

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: MICHAEL S. LEBRUN
GENERAL MANAGER

DATE: NOVEMBER 9, 2012



GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

ITEM

Standing report to your Honorable Board -- *Period covered by this report is October 19, 2012 through November 9, 2012.*

DISTRICT BUSINESS

Administrative

- Responded to development project related public records request with over 200 pages of requested documents.
- Initiated annual contract for water tank cathodic protection.
- Initiated procedure for discontinuance of water and sewer service at two parcels due to non-payment and tampering.
- There are currently seven customers with active amortization payment plans related to high water bills/water leaks.
- San Luis Obispo County is moving forward with the process to annex the Carriage Homes development into County Service Area's Nipomo Lighting District and provide street lighting service to the development. See Attachment A, a September 14, 2012 letter from the County outlining current progress.

Water/Wastewater News of Interest

- County rain gauge reports for area gauges are provided – See Attachment B.
- October 25, News-Press Corres.; Water Supply reliability linked to pipeline- Attachment C.
- October 31, vvdailynews.com; \$31M water deal for 5,971 afy state water – Attachment D.
- November 1, vcstar.com, Camarillo considers \$50M desalination plant – Attachment E.
- November 2, Santa Cruz Sentinel; More outreach for desal spending – Attachment F.
- November 3, Sacramento Bee; Region reduces water use – Attachment G.
- November 5, Santa Cruz Sentinel; Desal Vote approved – Attachment H.

Connection Report

Nipomo Community Services District
Water and Sewer Connections

End of Month Report 2012

	Dec-11	JAN-12	FEB-12	MAR-12	APR-12	MAY-12	JUN-12	JUL-12	AUG-12	SEPT-12	OCT-12
Water Connections (Total)	4232	4232	4239	4239	4239	4240	4240	4244	4244	4245	4239
Sewer Connections (Total)	3022	3022	3035	3035	3035	3036	3036	3040	3040	3041	3035
Meters turned off (Non-payment)	23	28	22	18	28	13	39	16	20	17	29
Meters off (Vacant)	62	64	62	64	68	67	63	60	65	69	51
Sewer Connections off (Vacant)	20	24	22	22	27	28	25	23	25	20	19
New Water Connections	0	0	7	0	0	1	0	4	0	1	0
New Sewer Connection	0	0	13	0	0	1	0	4	0	1	0
Galaxy & PSHH at Orchard and Division											
Sewer Connections billed to the County	460	460	460	460	460	460	460	461	461	462	462

Meetings

Meetings attended:

- October 25, Conservation Committee
- October 26, Public Information Assistant candidate
- October 26, City of Santa Maria Utilities Director with SWAEC, sub-committee
- October 26, Willow Road Extension ribbon cutting.
- November 6, Maria Vista Estates representatives
- November 6, Coordination with District Engineer
- November 6, County Public Works regarding pending IRWM grant
- November 6, Interview Public Information Assistant candidate
- November 7, Coordination with Utilities Superintendent
- November 7, Interview Public Information Assistant candidate
- November 8, Quarterly all-staff safety meeting

Meetings Scheduled:

- *November 9, Customer on water service location issue*
- *November 9, Vandenberg Village CSD General Manager*
- *November 14, Regular Board Meeting*
- *November 15, SWAEC*
- *November 19, Finance and Audit Committee*

Safety Program

No accidents or injuries to report.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff seeks direction and input from your Honorable Board

ATTACHMENTS

- A. County Letter on Lighting District
- B. County rain gauge reports (5 pages)
- C. Water Reliability Article
- D. Water Purchase Article
- E. Camarillo Desal Article
- F. Santa Cruz Desal Article
- G. Water Use Reduction Article
- H. Desal Vote Article

NOVEMBER 14, 2012

ITEM F

ATTACHMENT A



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Paavo Ogren, Director

County Government Center, Room 207 • San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 • (805) 781-5252

Fax (805) 781-1229

email address: pwd@co.slo.ca.us

September 14, 2012

Mr. Michael LaBrun, General Manager
Nipomo Community Services District
148 South Wilson Street
Nipomo, CA 93444

RECEIVED
SEP 17 2012
NIPOMO COMMUNITY
SERVICES DISTRICT

Subject: Notice of Intent to Adopt a Resolution of Application in Accordance with Government Code §56654

The County of San Luis Obispo desires to initiate proceeding with LAFCO for the annexation of Tract 1747 into the adjacent existing Nipomo Lighting District service area. Tract 1747 is located northeasterly of the intersection of Thompson Avenue and Chestnut Street in the community of Nipomo. Tract 1747 boundaries are legally described in Book 19 Page 65, and in Book 23 Page 93 of Maps, on file with the office of the Clerk Recorder for the County of San Luis Obispo.

Tract 1747 is entirely contained within the Nipomo Community Services District service area, and it abuts the County's Nipomo Lighting District on its southerly and westerly boundaries. The principal reason for the proposed annexation is to establish a future assessment district for the perpetual operation and maintenance of 16 existing streetlights that were constructed as part of the subdivision improvements.

On October 16, 2012, the County Board of Supervisors is tentatively scheduled to take a recommended action to adopt a Resolution of Application. This action will allow the County to submit an application to San Luis Obispo Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to commence the annexation process of Tract 1747 into the Nipomo Lighting District. Being an interested agency, notification of this proposed action is being provided to you in accordance with Government Code §56654.

Please contact me if you require additional information or have any questions or concerns regarding this notice of intent.

