% of what first tier water cost providing a strong monetary signal to reduce water use. The full impact of this change will take a number of years to be felt as customers adjust their water use patterns over time.

- Answered approximately 1,300 calls from customers with questions about saving water/money. Each call is handled by a staff person who is informed on leak detection and basic water conservation and irrigation measures. Questions are answered and callers are directed to the District web resources and/or offered a 'service' visit by District Customer Service staff.

- Each month, staff reviews water meter read data and contacts property owners by 'door hanger' if usage is abnormally high. The District made approximately 270 such pro-active notifications to customers this year.

- As of October 16, 2012, staff made 103 service calls to investigate leak reports/high water use. These service calls provide face-to-face, hands on, counseling/education on water conservation, irrigation practices, and leak detection.

- Distributed 'Water Ways – The Story of Your Water' newsletter to all 3-6 grade teachers in Nipomo-area public schools (Dana, Nipomo, and Dorothea Lange schools) to promote a District-subsidized 'free' conservation presentation.

- Presented 'The Story of Your Water' training to twelve classes, approximately 340 students grades 3-6.

- Maintained and promoted the District's existing high efficiency clothes washer rebate program with 22 rebates issued through September of this year, 209 rebates issued over life of program (over 200 rebates totaling over $15,000 over life of program).

- Maintained compliance with State requirements for water conservation Best Management Practices (BMP).

- Continued active water conservation reminders in billing, lobby area, and Adobe Press. Attached are most recent examples of Adobe Press advertisements showing the different message delivered according to the season (Attachment C). The Adobe Press is broadly distributed across the southern Nipomo Mesa every Friday. Conservation reminder 'bill-inserts' were also provided to customers in two of the six water bills in 2012.

- Participated with County-wide *Partners for Water Conservation* to implement a County specific website to aid home owners in plant selection and water conservation practices (see: www.slowaterwiselandscaping.com).

- Maintain and disseminate information regarding local water conservation oriented service providers upon request.

2013 Program Direction

In 2013, a five-year review of the Water Conservation Program will be undertaken. The District will provide a formal review of BMP compliance to the CUWCC, as required, by April 2013 and use this review as a launch for comprehensive program review.

With formalized staff assignment of the various Water Conservation Program elements and increased staffing (Assistant Engineer and Public Information Assistant vacancies are approved to be filled in early 2013), staff expects the District Water Conservation Program to continually improve and produce greater results.

Staff is developing a tracking system to more accurately capture customer-staff interactions related to water conservation. The new tracking system will be in place by January 1, 2013. Ongoing leak detection efforts will be improved as necessary and be more formally tracked and reported as well.

In 2013, the District will review, improve, and more aggressively promote its water audit (exterior and interior) program.

FISCAL IMPACT

District water conservation efforts are included in the 2012-2013 fiscal budget.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that your Committee receive the presentation, ask questions, and direct staff.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Per-capita water use summary
B. District Organization Chart
C. Adobe Press Advertisements

OCTOBER 25, 2012

ITEM 2

ATTACHMENT A

Date: 10/23/2012

To: Mr. Michael LeBrun
Nipomo Community Services District
148 S. Wilson Street
Nipomo, CA 93444

Phone: (805) 929-1133

Prepared by: Spencer Waterman

SUBJECT: **2011 PER CAPITA WATER USE UPDATE AND BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES IMPLEMENTATION STATUS SUMMARY**

This memorandum presents an update of the Nipomo Community Services District's (District) 2011 per capita water use and a summary of the District's California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC) Best Management Practices (BMP) implementation status.

2011 Per Capita Water Use Update

A complete description of the per capita water use analysis is available in the District's 2010 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP). Table 1, Table 2, and Figure 1 show the District's 2011 per capita water use in comparison with historical and benchmark per capita water uses described and defined in the 2010 UWMP.

Table 1. Per Capita Water Use Estimates

Year	Gross Water Use, acre-ft/year	Population Served	Per Capita Water Use, gal/capita/day
1994	1,718.00	6,521	235.2
1995	1,805.00	6,885	234.0
1996	1,934.70	7,249	238.3
1997	2,036.86	7,613	238.8
1998	1,909.74	7,978	213.7
1999	2,271.20	8,342	243.1
2000	2,396.94	8,706	245.8
2001	2,285.04	9,050	225.4
2002	2,709.32	9,394	257.5
2003	2,633.33	9,739	241.4
2004	2,907.58	10,083	257.4
2005	2,787.29	10,427	238.6
2006	2,666.34	10,771	221.0
2007	2,818.36	11,116	226.4
2008	2,752.90	11,460	214.5
2009	2,698.18	11,804	204.1
2010	2,366.54	12,148	173.9
2011	2,487.70	12,204[1]	**182.0**

[1] Calculated using a factor of 2.92 persons per connection established in 2010 applied to the number of connections in 2011.

Table 2. Baseline, Compliance, Interim Target, and Target Water Use

Parameter	Water Use (gpcd)
Baseline Daily Per Capita Water Use	240.0
2010 Daily Per Capita Water Use	173.9
2011 Daily Per Capita Water Use	182.0
2015 Interim Urban Water Use Target	222.0
2020 Urban Water Use Target	204.0

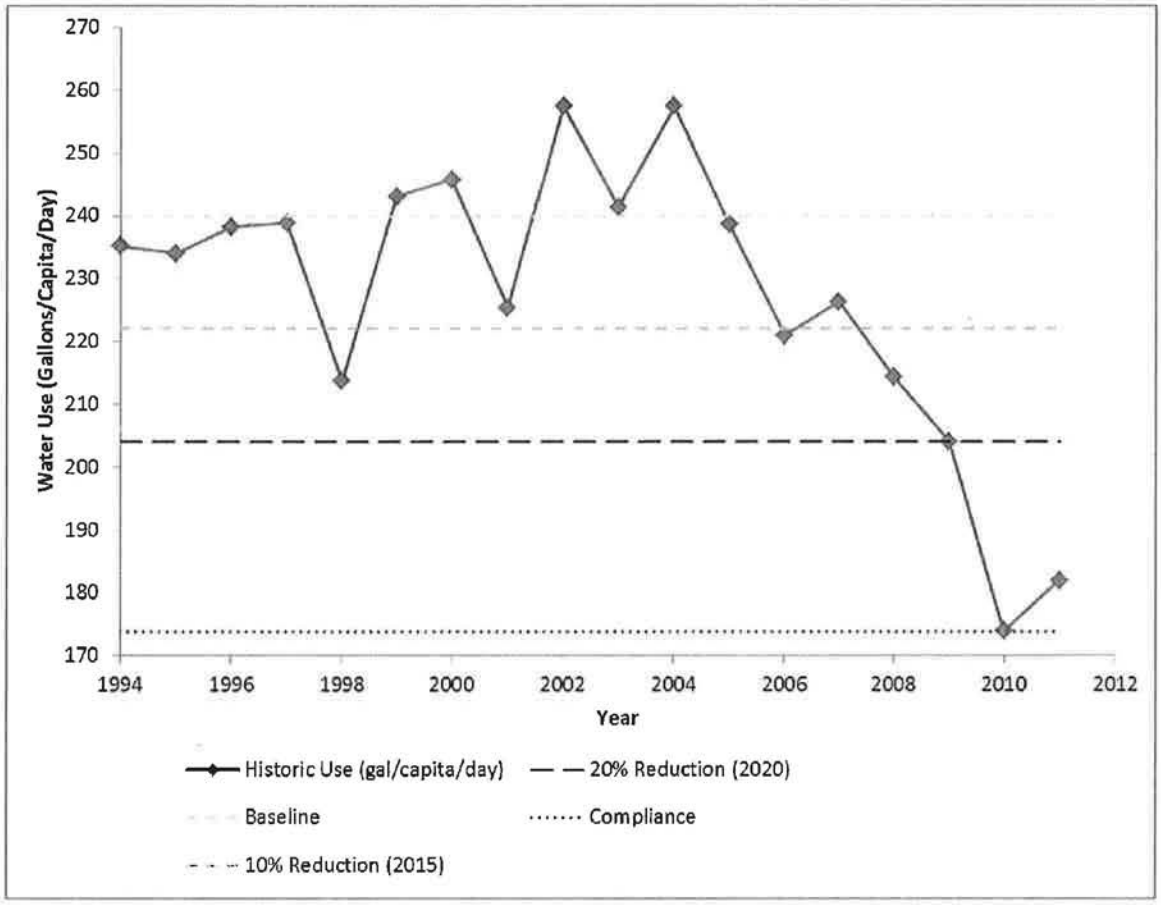

Figure 1. Historical, Baseline, Interim Target, Target, and Compliance Per Capita Water Use

Figure 2 shows monthly per capita water use in 2010, 2011, and 2012-to-date. Per capita water usage peaks in the summer months, which reflects a typical demand pattern.

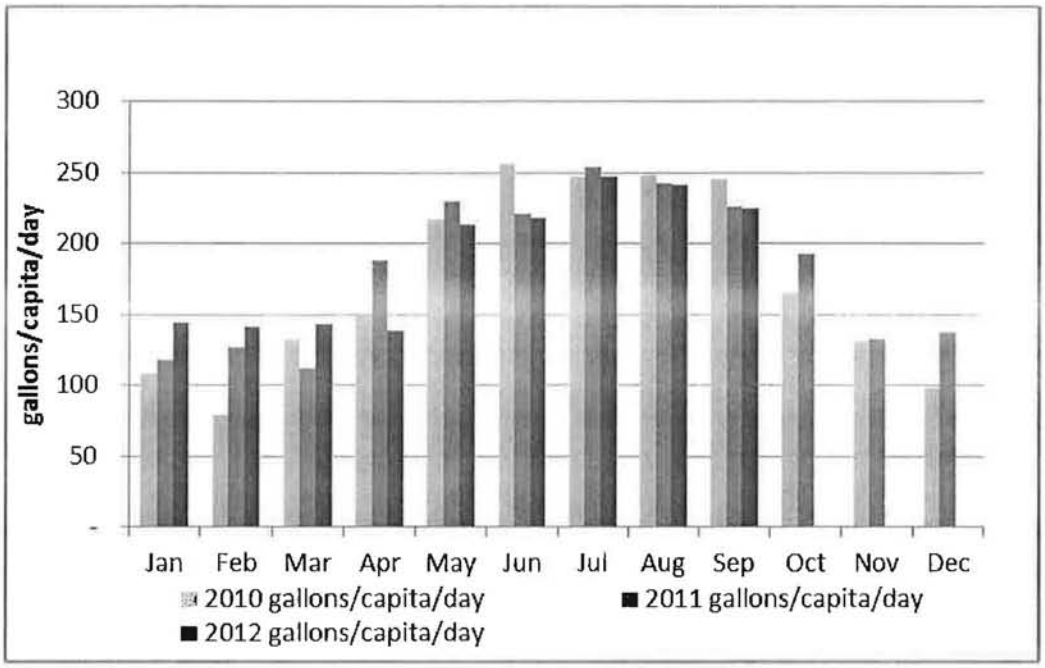

Figure 2. Monthly Per Capita Water Use

BMP Implementation Status

Water suppliers must have a complete UWMP to be eligible for State funding. State funding has been conditionally awarded to the District through the Proposition 84 Integrated Regional Water Management Round 1 Implementation Grant applied for by the County of San Luis Obispo. The conditions to receive the grant funding require the following from the District:

- An UWMP that is deemed complete by DWR
- Implementation or a schedule and budget for implementation of BMPs

The District has completed its 2010 UWMP and it was deemed complete by California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on November 10, 2011. Additionally, on March 29, 2011, DWR confirmed its review of the District's AB1420 Self-Certification Statement –Tables 1 and 2 (AB1420 Tables) regarding implementation of the BMPs and determined that the District is eligible for State funding.

The AB 1420 Tables presented BMP compliance through the BMP Checklist compliance option. In addition to the BMP Checklist option, there are two alternative conservation approaches for BMP compliance –the Flex Track approach and the Gallons per Capita per Day (GPCD) approach. At the time that the AB1420 Tables were submitted, the District needed to show compliance by using the BMP Checklist option because a number of the BMPs were not fully implemented. Additionally, compliance through the GPCD alternative conservation approach was not verified at the time because it was dependent on DWR's ongoing review and approval of the District's UWMP and Senate Bill x 7-7 (SB7) GPCD compliance analysis. Now that the District has an approved UWMP and SB7 GPCD compliance analysis, the District should update its AB1420 Tables using the GPCD approach to remain eligible for State funding.

The specific requirements, definitions, and approaches for BMP implementation compliance, which are summarized and reported in the AB1420 Tables, are defined in California Urban Water Conservation Council's (CUWCC) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). The MOU separates BMPs into Foundational BMPs and Programmatic BMPs. Water suppliers can evaluate their compliance with the MOU by using the full BMP list, the Flex Track Menu,

or the GPCD approach. The District should evaluate its MOU compliance using the GPCD approach for the following reasons:

1. The GPCD approach is closely aligned with the methodology for measuring GCPD compliance with SB7.
2. The GPCD approach is closely aligned with State legislative funding eligibility requirements, which require compliance with SB7, rather than AB1420, for years after 2014.
3. The District will spend less time, effort, and funding on implementing Programmatic BMPs, provided it meets its GPCD requirements, which it currently does.

The GPCD approach allows the District to comply with the MOU by implementing the Foundational BMPs and utilizing the GPCD approach in lieu of implementing the Programmatic BMPs provided the District's GPCD approach results in equal or greater water savings when compared with the BMP list approach. To show that the District's GPCD approach achieves greater water savings than the BMP list approach, an evaluation of Programmatic BMP compliance and Foundational BMP compliance is described in the following to sections.

Programmatic BMP Compliance

The GPCD approach for Programmatic BMP compliance includes the following sections as required by CUWCC.

> *For retail water agencies choosing the GPCD Option for compliance with the Programmatic BMPs, the retail water agency shall submit the following calculations along with supporting data as part of their first normal biennial report for that period:*
>
> *(1) Potable Water GPCD for each year in the baseline period;*
>
> *(2) 2018 GPCD Target and five Biennial GPCD Targets; and*

(1) The District's potable water GPCD for each year in the baseline period and the baseline GPCD of 238.3 is shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Baseline GPCD

Calendar Year	Distribution System Population	Daily System Gross Water Use (mgd)	Annual Daily Per Capita Water Use (gpcd)	10 year running average
1997	7,613	2	239.0	
1998	7,978	2	213.7	
1999	8,342	2	243.1	
2000	8,706	2	245.8	
2001	9,050	2	225.4	
2002	9,394	2	257.5	
2003	9,739	2	241.4	
2004	10,083	3	257.4	
2005	10,427	2	238.6	
2006	10,771	2	221.0	**238.3**

(2) The District's Target and Biennial GPCD Targets are shown in Table 4. The District's 2018 GPCD Target is 195.4 GPCD as shown in the equation below.