Sincerely,

Glenn Marshall, RCE
Development Services Engineer

Cc: Mr. David Church, San Luis Obispo LAFCO, 1042 Pacific St, Suite A, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
File: Tract 1747-Streetlights

NOVEMBER 14, 2012

ITEM F

ATTACHMENT B

DIAdvisor™ Web Reports

Time Series Rain Fall in Inches

Period: 10/26/2012 9:40:09 AM to 11/9/2012 9:40:09 AM

Sensor	Interval Rain	1 Hour Rain	3 Hour Rain	6 Hour Rain	12 Hour Rain	24 Hour Rain
Arroyo Grande Precipitation	0.000	0.000	0.090	0.090	0.090	0.090
Canet Precipitation	0.000	0.000	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010
Davis Peak Precipitation	0.000	0.000	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079
Lopez Dam Precipitation	0.000	0.000	0.010	0.010	0.010	0.010
Los Osos Landfill Precipitation	0.000	0.000	0.039	0.039	0.039	0.039
Nipomo South Precipitation	0.000	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079	0.079
Oceano Precipitation	0.000	0.039	0.118	0.118	0.118	0.118

[Back to Site Index](#)

SLOCountyWater.org
San Luis Obispo County Water Resources
Division of Public Works

Home > **Water Resources** > Data > Precipitation > Active > Real Time > Nipomo South >

Flood Control Major Projects Water Quality Lab Water Resources Real-Time Water Data

Site Information

**Nipomo South
(Sensor 730)**

Located

- Nipomo Community Service District (NCSD) equipment yard, Nipomo, CA.

Established

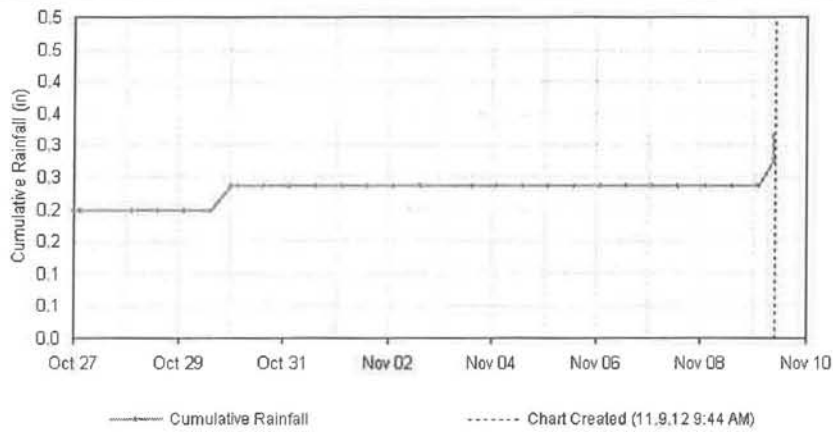
- July 1992

Annual Average Rainfall

- 16 inches



Rainfall



Real-Time Rainfall Data

Date	Real-Time Rainfall (in)
------	-------------------------

DIADvisor™ Web Reports

Nipomo South Precipitation (Sensor 730)

Period: 10/26/2012 9:40:09 AM to 11/9/2012 9:40:09 AM

Date/Time	In for Report	Accum Inch	Pd Accumulated Rain
11/09/12 09:07:49 AM	0.039	0.315	0.118
11/09/12 08:55:27 AM	0.039	0.276	0.079
11/09/12 01:51:10 AM	0.000	0.236	0.039
11/08/12 01:51:09 PM	0.000	0.236	0.039
11/08/12 01:51:08 AM	0.000	0.236	0.039
11/07/12 01:51:07 PM	0.000	0.236	0.039
11/07/12 01:51:06 AM	0.000	0.236	0.039
11/06/12 01:51:05 PM	0.000	0.236	0.039
11/06/12 01:51:04 AM	0.000	0.236	0.039
11/05/12 01:51:03 PM	0.000	0.236	0.039
11/05/12 01:51:02 AM	0.000	0.236	0.039
11/04/12 01:51:01 PM	0.000	0.236	0.039
11/04/12 01:51:01 AM	0.000	0.236	0.039
11/03/12 02:51:00 PM	0.000	0.236	0.039
11/02/12 02:50:58 PM	0.000	0.236	0.039
11/02/12 02:50:57 AM	0.000	0.236	0.039
11/01/12 02:50:56 PM	0.000	0.236	0.039
11/01/12 02:50:55 AM	0.000	0.236	0.039

Date/Time: Specifies the date and time the County Computer detected a transmission from the sensor.
In For Report: Specifies the incremental rainfall (in inches) reported between successive data transmissions.
Accum Inch: Specifies the accumulated rainfall (in inches) reported since July 1st.
Pd Accumulated Rain: Specifies the accumulated rainfall (in inches) reported in the last fourteen (14) days.
Interval Rain: Specifies the accumulated rainfall (in inches) reported in the last ten (10) minutes.
Hour Rain: Specifies the accumulated rainfall (in inches) reported in the last one (1) hour, three (3) hours, six (6) hours, etc.

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SLOCountyWater.org
San Luis Obispo County Water Resources
Division of Public Works

Home > **Water Resources** > Data > Precipitation > Active > Real Time > Nipomo East >

Flood Control Major Projects Water Quality Lab Water Resources Real-Time Water Data

Site Information

**Nipomo East
(Sensor 728)**

Located

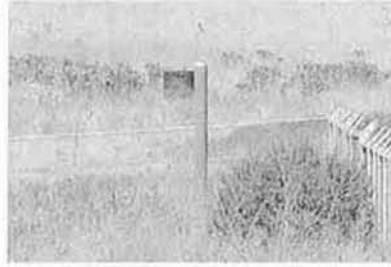
- Nipomo Community Service District (NCSD) water tanks, Nipomo, CA.