2018 GPCD Target= 238 GPCD*0.82 = **195.4 GPCD**

Table 4. Biennial GPCD Targets

Year	Compliance Report	Target	Highest Acceptable Bound
2010	1	229.7	238.3
2012	2	221.1	229.7
2014	3	212.5	221.1
2016	4	204.0	212.5
2018	5	195.4	195.4

The District's usage in 2011 was 182 GPCD as shown in the equation below:

District Potable Water GPCD = (2487.7 AFY-0 AFY)/12,204 people/365 days= **182 GPCD**

The District's per capita water usage is currently below its 2018 GPCD Target of 195.4 and is therefore in compliance with the MOU for the GPCD approach for Programmatic BMP compliance. To support and document the District's GPCD compliance, the following materials will be submitted as required by the CUWCC MOU:

> *A retail water agency shall be considered to be in compliance with the BMPs in any reporting period when it submits the following:*
>
> *(1) Complete "Water Supply & Reuse" and "Accounts & Water Use" standard reports;*
> *(2) Supporting data necessary to calculate that reporting period's Potable Water GPCD; and*
> *(3) Calculations showing the reporting period's Potable Water GPCD is less than or equal to that period's Biennial GPCD Target, or Highest Acceptable Bound when the period's Potable Water GPCD has been weather-adjusted*

Foundational BMP Compliance

The District currently implements all of the Foundational BMPs to some extent, but will need to implement some additional items to be in compliance with the MOU. The following sections describe the Foundational BMP activities completed-to-date and future BMP activities necessary to remain in compliance with CUWCC MOU.

BMP 1.1.1 Conservation Coordinator

The District currently complies with this BMP by contracting with a consultant (Water Systems Consulting, Inc.) with an AWWA Water Use Efficiency Practitioner Grade 1 certification. The consultant is responsible for acting as a representative for the District for the CUWCC, researching and summarizing water use efficiency programs as requested by District staff, tracking, updating, and reporting BMP compliance, and ensuring that the District is up-to-date with water use efficiency trends. Additionally, District Staff field questions and requests from customers and provide information, incentives, and materials to customers to encourage water conservation and water use efficiency. District Staff and its consultant coordinate and manage the water conservation program by tracking, planning, and reporting on BMP implementation.

BMP 1.1.2 Water Waste Prevention

The District is in compliance with and implements this BMP as described in the 2010 UWMP.

BMP 1.1.3 Wholesale Agency Assistance Programs

This BMP is not implemented or scheduled for implementation because it is not applicable to the District as a retail agency. In the future the District will be selling water to Golden State Water Company and Rural Water Company. It is anticipated that when this happens, the District will develop a plan to implement this BMP.

BMP 1.2 Water Loss Control

The District completed the AWWA Free Water Audit Software standard water audit and water balance analysis in November 2011 to determine the current volume of apparent and real water loss and the cost impact of these losses on operations. The District's water audit validity score calculated by the AWWA Software is 84 out of 100, which surpasses the CUWCC BMP requirement of achieving a score of 66 or higher. The results of the standard water audit and water balance are shown in Appendix A. The standard water audit and water balance is required to be completed at no less than annual intervals and submitted in the CUWCC BMP 1.2 report form every reporting period. The District will complete the next standard water audit and water balance by December 2012 and the next 2011-2012 CUWCC BMP report will be completed and submitted by April 2013.

The District is required to seek training in the AWWA water audit method and component analysis process during the first four years of BMP implementation. The District's consultant will attend an AWWA Water audit method training webinar on November 29, 2012 on behalf of the District to meet the requirements of this BMP. Upon completion of training, the consultant will prepare a required component analysis to be completed and submitted by April 2013. This component analysis will need to be updated every four years after this initial analysis.

Furthermore, the District is required to keep records of intervention(s) performed, including standardized reports on leak repairs, the economic value assigned to apparent losses and to real losses, miles of system surveyed for leaks, pressure reduction undertaken for loss reduction, infrastructure rehabilitation and renewal, volumes of water saved, and costs of intervention(s). Examples of these types of reporting forms are provided in Appendix B. The District does not currently have a formal leak repair database to track the required information and should implement one immediately for the purposes of establishing a water audit and water balance benchmark for comparison in future years.

BMP 1.3 Metering with Commodity Rates for All New Connections and Retrofit of Existing Connections

The District is 100% metered and bills on a bi-monthly using a four-tier rate structure, effective as of November 1, 2011. The District meets the coverage requirements of this BMP.

BMP 1.4 Retail Conservation Pricing

The District currently implements a rate structure that is compliant with the requirements of this BMP. An updated analysis will be completed by April 2013 to determine the status of compliance with the required minimum percentage of water sales revenue from volumetric rates.

BMP 2.1 Public Information Programs

The District currently implements this BMP as described in the 2010 UWMP. An updated description of the District's public information program will be provided in the annual report submitted to CUWCC in April 2013.

BMP 2.2 School Education Programs

The District currently complies with this BMP by contracting with Science Discovery to provide the following water use efficiency conservation education and materials:

1) Curriculum materials developed and/or provided by agency (including confirmation that materials meet state education framework requirements and are grade-level appropriate).

2) Materials distributed to K-6 students. When possible, school education programs will reach grades 7-12 as well.

3) Description of materials used to meet minimum requirement.

4) Annual budget for school education program.

5) Description of all other water supplier education programs (Lists follow in Section D).

An updated description of the school education program and materials will be provided in the annual report submitted to CUWCC in April 2013.

Appendix A. AWWA Water Audit

AWWA WLCC Free Water Audit Software: Reporting Worksheet

WAS v4.2

Back to Instructions

? Click to access definition

Water Audit Report for: Nipomo Community Services District
Reporting Year: 2010 1/2010 - 12/2010

Please enter data in the white cells below. Where available, metered values should be used; if metered values are unavailable please estimate a value. Indicate your confidence in the accuracy of the