Established

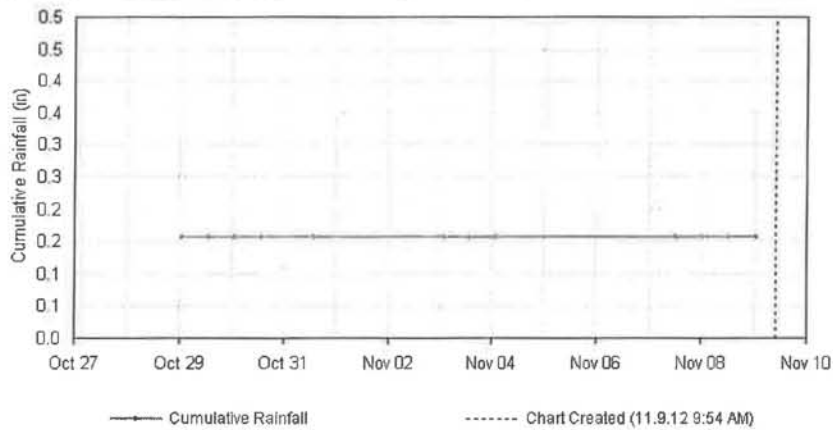
- November 18, 1999

Annual Average Rainfall

- 18 inches



Rainfall



Real-Time Rainfall Data



DIAdvisor™ Web Reports

Nipomo East Precipitation (Sensor 728)

Period: 10/26/2012 9:40:09 AM to 11/9/2012 9:40:09 AM

Date/Time	In for Report	Accum Inch	Pd Accumulated Rain
11/09/12 12:30:46 AM	0.000	0.157	0.000
11/08/12 12:30:45 PM	0.000	0.157	0.000
11/08/12 12:30:44 AM	0.000	0.157	0.000
11/07/12 12:30:43 PM	0.000	0.157	0.000
11/04/12 01:30:15 AM	0.000	0.157	0.000
11/03/12 01:30:14 PM	0.000	0.157	0.000
11/03/12 01:30:14 AM	0.000	0.157	0.000
10/31/12 01:30:10 PM	0.000	0.157	0.000
10/30/12 01:30:08 PM	0.000	0.157	0.000
10/30/12 01:30:08 AM	0.000	0.157	0.000
10/29/12 01:30:07 PM	0.000	0.157	0.000
10/29/12 01:30:06 AM	0.000	0.157	0.000

Interval Rain	1 Hour Rain	3 Hour Rain	6 Hour Rain	12 Hour Rain	24 Hour Rain
0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

[Back to Site 728](#)

Date/Time: Specifies the date and time the County Computer detected a transmission from the sensor.

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Hour Rain: Specifies the accumulated rainfall (in inches) reported in the last one (1) hour, three (3) hours, six (6) hours, etc.

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NOVEMBER 14, 2012

ITEM F

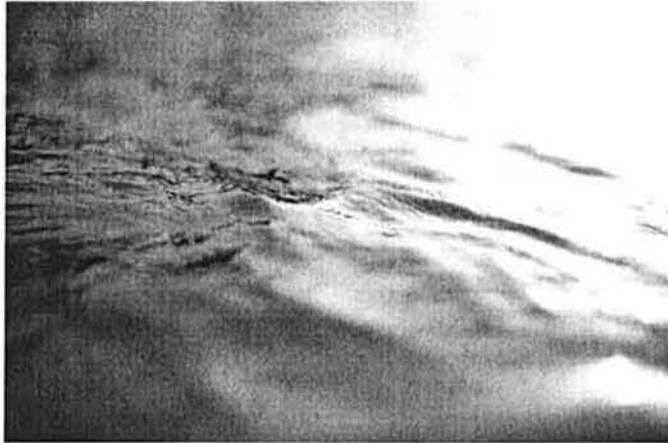
ATTACHMENT C

Water Supply Reliability Goal of Pipeline Repairs



Written by Sonia Fernandez, News-Press Correspondent

THURSDAY, 25 OCTOBER 2012 08:54



Tucked away in the foothills near Gaviota, an enormous and delicate operation is taking place.

Construction crews are digging into the side of the hill, welding and placing huge pipes and valves, using excavators and plumb lines, all as part of an

effort to keep the water flowing from Lake Cachuma to the South Coast.

People and businesses being served by Lake Cachuma will experience three service interruptions for as long as 12 hours.

"The system that's here was well-designed and well-constructed back in the 1950s," said Bruce Mowry, general manager of the Cachuma Operation and Maintenance Board, at the place known as the Glen Annie Turnout. "The system has served us very well."

The system is the Cachuma Project, a feat of engineering in its day with a dam, a tunnel that bores through the Santa Ynez hillsides, and 8,000 feet of 48-inch gravity-fed pipe running up and down the Goleta foothills and terminating at the Corona del Mar treatment plant.

Because of this infrastructure, the South Coast, which was growing and prone to drought, was able to flourish. Today, Lake Cachuma is responsible for the irrigation of much of the foothills north of Goleta and Santa Barbara, and Cachuma water goes as far as Carpinteria.

But the infrastructure is aging; an engineering report issued three years ago concluded that it was bound to fail within five years. Inspections have turned up a system with aging parts and crumbling lining thanks to hydrogen sulfide erosion.

A serious break of the only conduit between Cachuma and the South Coast could be catastrophic. Santa Barbara, Montecito and Carpinteria would have some supply, thanks to other reservoirs in the area, but the Goleta Valley would be quickly out of luck.

"With a single-pipe system, you don't have a lot of time to shut it down and do proper repairs," said Mr. Mowry, an engineer with a career of experience with water and water treatment facilities.

The system was built 60 years ago to provide irrigation water only, not taking into account the evolution in the Goleta Valley from lemon and walnut orchards to a university and tech industry.

For awhile, the idea was to build a completely redundant pipeline running also from the South Portal to Corona del Mar. For more than a year, the COMB board, comprising members from the Goleta Water District, city of Santa Barbara, Montecito Water District and Carpinteria Water District, as well as the Santa Ynez agency ID-1, went back and forth over design and permitting.

Ultimately the plan was undone by its \$10 million price tag and COMB went back to the drawing board.

To avoid losing \$3.2 million in grants, a new scheme was devised: the Modified Upper Reach Reliability Project. Mr. Mowry devised a system of pipes and valves that would allow for inspections and repairs to some of the pipe.

It's the attaching of those conduits to the original 48-inch pipe that will cause some service interruptions.

The first, on Sept. 18, will affect those who are served by the Goleta West conduit, mostly farmers and growers, as it is an irrigation conduit.

The next two, Oct. 30 and Nov. 7, will affect the potable water users.

"The Goleta Water District and the other South Coast water agencies have been working together for several years to bring this COMB project to fruition," said Lauren Hanson, COMB president and Goleta Water District representative. "The added reliability the project brings to our shared water conveyance system will benefit the entire South Coast."

The project is only the beginning of the extensive repairs, rehabilitations and replacements that COMB is will perform on its water conveyance infrastructure. The entire program, which will be conducted as money allows, could take several more decades.

"We never know, with the aging pipeline, if the pipeline itself may fail," Mr. Mowry said, referring to the 6,000 other feet that still needs to be inspected and repaired, and made redundant.

It's a project that COMB is going to take one huge segment of 48-inch pipe at a time. "Now we have the flexibility to do it; before we did not," said Mr. Mowry.

NOVEMBER 14, 2012

ITEM F

ATTACHMENT D

Hesperia signs \$31M water deal

City plans to issue bonds to buy water rights from defunct housing project

October 31, 2012 6:40 PM

RENE DE LA CRUZ, Staff Writer

HESPERIA • The city of Hesperia signed a \$31.7 million agreement to buy permanent water rights held by Ranchos Los Flores, LLC., according to a document obtained from the Mojave Water Agency on Wednesday.

The agreement, which was signed Oct. 3 by Mike Podegracz, the city's manager, concerns "certain water rights and related interests," as it pertains to 5,971 acre-feet of base annual production rights held by Rancho in Summit Valley.

"We are basically attempting to purchase the water rights, instead of leasing them like we have been for the last 15 years," Podegracz said. "We created a joint power authority to authorize the issuance of the bonds so we can acquire the rights."

If the council approves the bonds, and once escrow closes in mid-December, the city will be able to borrow the money at the same existing lease rate, Podegracz said.

"Water issues can be confusing, but there are financial implications for any water company, district or municipality as they manage their various portfolios," said Kirby Brill, general manager with the water agency. "With any municipality, the impact of the purchase of water rights are unknown at first."

The 28-page document states that the agreement is between the city and R.E. Loans, a California limited liability company serving as attorney-in-fact for Rancho.

Initiated in the '80s, Rancho Los Flores would have developed a fifth of the city during an estimated 15- to 20-year build-out period.

The 10,000-acre project was approved by the city in 1990, and was projected to increase the city's population by 50 percent.

But the 15,540-home development, between Ranchero Road and Highway 138, never got off the ground, as numerous setbacks plagued the project. The developers filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy in January.

The housing project, which included an elementary school and golf course, went through foreclosure and is in the process of getting sold.

Terra Verde, a real estate investment and development company, is currently considering future plans for the property.

Rene De La Cruz may be reached at (760) 951-6227 or at RDeLaCruz@VVDailyPress.com.

<http://www.vvdailypress.com/>

NOVEMBER 14, 2012

ITEM F

ATTACHMENT E

Camarillo considers building \$50 million desalination plant

By Jennifer Letzer

Posted November 1, 2012 at 4:56 p.m., updated November 1, 2012 at 5:59 p.m.

Camarillo is looking into building a \$50 million groundwater desalination plant to improve water quality and reduce its dependence on imported water.

The Camarillo Department of Public Works is proposing the plant for a place between St. John's Pleasant Valley Hospital and Lewis Road, near where two wells exist. The plant would help treat the highly salted groundwater that comes from Las Posas Basin in the north end of the city.

The project was discussed at a study session with the City Council last week. An analysis of the amount of water in the wells and the effect it could have on the city has been completed. In December, the department plans to present the findings to the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, which manages aquifers in much of Ventura County.

"The water quality is diminishing noticeably, and we either have to abandon the wells or provide treatment," said Tom Fox, Camarillo public works director.

Groundwater levels in Las Posas Basin have risen about 10 feet a year, Fox said. At that rate, the water may overflow into the Pleasant Valley Basin, possibly diminishing the quality of well water throughout the city.

"If we don't do something to draw out this water source, it will continue to spill over and we'll eventually have some high groundwater problems," Fox said. "Doing nothing is not an option."

Camarillo has set aside about \$15 million for the project, Fox said. The Camrosa and Calleguas Municipal water districts have agreed to pay about 40 percent of the costs of the plant and of maintenance and operation for one year, which officials estimate will be about \$8 million.

The city hopes to look for state grants to help finance the remaining costs, Fox said.

The project also calls for building two new wells near the desalination plant. The new wells and the existing two in the north end of the city will be connected to the plant.