All volumes to be entered as: ACRE-FEET PER YEAR

WATER SUPPLIED			<< Enter grading in column 'E'		
Volume from own sources:	?	10	2,366.540	acre-ft/yr	
Master meter error adjustment (enter positive value):	?	n/a		acre-ft/yr	
Water imported:	?	n/a	0.000	acre-ft/yr	
Water exported:	?	n/a	0.000	acre-ft/yr	
WATER SUPPLIED:			2,366.540	acre-ft/yr	
AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION					Click here: ? for help using option buttons below
Billed metered:	?	10	2,292.980	acre-ft/yr	
Billed unmetered:	?	10	0.000	acre-ft/yr	
Unbilled metered:	?	10	1.300	acre-ft/yr	Pcnt: Value:
Unbilled unmetered:	?		29.582	acre-ft/yr	1.25%
Default option selected for Unbilled unmetered - a grading of 5 is applied but not displayed					Use buttons to select percentage of water supplied OR value
AUTHORIZED CONSUMPTION:	?		2,323.862	acre-ft/yr	
WATER LOSSES (Water Supplied - Authorized Consumption)			42.678	acre-ft/yr	
Apparent Losses					Pcnt: Value:
Unauthorized consumption:	?		5.916	acre-ft/yr	0.25%
Default option selected for unauthorized consumption - a grading of 5 is applied but not displayed					
Customer metering inaccuracies:	?	5	23.175	acre-ft/yr	1.00%
Systematic data handling errors:	?	5	1.000	acre-ft/yr	
Apparent Losses:	?		30.091		Choose this option to enter a percentage of billed metered consumption. This is NOT a default value
Real Losses (Current Annual Real Losses or CARL)					?
Real Losses = Water Losses - Apparent Losses:	?		12.587	acre-ft/yr	
WATER LOSSES:			42.678	acre-ft/yr	
NON-REVENUE WATER					
NON-REVENUE WATER:	?		73.560	acre-ft/yr	
= Total Water Loss + Unbilled Metered + Unbilled Unmetered					
SYSTEM DATA					
Length of mains:	?	10	90.0	miles	
Number of active AND inactive service connections:	?	10	4,148		
Connection density:			46	conn./mile main	
Average length of customer service line:	?	10	32.0	ft	(pipe length between curbstop and customer meter or property boundary)
Average operating pressure:	?	10	75.0	psi	
COST DATA					
Total annual cost of operating water system:	?	10	$3,197,163	$/Year	
Customer retail unit cost (applied to Apparent Losses):	?	6	$2.41	$/100 cubic feet (ccf)	
Variable production cost (applied to Real Losses):	?	7	$428.60	$/acre-ft	

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Financial Indicators

Non-revenue water as percent by volume of Water Supplied:	3.1%
Non-revenue water as percent by cost of operating system:	1.6%
Annual cost of Apparent Losses:	$31,589
Annual cost of Real Losses:	$5,395

Operational Efficiency Indicators

Apparent Losses per service connection per day:	6.48	gallons/connection/day
Real Losses per service connection per day*:	2.71	gallons/connection/day
Real Losses per length of main per day*:	N/A	
Real Losses per service connection per day per psi pressure:	0.04	gallons/connection/day/psi
? Unavoidable Annual Real Losses (UARL):	109.02	acre-feet/year
From Above, Real Losses = Current Annual Real Losses (CARL):	12.59	acre-feet/year
? Infrastructure Leakage Index (ILI) [CARL/UARL]:	0.12	

* only the most applicable of these two indicators will be calculated

WATER AUDIT DATA VALIDITY SCORE:

*** YOUR SCORE IS: 84 out of 100 ***

A weighted scale for the components of consumption and water loss is included in the calculation of the Water Audit Data Validity Score

PRIORITY AREAS FOR ATTENTION:

Based on the information provided, audit accuracy can be improved by addressing the following components:

1: Customer metering inaccuracies
2: Customer retail unit cost (applied to Apparent Losses)
3: Unauthorized consumption

For more information click here to see the Grading Matrix worksheet

AWWA WLCC Free Water Audit Software: Water Balance

 WAS v4.2

Water Audit Report For:	Report Yr:
District	2010

	Water Exported 0.000	Billed Water Exported			
Own Sources (Adjusted for known errors) 2,366.540	Water Supplied 2,366.540	Authorized Consumption 2,322.562	Billed Authorized Consumption 2,292.980	Billed Metered Consumption (inc. water exported) 2,292.980	Revenue Water 2,292.980
				Billed Unmetered Consumption 0.000	
			Unbilled Authorized Consumption 29.582	Unbilled Metered Consumption 0.000	Non-Revenue Water (NRW) 73.560
				Unbilled Unmetered Consumption 29.582	
		Water Losses 43.978	Apparent Losses 5.916	Unauthorized Consumption 5.916	
				Customer Metering Inaccuracies 0.000	
				Systematic Data Handling Errors 0.000	
Water Imported 0.000			Real Losses 38.062	Leakage on Transmission and/or Distribution Mains Not broken down	
				Leakage and Overflows at Utility's Storage Tanks Not broken down	
				Leakage on Service Connections Not broken down	

Appendix B. Example Leak Repair Report Forms

LEAKAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN TO CONTROL REAL LOSSES

Name of Water Utility: _____ Date: _____

I. Describe the Leakage Management Approach

A-1. Describe the general approach to be employed to create or refine the leakage management strategy for the water distribution system: _____

II. Leak Survey and Repair Plan

A. Leak Survey Area and Frequency

A-1. Based on records of previous leaks, type and age of piping, soil conditions, high pressure, and faulty installation practices, list the portion of the distribution system to be surveyed. List the survey frequency.

List percent of system to be surveyed _____ List frequency of surveys _____
Describe each area to be surveyed under item B-2 of this plan.

A-2. Total miles of main to be surveyed: _____

When calculating pipeline length, include the total length of pipe and exclude customer service connection piping. If only a portion of the system is surveyed, calculate the benefit-to-cost ratio for only the portion surveyed.

A-3. Average length of pipeline surveyed per day: _____

The average survey crew can survey about two miles of main per day. Factors include distances between services, traffic and safety conditions, and number of listening contact points. Explain if more than three miles per day are surveyed: _____

A-4. Number of working days needed to complete survey (divide line 2 by line 3): _____

A-5. Describe personnel deployment: _____

B. Procedures and Equipment

B-1. Describe the procedures and equipment for detecting leaks. The best results are obtained by listening for leaks at all system contact points (such as water meters, valves, hydrants, and blow-offs).

B-2. Describe why the areas noted on the map in step A-1 have the greatest recoverable leakage potential.

B-3. If listening for leaks will not include all contact points, describe the plan for detecting leaks.

B-4. Describe the procedures and equipment you will use to pinpoint the exact location of detected leaks.

B-5. Describe how the leak detection team and the repair crew will work together. How will they resolve the problem of dry holes?

LEAKAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN TO CONTROL REAL LOSSES (continued)

B-6. Describe the methods you will use to determine the flow rates for excavated leaks of various sizes.

_____

_____

C. Staffing

C-1. How many utility staff will be used? _____

Staffing costs including wages and benefits:

Person 1 $/hr _____ $/day _____

Person 2 $/hr _____ $/day _____

TOTAL $/hr _____ $/day _____

C-2. How many consultant staff will be used? _____

Cost of consultant staff:

Person 1 $/hr _____ $/day _____

Person 2 $/hr _____ $/day _____

TOTAL $/hr _____ $/day _____

D. Leak Detection Survey Costs

Leak detection surveys	$/day	# of days	Cost, $
D-1. Utility crew costs			
D-2. Consultant crew costs			
D-3. Vehicle costs			
D-4. Other			
D-5. Total survey costs			

E. Leak Detection Budget

E-1. Cost of leak detection equipment $_____

E-2. Leak detection team training $_____

E-3. Leak detection survey costs $_____

E-4. Total leak detection costs $_____

F. Leak Survey and Repair Schedule

Indicate realistic, practical dates:

F-1. When will the leak survey begin? _____

F-2. When will the leak survey be completed? _____

F-3. When will leak repairs begin? _____

F-4. When will leak repairs be completed? _____

LEAKAGE MANAGEMENT PLAN TO CONTROL REAL LOSSES (continued)

III. Pressure Management Plan

Optimizing water pressure by removing excessive pressure levels and pressure surges is an effective strategy to sustain water infrastructure by minimizing background leakage, maintaining low leakage levels, and reducing water main ruptures and resulting damage. The water utility should assess the potential to improve pressure management in the water distribution system as a means of controlling leakage.

A-1. List the average pressure across the water distribution network: _____

A-2. List any discrete areas of the water distribution system (pressure zones, district metered areas) that experience average water pressure over 75 psi and/or exhibit poor infrastructure condition. These areas should be considered for optimized pressure management:

Zone #1		Zone #2		Zone #3		Zone #4	
Name	Pressure	Name	Pressure	Name	Pressure	Name	Pressure
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

A-3. Describe the pressure optimization potential across the distribution system. First, list the pressure reduction potential for each zone (e.g., none, 15 psi reduction, 30 psi reduction, etc.). Next, describe the method to be employed to attain the improved pressure management (e.g., create/reconfigure pressure zone or DMA; install pressure-reducing valves, install variable-frequency drives on pumps, etc.).

Pressure Reduction	List Pressure Management Method
Zone #1: _____	_____
Zone #2: _____	_____
Zone #3: _____	_____
Zone #4: _____	_____

A-4. List the Pressure Management Project Costs:

	Size	Number	Unit Cost	Costs
Pressure-Reducing Valves:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Variable-Frequency Drives:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Flowmeters:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Electronic Controllers:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Precast Manholes:	_____	_____	_____	_____
Misc. Piping & Hardware: List	_____			_____
Construction: Labor – ____ workers, ____ days ____ × ____ workers × ____ hr/d × ____ days				_____
Equipment, Truck _____ × ____ days				_____
			Total Cost:	_____

IV. Leakage Management Plan Summary

A-1. List the Leakage Management Plan Cost for the initial year = Leak Detection & Repair Cost + Pressure Management Cost = _____

A-2. List the anticipated reduction in leakage and cost savings: Volume _____ Cost Savings _____

Prepared by: _____ Date: _____

LEAK DETECTION SURVEY DAILY LOG

Name of Water Utility: _____ Date: _____

Leak Detection Team Members: _____

Equipment Used: _____

Area Surveyed: _____ Map Reference: _____

Street and Block Numbers: _____ Page and Coordinates: _____

Leak Number	Location or Address of Suspected Leak	Utility or Customer (U or C)	Leak Pinpointed? (Y or N)	Leak to be Rechecked? (Y or N)	Leak Repaired? (Y or N)	Not a Leak? (Date)

	Meters	Hydrants	Valves	Test Rods	Other
Indicate Number of Manual Listening Points Used					
Indicate Number of Leak Noise Logger Listening Points Used					

Miles of Mains Surveyed		Survey Time		Hours
Number of Leaks Suspected		To Be Rechecked		(Number)
Number of Leaks Pinpointed		Pinpointing Time		Hours

Remarks

_____

_____

_____

LEAK REPAIR REPORT

Name of Water Utility: _____ Date: _____

Work Order Number: _____ Repair Crew Supervisor: _____

LEAK IDENTIFICATION

Refer to Leak Discovery Report

Discovery Date: _____

Location (include street name and number): _____

Map Reference: _____

Page and Coordinates: _____

Leak No.: _____

For Main and Service Connection Piping Leaks Only

Sketch a map of the site including:

1. Street name.
2. Meter number if applicable.
3. Mains and hydrants in shutdown area.
4. All valves (give valve numbers and show which were closed during repair).
5. Locate leak to nearest intersection or house with address. Show distances to property lines or street centerlines.

Leak Found? _____ (Yes/No)

If Main or Service Leak, Attach Three Photos:

1. Straight down over leak or damage.
2. Close-up of leak and damage.
3. Any other photo which you feel will help.

Type of Leak

Meter Leak _____

Meter Spud Leak _____

Meter Yoke Leak _____

Curb Stop Leak _____

Main Line Leak _____

Service Connection Piping Leak
—Utility Responsibility _____
—Customer Responsibility _____

Joint Leak _____

Other Leak _____

Describe _____

Description of Repair

Damaged part was:

_____ Repaired _____ Replaced

If repaired, what repairs were made?

_____ Leak Clamp

_____ Welded

_____ Other (describe)

_____

_____ Repacked Valve

_____ Repacked Joint

If replaced, what material was used?

_____

Repair Time _____ (from/to)

Crew Size _____ (persons)

Equipment Used for Repair

_____ Backhoe

_____ Dump truck

Repair Costs:

Materials $_____ Other $_____

Labor $_____ Total $_____

Equipment $_____

Size of Leak:

Measured _____ gpm

Estimated _____ gpm

Method used _____

LEAK REPAIR REPORT (continued)

Description of Damage for Mains and Services

What part was damaged:

_____ Pipe Barrel _____ Flange nuts, bolts, tie rods

_____ Joint _____ Other (describe)

_____ Valve _____

In your opinion, what caused the damage?

_____

Estimated Age of Leak, in months _____

How Determined? _____

Estimated Annual Volume _____ mil gal

Estimated Annual Cost Impact $_____

Diameter of Main or Lateral, in in. _____

Depth to Top of Pipe, in in. _____

Type of Break

_____ Split

_____ Hole

_____ Circumferential Split

_____ Broken Coupling

_____ Service Pulled

_____ Cracked at Corporation Stop

_____ Gasket Blown

_____ Crushed Pipe

_____ Cracked Bell

_____ Other (describe) _____

_____

Pipe Material:

_____ Galv. Iron _____ Ductile Iron _____ A.C.P. System Pressure, psi _____

_____ Black Iron _____ Steel _____ P.V.C. How Determined? _____

_____ Cast Iron _____ Copper _____ Polybutylene _____

Examine broken edge of cast- or ductile-iron pipe:

Original Thickness: _____ inches

Min. Thickness of Good Gray Metal Remaining: _____ inches

Deterioration is on: _____ Outside _____ Inside

Is there evidence of previous leak or repairs in same general area? _____ Yes _____ No

Number of previous leak repair clamps present: _____

Last Repair Date (if known) _____ Cause of Leak _____

In your opinion, should pipe be replaced? _____ Yes _____ No _____ Do not know

If yes, explain extent: _____

For Excavations, Indicate Ground Conditions

Type of Soil:

_____ Rocky _____ Sandy

_____ Clay _____ Hard Pan

_____ Adobe _____ Loam

_____ Other _____

Existing Bedding:

_____ Gravel/Sand

_____ Native Soil

_____ Pea Gravel

_____ Other _____

Type of Cover:

_____ Concrete

_____ Asphalt

_____ Soil

_____ Other _____

LEAKAGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM COST-EFFECTIVENESS SUMMARY

Name of Water Utility: _____ Date: _____

Name of Report Preparer: _____

Leak Detection Survey

Total Number of Days Leak Surveys Were Conducted: _____

Survey Start Date: _____ Survey End Date: _____

Number of Listening Points:	Meters	Hydrants	Valves	Test Rods	Other
	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Number of Suspected Leaks: _____ Number of Pinpointed Leaks: _____

Survey Time: _____ hr Miles of main surveyed: _____

Pinpointing Time: _____ hr

$$\text{Average survey rate} = \frac{\text{miles of main surveyed} \times 8\ \text{hr/d}}{\text{total survey and pinpointing hours}} = \_\_\_\_\_\ \text{mi/d}$$

Total number of visible leaks reported since survey started, from other sources (not discovered during leak detection surveys): _____

Leak Repair Survey

Date of First Leak Repair: _____ Date of Last Leak Repair Completed: _____

Number of Repairs Needing Excavation: _____

Number of Repairs Not Needing Excavation: _____

Total Number of Repaired Leaks: _____

Total Water Losses From Excavated Leaks: _____ gpm

Total Water Losses From Nonexcavated Leaks: _____ gpm

Total Water Losses: _____ gpm

	Excavated Leak Repair Costs	Nonexcavated Leak Repair Costs	Total Repair Costs
Materials	$_____	$_____	$_____
Labor	$_____	$_____	$_____
Equipment	$_____	$_____	$_____
Other	$_____	$_____	$_____
Subtotal	$_____	$_____	$_____

LEAKAGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM COST-EFFECTIVENESS SUMMARY (continued)

A. Leak Survey and Repair Program

Step 1. Calculate the value of water recovered (Vwr) from all repaired leaks.