Camarillo currently pumps 4,500 acre-feet of groundwater per year and buys 5,500 acre-feet imported by Calleguas to meet the city's needs. One acre-foot is about 326,000 gallons, or enough to supply an average family for a year.

The analysis says the city could pump 7,500 acre-feet annually for 25 years, the average life span of a desalination plant, according to Fox.

For their contributions to the project, Calleguas and Camrosa would have access to more water for their customers in Thousand Oaks and east Camarillo.

"It's a trade. They will have 3,000 acre-feet of water delivered to them that they already paid for," Fox said.

If the project is rejected, city officials said, they would abandon the two wells in the north and build one well elsewhere to try to maintain pumping at 4,500 acre-feet. They would also continue buying the 5,500 acre-feet from Calleguas.

One possible location for the new well is on the west end of the city near Camarillo Airport.

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NOVEMBER 14, 2012

ITEM F

ATTACHMENT F

Santa Cruz considers more desal public outreach spending, environmental update

By J.M. Brown

Santa Cruz Sentinel

Posted: 11/02/2012 06:22:50 PM PDT

SANTA CRUZ -- The coming week will bring several developments important to the future of a controversial seawater desalination proposal.

Monday, the Santa Cruz Water Commission will consider a proposal to hire a consultant to draft a new "public education and communication plan" ahead of a 2014 vote on the \$123 million project.

The goal, water director Bill Kocher said, is to inform the public about water supply challenges that led the city and its partner, Soquel Creek Water District, to pursue desalination. The commission will review a scope of work for a bid to be published Wednesday.

"We have to get the word out so people have an understanding," Kocher said. "They have to understand what a yes vote means and what a no vote means. If we don't have a water supply project, what are the consequences?"

City and district officials say the plant is needed to boost fish habitat, protect the city from drought and halt saltwater intrusion within the district by reducing groundwater pumping. Opponents urge aggressive conservation, greater use of the city's reservoir and other alternatives.

Kocher said a budget for the consultant has not been set, but the cost will be covered through ratepayer funds.

Desalination opponent Ron Pomerantz called the work a "PR campaign for the desal plant" when the city and district already jointly produce a website and monthly newsletter dedicated to the project.

"I don't know what more they need to do," said Pomerantz, who chairs the city's Transportation and Public Works Commission. "To me, it's outrageous they would spend ratepayer money to promote the project before it's clear what the project is and the environmental impact report is out."

Wednesday, a desalination task force made up of members of the City Council and district board will discuss a revamped timeline for the environmental analysis. A draft of the critical state-mandated review was expected this fall, but delays have pushed the publication to March.

Kocher said the report needs additional work to reflect new demands for improved stream flow stemming from ongoing negotiations with state and federal fisheries managers. The report also needs to include information to come in an ongoing study of additional conservation potential for the city.

The new timeline calls for a 60-day public review period to end in mid-June, with a public meeting possibly in May. The state requires a 45-day public review period but allows for more time if proposals are complex or controversial. Staff would evaluate and respond to public comment for five months before releasing the final report in early November 2013.

Tuesday, voters will weigh in on Measure P, which would amend the city's charter to guarantee a future vote before the plant is constructed or financed through bonds. The council passed a rule earlier this year saying voters would have the right to vote on the plant no earlier than June 2014, but opponents were concerned a future council could overturn that decision.

Also Tuesday, the Soquel Creek district's board will meet at 7 p.m. to discuss its 10-year financial plan, which takes into account desalination spending and capital improvements projects. The revised plan recommends adding a fourth rate tier to better stratify costs based on use, and proposes rate increases of 12-19 percent for average single-family residential users during the next three years.

Follow Sentinel reporter J.M. Brown on Twitter at [Twitter.com/jmbrownreports](https://twitter.com/jmbrownreports)

NOVEMBER 14, 2012

ITEM F

ATTACHMENT G

Region reduces its water use

By Matt Weiser

mweiser@sacbee.com

By Matt Weiser The Sacramento Bee

Last modified: 2012-11-04T05:58:03Z

Published: Saturday, Nov. 3, 2012 - 11:00 pm | Page 1B

The Sacramento region has made significant strides in water conservation in recent years, according to a new report.

What remains unclear, however, is whether the improvement is real or an artifact of the recession, which left thousands of area homes vacant.

The report by the Sacramento Water Forum provides data from 15 water utilities across the capital metro area for 2009 and 2010. It is the first such report since the group required member utilities to meet stricter conservation targets.

The new emphasis came partly in response to a 2009 state law that requires all California water utilities to trim consumption 20 percent by 2020. But it also resulted from growing awareness that the Sacramento region had become vulnerable to lawsuits or regulatory action because it was consuming a disproportionate share of a scarce public resource.

In 2006, the average per capita consumption of water in the Sacramento region was 252 gallons per day. The statewide average at the time was 164 gallons.

By 2010, according to the new report, the Sacramento region dropped its per capita consumption to an average of 218 gallons per day – a 15 percent drop.

"It tells me that the investment in water conservation in the region is paying off," said Tom Gohring, executive director of the water forum. The coalition of utilities and environmental groups formed in 1993 to better manage area water resources, especially the American River.

"I can tell you, in working one-on-one with the purveyors in this area, to a person they are taking water conservation pretty seriously," he said.

Area water utilities in recent years have ramped up rebate programs for toilets and washing machines and launched new public education campaigns. Their field crews have started new leak-detection routines to find and fix leaky pipes.