(Vwr) = (total leakage recovered in gpm)(average leak duration)(water cost, Wc)

Leak duration = ½ of leak survey interval, days

(Wc) = Short-term variable cost of water

(Vwr) = ____ gpm × 1440 min/d × ____ days × ____/mil gal × 1 mil gal/1,000,000 = $_____

Step 2. Assemble Leak Survey Program Costs: $_____

Step 3. Divide Vwr (from step 1) by the total costs (calculated in step 2).

$$\text{Benefit/Cost Ratio (B:C)} = \frac{\text{value of water recovered}}{\text{total cost of leak detection survey}} = \_\_\_\_\_$$

For planning continuing leak detection efforts, you can calculate average survey costs per mile.

Step 4. Determine average survey costs per mile of main surveyed (C/mi).

$$\text{C/mi} = \frac{\text{total cost of leak detection survey}}{\text{total number of miles surveyed}} = \$\_\_\_\_\_, \text{mile}$$

B. Pressure Management Program

Step 1. Calculate the value of background leakage recovered (Vbr) from optimized pressures.

(Vbr) = (total leakage recovered in gpm)(average leak duration)(water cost, Wc)

Vbr – Obtain a measured value of background leakage recovered from DMA metering, or by estimation.

Average leak duration: because the background leakage reduction occurs all year, the average background leak duration is 365 days.

(Vbr) = _____ gpm × 1440 min/d × ____ days × $_____/mil gal × 1 mil gal/1,000,000 = $_____

Step 2. List Pressure Management Costs from Pressure Management Plan $_____

Step 3. Divide Vbr (from step 1) by the total costs (calculated in step 2).

$$\text{Benefit/Cost Ratio (B:C)} = \frac{\text{value of water recovered}}{\text{total cost of pressure management}} = \_\_\_\_\_$$

Step 4. Payback period for pressure contol equipment = $\frac{\text{Program Costs}}{\text{Vbr}} = \_\_\_\_\_$, yr

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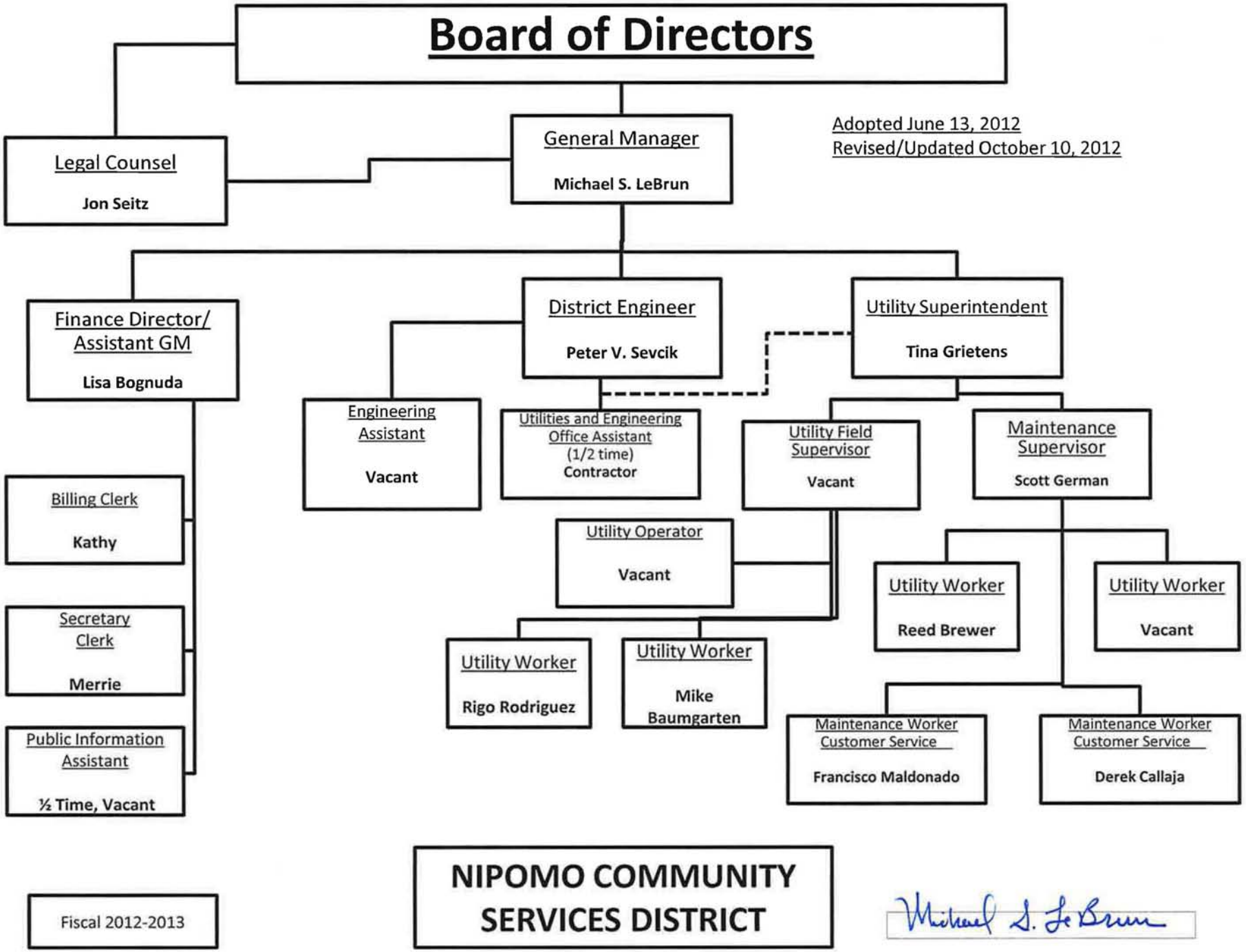
ITEM 2

ATTACHMENT B



OCTOBER 25, 2012

ITEM 2

ATTACHMENT C

MINOR MADNESS

BOMBS AWAY: Egg-drop competition at Hancock

Daniel Dreifuss/Staff

Elias Brookshire, 14, drops his team's egg off the second floor of a building at Hancock College during an Adventures in Math, Engineering & Computer Science class.

Class all it's 'cracked up' to be

By Adobe Staff

Young teens tried their hands at engineering last Thursday morning through an egg-drop competition at Hancock College.

Twenty-four seventh-, eighth- and ninth-graders – enrolled in a special class in the college's Community Education Program – had a set amount of time to create the best device to protect eggs for a two-story fall from atop Hancock's Science building.

The class, Adventures in Math, Engineering & Computer Science, was paid for by a federal STEM grant Hancock received to help get young people interested in pursuing degrees and careers in math and science.

Students worked in groups of four and did two test drops before a third drop was scored.