The city of Sacramento, the largest water distributor in the region, in 2009 adopted a major change in watering rules that allows property owners to irrigate landscaping only on alternate days in the summer, and only one day a week in winter. Previously, there were no limits.

Sacramento is the largest California city whose water customers are not fully served by metered connections.

About 46 percent of its customers are now metered, and the rest pay a flat rate for unlimited water use. The city faces a 2025 state deadline to meter all its customers. It expects to switch 5,000 to meters by the end of this year, and another 5,000 in each of the next three years. After that, there will still be thousands more to go.

The new meters include leak-detection technology so customers and the city can spot leaks at the household level. Jessica Hess, a spokeswoman for the city Utilities Department, said this saved 316 million gallons of water in the first year of the program.

Utility crews are also using new technology to listen for leaks in underground water distribution lines, many of which are very old. In September, Hess said, the city surveyed 13 miles of pipeline and found 18 buried leaks. It fixed one of them on Tuesday under 15th Street downtown.

This one problem pipe was leaking about 18,000 gallons per hour – enough to fill an average backyard swimming pool every hour. More of these efforts will be possible thanks to water rate increases the City Council approved earlier this year, which will ratchet up through 2014.

The rate increases were unpopular, but considered essential to meet the state-mandated metering deadline and keep up with system decay.

"We are continuing to look at ways we can help our customers save water for the betterment of the region," Hess said. "We are looking at things like increasing public education. It's not just about saving water for us. It's the right thing to do."

Hess acknowledged some of the conservation gains might be recession-related. In short, the recession turned many homeowners into renters, which means there was at least a period of time where thousands of lawns were not being watered.

Landscape irrigation is the single largest water demand in the region, accounting for about 60 percent of water consumption on the average residential property. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, Sacramento County's home ownership rate fell from 61 percent to 56 percent from 2006 to 2011. The number of families living in rental housing increased by 30,000, or 15 percent. Which happens to be exactly the size of the improvement in water conservation during the same period.

The conservation gains also came during a statewide drought, in which state officials and local utilities were broadcasting a strong conservation message. Early predictions suggest this winter may also be dry, so that message will remain important.

"Some of the conservation programs people are doing are actually working," said Ronald Stork, a senior policy advocate at Friends of the River, one of the environmental groups that is a member of the water forum. "They're not awe-inspiring, but they are pretty impressive numbers. I think some of it will go away when the housing market picks back up and people have more money jingling around in their pockets."

One mystery in the new report is that water consumption by large landscapes has increased significantly in the city of Sacramento, the city of Folsom and the Fair Oaks Water District.

Large landscapes include golf courses, parks, and some large commercial and industrial properties with lots of landscaping.

"We're not exactly sure what played into that," Hess said. "But we are looking at how we can help target those large landscapes and bring that water use back down."

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NOVEMBER 14, 2012

ITEM F

ATTACHMENT H

Right to vote on desal in Santa Cruz sails through

By J.M. Brown

Santa Cruz Sentinel

Posted: 11/06/2012 08:59:48 PM PST

SANTA CRUZ -- Santa Cruz voters have soundly said they want a future vote on a controversial desalination plant.

Measure P, a ballot question organized by the Right to Vote on Desal Coalition, asked voters not whether they want to approve the plant but rather whether they want a future say on plans to transform seawater into as much as 2.5 million gallons of drinking water per day. The City Council already granted citizens the right via a city ordinance to vote on the plant, but opponents were concerned a future council could overturn it.

With all 36 precincts reporting, the measure led 71 percent to 29 percent.

Rick Longinotti, a founder of Santa Cruz Desal Alternatives, said earlier on Tuesday a victory "may become clear to city officials that it will be an uphill battle" to win voter approval for the plant. He said it will indicate there are "serious questions about whether desal is the way to go."

The city and Soquel Creek Water District are proposing to build a plant, at an estimated cost of \$125 million, to protect the city from severe drought and provide more river and stream habitat or fish while resting the district's overdrafted aquifers. Opponents seek greater conservation, water transfers and increased storage.

Longinotti said a win for Measure P "is an opportunity to work together with the city and all its stakeholders to work on those kinds of water security measures that everyone can agree on."

Five-time former Mayor Mike Rotkin said he was not surprised by Measure P's success. He was opposed to spending \$70,000 of the city's money on the measure, and said he doesn't believe it is a good bellwether for how citizens really feel about desalination.

"We haven't done an informational campaign yet," Rotkin said. "That is the critical step that's next," he said.

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: MICHAEL S. LEBRUN *msl*
GENERAL MANAGER
DATE: NOVEMBER 8, 2012



COMMITTEE REPORTS

ITEM

Review and discuss Committee meeting minutes.

BACKGROUND

The following committee meetings were held for which meeting minutes are being provided:

- OCTOBER 2, 2012 SUPPLEMENTAL WATER ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
- OCTOBER 25, 2012 WATER CONSERVATION COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that your Honorable Board discuss the meeting minutes as appropriate.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. Supplemental Water Evaluation Committee Meeting Minutes
- B. Water Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes

NOVEMBER 14, 2012

ITEM G

ATTACHMENT A

NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Tuesday, October 2, 2012

1:30 P.M.

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES **SUPPLEMENTAL WATER ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION COMMITTEE**

APPOINTED COMMITTEE MEMBERS

MICHAEL K. NUNLEY, CHAIRMAN (NON-VOTING)
PETER V. SEVCIK, VICE CHAIRMAN (NON-VOTING)
CRAIG ARMSTRONG (VOTING)
DAN GARSON (VOTING)
DENNIS GRAUE (VOTING)
KATHIE MATSUYAMA (VOTING)
ROBERT MILLER (VOTING)
DAVE WATSON (VOTING)
DAN WOODSON (VOTING)

PRINCIPAL STAFF

MICHAEL S. LEBRUN, GENERAL MANAGER
LISA BOGNUDA, ASST GM/FINANCE DIRECTOR

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

1. CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE AND ROLL CALL

Chairman Nunley called the Special Meeting of October 2, 2012, to order at 1:30 p.m. and led the flag salute. At roll call, all committee members were present.

2. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

General Manager Michael LeBrun made himself available for questions from the Committee.

Public Comment:

John Snyder, Nipomo resident, asked to include a general item for public comment at the Committee meetings. He discussed his interpretation of an appeal hearing in the Santa Maria Valley Groundwater litigation during the previous week. He noted the Committee should look at Oxnard GREAT Program and the Pajaro Valley water projects. He also stated he would be available to provide information on the litigation issues to the Committee.

Member Garson asked if the Committee was tasked with looking at a physical water supply solution, as opposed to a legal solution. Mr. LeBrun responded that the Committee had a narrow focus on ranking physical water supply alternatives and would not need to research the current litigation. The Board would select and implement the final water supply solution and would continue to work through the current litigation.

The Committee voted to receive the report.

3. REVIEW DRAFT MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 24, 2012, COMMITTEE MEETING

The Committee approved the meeting minutes. There was no public comment.

4. PRESENTATION OF THE ORANGE COUNTY GROUNDWATER REPLENISHMENT SYSTEM AND OXNARD GREAT PROGRAM

Chairman Nunley provided a brief overview of the objectives, elements, and current status of the Oxnard GREAT Program. He provided a link to the City's website.

Member Garson asked how Oxnard is paying for this program. Chairman Nunley responded the funding sources included ARRA (American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009) and other grant programs. He also noted the program was a multiple-year program and did not know if bonds were sold or other financing methods were pursued.

Member Woodson asked if Oxnard could find qualified staff, or whether they needed to train their staff, to operate and maintain the system. Chairman Nunley stated that was a challenge for many agencies and he did not know how the City approached it – options could include training their own staff, hiring staff with special training, or contracting with an outside entity for that work.

Member Miller asked if Oxnard had published costs per acre-foot for their water supply based on the GREAT Program. Mr. Nunley stated he did not find that information but encouraged the Committee members to research the website referenced in the presentation.

Member Miller asked if the agricultural users were willing customers and if they recognized their groundwater resources were dwindling prior to engaging in the program. Chairman Nunley stated he did not know the history of their involvement or what public relations issues may have arisen initially.

Chairman Nunley then provided a brief overview of the objectives, elements, and current status of the Orange County Groundwater Replenishment System. He provided a link to the Orange County Water District's website for the program.

Public Comment:

John Snyder, Nipomo resident, stated that he thought there was a groundwater settlement behind both of these programs that determined how they funded these programs and what the agencies worked out in the settlements. He recommended the Committee explore these issues further.

Member Graue asked if the Orange County program had met its goals to prevent seawater intrusion. Chairman Nunley stated future elements of the program are being planned but he did not know the level of success that had already been achieved.

Member Graue noted Carlsbad was building a large desalination program.

Public Comment:

General Manager LeBrun stated both programs were responding to seawater intrusion and both were adjudicated basins. He noted that similar to the District's work, he would assume there were efforts prior to each crisis to develop water supply options and prevent adjudication. The Committee voted to receive both presentations.

5. ASSIGN ALTERNATIVES TO SUBCOMMITTEES

Chairman Nunley presented a proposal for subcommittee members and assignments, as follows:

Subcommittee	Members	Alternatives for Evaluation
1	Armstrong Graue Matsuyama	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State Water • Seawater • Agricultural and industrial reuse
2	Miller Watson Woodson	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Santa Maria Waterline Intertie Project • Surface water • Recycled wastewater from municipal facilities
3	Matsuyama Garson Graue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation/ Graywater • Local Groundwater

Member Watson asked if these alternatives were the final list for evaluation, or if there would be an initial screening step prior to beginning the evaluation process. Chairman Nunley stated it was his understanding the Committee members would perform some screening of delivery options, treatment technologies, pipeline routes, etc., as they conduct the evaluations.

Member Watson recommended focusing all the alternatives on the District's long-term water supply need of 6200 acre-feet per year (AFY). He said the initial acquisition of 2500 AFY should be considered in light of ultimately delivering 6200 AFY, or within a reliable portfolio of supplies to deliver 6200 AFY.

Member Armstrong asked if the Committee was constrained by the targeted amounts and dates in the Bylaws (1000 AFY by June 2015, 3000 AFY in near future through an ultimate goal of 6200 AFY). Member Watson asked if this was a conflict between the Committee's objectives and the Bylaws.

Member Matsuyama stated the Bylaws were telling a conflicting story – the Committee has latitude for conducting the evaluation, but is tied to the delivery schedule and quantities in the Bylaws.

Member Woodson noted the Tribune article stated the District would move forward with the phased Santa Maria Waterline Intertie Project unless the Committee identified a different approach. He asked if that project would be deferred if the Committee identified desalination or another approach that would require more time but ultimately ranked higher.

October 2, 2012
Nipomo Community Services District
Special Meeting Minutes
Supplemental Water Alternatives Evaluation Committee

Chairman Nunley stated the Bylaws included goals and schedules documented in the Water Master Plan and other District planning efforts. He stated the concerns of the Committee could be addressed within the evaluation process without conflicting with the District's Bylaws.