Materials included cups of mushmallows, Cheerios and popcorn.

Instructors Mary Alice Mojeau and Mina Yavarifled the course, which students are taking without receiving college credit.

The two-week class continued through Thursday, when students were scheduled to try to make a solar-powered vehicle.

Students off to rodeo finals

- Jacob Lees of Nipomo qualifies for nationals

By Adobe Staff

Three local high schoolers in the California High School Rodeo Association District 7 have qualified for the 2012 National High School Finals Rodeo, which will be held July 16 to 22 in Wyoming.

The members placed in the top four of their respective events at the California state finals competition to help District 7 finish third place in overall points.

NHSFR is the largest rodeo in the world, attracting about 1,500 contestants from across the United States, Canada and Australia.

Athletes compete for national titles, prizes and thousands of dollars in college scholarships.

District 7 encompasses San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura counties.

Area national qualifiers include Arroyo Grande High student Jacob Lees of Nipomo for bareback riding, Family Partnership Charter School student Ali Bliley of Santa Ynez for pole bending and Santa Ynez Valley High School student Hayley Hamm of Los Olivos for cutting.

Bliley's horse, Sonny, was also named California Horse of the Year for the second year in a row by the American Quarter Horse Association.

Eighteen District 7 members, placing fifth through 19th, qualified for the Silver State International Rodeo, which is Monday through July 7 in Wrinnemucca, Nev.

Those local qualifiers include Bliley in cutting, Nipomo High student Emily Mangione in pole bending, Orcutt Academy High student Gresten Frangipane of Los Alamos in breakaway roping, Righetti High student Cailan Clay for team roping (header), Righetti High student Kelsi Pond in goat tying and Templeton Independent Study student Dane Ilnes of Los Osos in steer wrestling.

Arroyo Grande High student qualifiers include Wyatt Cavin in team roping (header), Rachel Dewar in cutting and barrel racing, Sara Hunegger in pole bending and Tristan Ruffoni in team roping (header).

Chili's restaurants in Paso Robles and Arroyo Grande are helping the District 7 qualifiers raise money to attend the national competition.

Patrons of either restaurant can mention their support of the CHSRA National Rodeo contestants from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Thursday. The restaurants will donate 15 percent of the bill to District 7.

YOUTHBRIEF

State preschool enrollment now open

The California State Preschools opened by the San Luis Obispo County Office of Education are accepting applications for the 2012-13 school year.

The preschools are funded through the state Department of Education, Child Development Division, and are located throughout SLO County.

The programs serve more than 300 children annually by providing a comprehensive preschool and parent educational program.

Full-day programs are available at Grover Beach, San Luis Obispo and Los Osos. The requirements for the extended-day portion are that families must be working a minimum of 30 hours per week or taking a minimum of 12 units of college course work or approved vocational training program.

For more information, call 782-7275.

MINOR MADNESS

WORLD'S LARGEST: Tall in the saddle at competition

Larry Smith/Contributed

Arroyo Grande High School student Jacob Lees of Nipomo will compete in bareback riding after placing in the top four of his event at the California state finals competition.

Lees to ride in National High School Finals Rodeo

By Adobe Staff

One Nipomo resident will ride for the Central Coast at the 2012 National High School Finals Rodeo in Wyoming.

Arroyo Grande High School student Jacob Lees of Nipomo will be competing in bareback riding after placing in the top four of his event at the California state finals competition.

The national finals will run from Monday, July 16, through Sunday, July 22.

NHSFR is the largest rodeo in the world, attracting about 1,500 contestants from across the United States, Canada and Australia.

Athletes compete for national titles, prizes and thousands of dollars in college scholarships.

Area national qualifiers also include Family Partnership Charter School student Ali Bilkey of Santa Ynez for pole bending and Santa Ynez Valley High School student Hayley Hamer of Los Olivos for cutting.

The qualifiers helped District 7 — encompassing San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura counties — to a third-place showing at the California state finals.

Private school enrollment: Gains, losses and status quo

By Gina Perren
Staff Writer
gperren@theadobepress.com

Fewer students are choosing to attend some local private schools, while other schools are expecting a small boost in enrollment or no change.

Declining enrollment has become a trend at St. Joseph High School, which has been trying to fill a gap left when its largest-ever senior class of 167 students graduated in 2011.

Enrollment in 2010-11 was 555 for grades 9 through 12, compared to 473 in the just-ended school year, said school spokeswoman Nancy Garlehan.

This fall, the Catholic school is expecting between 450 and 500 students, thanks to a boost from a freshman class larger than last year's. A typical total enrollment is 550, Garlehan said.

"Overall enrollment is declined somewhat," she said, noting a large freshman class is needed to stabilize enrollment after a large senior class leaves.

St. Joseph's enrollment mirrors the steady decline at Catholic schools nationally.

Nearly 295,000 fewer students attended Catholic schools in the 2011-12 school year, down from the 2.3 million who attended them in the 2006-07 school year, according to the National Catholic Educational Association.

Enrollment also decreased about 296,000 in the five-year period before that, data show.

Enrollment at other schools, including St. Mary of Assumption School in Santa Maria and Coastal Christian School in Arroyo Grande, has stayed about the same each year. St. Mary will have about 210 students next year, and Coastal Christian will enroll about 185 students.

Valley Christian Academy in Santa Maria, on the other hand, is experiencing an increase of about a dozen more students after graduating nine students, one of the school's smallest classes in years.

Principal Chuck Mason said the school is adding another second- and third-grade class this fall, expecting 360 total students instead of last year's 342.

"Other classes coming up will be a little bit stronger," Mason said, noting that the school has hired two new teachers. "We've been very fortunate. We're really looking forward to a good year."

Orientation required for new Hancock students

- Informational sessions set for Monday, Tuesday at SM campus

By Adobe Staff

For the first time this fall, Hancock College students are required to attend an orientation.

Fall 2012 Mega Orientations will be Monday and Tuesday at the Santa Maria campus.

Orientation will provide necessary information about college services, including counseling, financial aid, health services, job opportunities and more.

Events also provide an opportunity to meet faculty and staff, tour the campus and receive a free academic planner and prizes.

Mega Orientations are from 9 a.m. to noon in the Marian Theatre located inside the Performing Arts Center, Building D.

For more information or to register for an orientation, call 922-6966, ext. 3293, or email counseling@hancock college.edu.

SPEAKING OUT

Letters to the Editor

Maldonado best choice

To the Editor:

We are approaching election time, and if you care, it is time to make up your mind who is best to represent the Central Coast.

Lois Capps is a nice lady who votes straight liberal and spends her time explaining to constituents what their benefits are.

Abel Maldonado is a local rancher who has been involved in virtually every area of Central Coast politics, and is ideally suited to represent the interest of commerce, as well as the people.

The mud-slinging is concerned with Maldonado's disagreement with the IRS. As a former businessman who was audited five times, let me say reporting income is not always clear. It depends on how the government is interpreting the law at the moment.

Maldonado is also accused of siding with the liberals in Sacramento. In a state run by Democrats, you either go along, or government stands still.

I hope those who read this think about what they we need a nice lady or a deified rancher/politician representing the Central Coast.

Norman Mehl
Santa Maria

Maldonado's taxing issue

To the Editor:

We were disappointed to read Brooks Firestone's attempt to confuse voters about our TV ad, and now we must set the record straight.

Rubes

Leigh Rubin

The facts about Abel Maldonado's long history of neglecting his taxes are crystal clear. Since 1995, federal, state and local tax collectors have resorted to imposing nine separate liens against Mr. Maldonado for failing to pay $250,840.42 in taxes.

In 2000, Mr. Maldonado made a deal with Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger – in exchange for his deciding vote for the largest tax increase in California history, he would receive a ballot measure for an open primary. Shortly thereafter, Schwarzenegger appointed him lieutenant governor.

By the time he raised taxes on Californians, he was caught in an IRS audit owing $4.2 million in back taxes. In his 2006-08 tax returns, Mr. Maldonado asked taxpayers to subsidize, through improper deductions, his golf clubs and country club memberships, private plane, home bathroom tile installation, closet remodeling, new outdoor patio and luxury vacation villas in Palm Springs and Shell Beach, among other dubious write-offs. We encourage Mr. Firestone to read the federal tax court documents for himself.

The bottom line is Mr. Maldonado embraces a self-ish double standard – tax increases for everyone else and tax avoidance for himself. If Central Coast voters cannot trust Mr. Maldonado to pay his taxes, how can they trust him in Congress?

Mollie Culver
Campaign manager
Capps for Congress

Waking up in America

To the Editor:

You have a chance to save our country.

Do not be led astray by someone who does not care for anyone, not the rich, middle class or the poor.

President Obama has gotten rid of or alienated most of the leaders of countries that were our allies or friends.

It appears President Obama wants us to be a Third World country, not a world leader. The American dollar as International currency will be out and the yuan will become the new currency of the world. If the dollar continues to decline, we will not be able to pay our debt to other countries. If we cannot afford to pay our debts, the countries we owe money to will ask for us to turn over major companies, and our ranking in the world will continue to decline.

The president honestly believes we are his sheep, and he is leading us to slaughter. He also thinks we are too dumb to know what is happening.

In another four years, we will be down and out trying to get someone to help us out. Our ranking as a world leader will be forever gone.

Wake up, America. We fought wars to have freedom. Do not let one man ruin us when countries have tried and could not do it. Your freedom is being taken away from you piece by piece. Don't let this happen.

Thanks for listening to a veteran of World War II.

John Denning
Santa Maria

Library:

Continued from A3

hours, but those wanting a receipt or those who have large donations should call Kathy at 929-6640. Please do not leave your donation on the back patio of the library.

With the holidays soon approaching, you may wish to investigate some of the books the library has available in arts, crafts and other creative activities. For some great ideas, check the display behind the front desk. Each example has a companion book available filled with ideas for checkout.

Did you know that the Friends of the Library provide a new DVD for rent, new music CDs, books of all kinds for all ages, the summer reading program entertainment, special interest adult programs, the school library contest and so much more using the funds generated by your Friends members hip?

If you are not a friend, please join and help our library get better and better.

The Friends of the Nipomo Library is a nonprofit organization that provides volunteer services to the library and raises funds for additional materials and the eventual expansion of the library. Susan Galluzzo, the Friends' publicity chair can be reached at hellmz626@aol.com or at 929-5123.

Harvest:

Continued from A2

children in his Kid Zone in Heritage Square Park. As the festival winds down, he will lead the Kids Parade that ends with the annual Lincoln Penny Toss.

Western, pioneer, Gay '90s and Victorian costumes are encouraged, and those who aren't dressed appropriately may find themselves thrown into the hoosgow – unless they're wearing an official Harvest Festival button.

Buttons are available for $1 at stores throughout Arroyo Grande and will be on sale – including as bail for hoosgow prisoners – at the festival.

Buying a numbered button also enters the bearer in a drawing for a variety of prizes.

Button sale locations and drawing prize information are available at www.aghswest.festival.com/buttons.htm.

Gadget:

Continued from A3

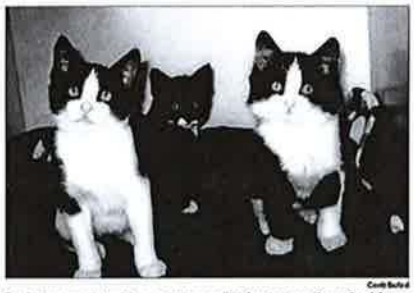
have you hooked into the tiny world in no time.

Site to See

Pipl
http://pipl.com/

This clean, concise search engine will do an exhaustive search for anyone. This would be great for anyone with a class reunion coming up or dating. Don't just Google them, but look to see their real age. That Facebook friend might not be as young as you think.

Diana Stansberg, aka Gadget Girl, who hails from the Central Coast, appears on news and talk shows across the United States. For more, visit www.gadgetgirl.com, GADGETGIRL on Twitter and Gadget Girl on Facebook.



Both kittens, some pictured above, and cats are available for adoption at Nipomo Dog & Cat Hospital, 525 Sandydale Drive. On a recent Sunday, four staff members neutered 22 cats in an effort to curb feline overpopulation.

Pet:

Continued from A2

make cats extinct!" It was hard not to laugh.

Sometimes it is hard not to cry. A couple of weeks ago I called to see one who was advertising kittens on Craigslist. I told her that I could help her get her cats spayed and neutered. She had a total of 11 kittens, the two mothers and two teenaged female cats. I didn't get a call back. If these cats continued having kittens over the next year, she will have 231 cats!

Recently, four of us spent the good part of a Sunday neutering 22 cats. So, it would take 10 days of work to neuter the cats my Craigslist friend might help produce in the next year. Obviously, my chances of causing feline extinction are pretty remote.

Nevertheless, I'd like to move forward in Project Extinction. Let's try to get all dogs and cats in Nipomo spayed and neutered. Let's not continue to factory farming of kittens and puppies and adopt instead of shopping. If you would like to help or need help, please contact Animals in Need Fund. By the way, we have kittens and cats for adoption.

Veterinarian Robin Shroyer is the co-owner of Nipomo Dog & Cat Hospital, 525 Sandydale Drive, and founder of Animals in Need, a nonprofit organization for the care of Nipomo's unowned dogs and cats. For more information, contact the hospital at 929-2855 or visit the website at nipomodogandcathospital.com.

Weitzel:

Continued from A2

Halloween party at the Black Lake Community Room, featuring costumes and favorite snacks.

For more information about the event or men's friendship club, contact Ed Henderson, past president, at 929-2792.

The annual Autumn Arts Grapes and Grains Festival will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, at the Civic Center-McClelland Street Corridor, 615 S. McClelland St.

The festival will include a fine arts show, vendors, food, live music, youth and teen activities and more.

The cost is $25 for presale tickets or $30 at the door. For more information, contact 925-0951, ext. 260, or www.santamariaarts.org.

The Santa Maria Coin and Collectible Show will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 20, at the Elwin Mussell Senior Center, 510 E. Park Ave., Santa Maria.

The show will include displays and sales of coins, sports cards, beanies and casino chips.

Both admission and parking are free. For more information, visit www.santamariacoinclub.com.

Critter Corner: Ralley Raccoon is still hanging out with daughters Lily Val and Talia and their children. The babies have learned to play with one of my husband's socks tied up in a knot. They play tug of war with it, and then they come up and pat on the patio door in hopes of getting a treat. They are growing up so fast.

Tina Weitzel is the owner of the Best of Everything, featuring unique gifts and gift baskets, and a former president of the Nipomo Chamber of Commerce. Nonprofit and other community organizations may submit items for this column by contacting her at 343-0283 or tinabestofall@charter.net.