Member Matsuyama expressed concerns that the Committee's activities were too restricted by the Bylaws and would result in ranking the Phased Santa Maria Waterline Intertie Project highest by default.

Member Watson stated he believes there are other alternatives that could compete with the Santa Maria Waterline Intertie Project, and the Committee should talk about some of the alternatives that could meet the timeframes prior to addressing others that appear to take more time. In addition, several alternatives could be pursued simultaneously that would meet both short-term and long-term goals.

Member Armstrong noted there had not been enough analysis to determine if implementation schedules would meet the schedule in the Bylaws.

Chairman Nunley suggested the subcommittees could develop the implementation schedules for each alternative within their work, then the Committee could reconvene to put alternatives together that would meet the ultimate goals if one alternative would not meet all the Bylaw requirements.

Member Graue stated he thought the subcommittees would need to spend time evaluating each alternative prior to addressing likelihood of meeting the schedule in the Bylaws.

Member Miller said there was a risk that if the Santa Maria Waterline Intertie Project is selected, some members of the community might feel the outcome was decided before the process began. However, if the Committee looks at the list of alternatives it covers a broad range of water supplies and a robust analysis could call more attention to alternatives with a longer implementation schedule but greater overall benefits. He also advocated reconvening the full Committee more frequently to share information and make the entire process more collaborative and robust.

Member Graue stated that some alternatives in different groups may need to consider the same process. It would be less efficient to have different groups studying the same treatment process or technologies, but it could also help the analysis overall to have multiple groups looking at the same technologies as long as there is not too much overlap.

Chairman Nunley noted his role would be to share information among the subcommittees if useful tools or analyses are developed and the Committees could also meet more frequently.

Member Graue asked if this would constitute a sequential meeting and Brown Act violation. Chairman Nunley stated he would not carry conclusions between subcommittees, only references and/or tools developed in the work in order to prevent this from being a concern.

Member Garson suggested all the Committee members could take one alternative at a time, review it, then reconvene to discuss their analysis. At the next meeting the Committee would move onto the next alternatives.

October 2, 2012
Nipomo Community Services District
Special Meeting Minutes
Supplemental Water Alternatives Evaluation Committee

Member Armstrong noted that he prefers the subcommittee approach since some of the issues will require more investigation and coordination with outside entities than others.

Member Matsuyama stated all the members are connected to others in the community and could share the information among the Committee members if all members worked on the same alternatives.

Chairman Nunley responded his concerns would be that each alternative requires the full 3 or 4-month schedule, and conducting a thorough analysis would be difficult if one alternative is reviewed at a time. He suggested more frequent meetings could offer the collaboration discussed by the Committee members. He noted a professional team would require a year for this process.

Member Garson asked if this analysis would be meaningful if it could not realistically be accomplished by a professional team in less than a year. Chairman Nunley noted the one-year timeline would not be required for the Committee's work because there are more reference materials (studies, environmental documents, etc.) available now, and that he thought the 4 months would be reasonable for conducting the analysis.

Member Watson noted he thought this conversation was important in determining how to conduct the evaluation itself. He said the Committee could have each subcommittee take on an alternative, request answers to questions posed by the Committee, and then bring back the answers to the full Committee.

Chairman Nunley noted the Committee could determine which ranking criteria are higher priority to the Committee by establishing ranking criteria and then using a weighting system, for instance. This would allow the Committee to meet their own objectives while still working within the Bylaws.

Member Miller stated a hybrid approach (subcommittee work with more frequent Committee meetings) would meet address the concerns stated by the other members. He recommended this approach. Member Garson stated he agreed and this would help the Committee move forward if problems arise with getting information or answering important questions.

Member Garson also suggested the Committee could develop ranking criteria before forming subcommittees. Member Graue compared this to the "Consumer Reports" ranking and also recommended developing a similar ranking scheme.

Member Miller proposed working in parallel on the ranking criteria and the subcommittee evaluations. Chairman Nunley noted that he included a proposed approach in Item 6 that assumed these processes would be performed in parallel. He briefly provided an overview of the Item 6 "draft work plan" and suggested the Committee consider performing some of the evaluation prior to establishing ranking criteria. He also noted the outline presented in the prior meeting (September 24, 2012) was presented as an approach to organize the group's thoughts. In addition, he noted there is no time limit or schedule for completion of the Committee's work and they maintain control over the approach and the schedule.

Public Comment:

General Manager LeBrun reminded the Committee that the Board itself has limited powers and responsibilities, and cannot mandate a regional water supply solution or certain planning requirements. The Board had attempted to provide guidelines for the evaluation process so that the Committee would have a manageable work effort and also to reflect the Board's limited authority to implement or guide some water resource planning efforts (such as various regional efforts).

He noted the District Board had expressed to the County that they would move forward with a citizens' group to evaluate water supply alternatives and invited the Board of Supervisors to participate or head this effort, but no response was provided. The County also recently approved an industrial project outside of the District and noted the project could receive water from Nipomo's supplemental water project, and the General Manager cited this as an example of the District's limited authority.

Member Miller suggested moving the Surface Water alternative to the third subcommittee, but some other members responded that they would like to keep the alternative grouping as proposed. He noted that this would be acceptable to him as originally proposed.

Member Garson suggested moving forward with the subcommittee groups as proposed and the Committee could revisit the grouping later.

The Committee voted to accept the subcommittees and alternative assignments as proposed in the Staff Report.

6. DEVELOP WORK PLAN FOR PERFORMING ALTERNATIVE EVALUATION

Chairman Nunley presented a proposed outline (attached), schedule and work plan for consideration by the Committee.

Selection of Subcommittees and Beginning of Evaluation	October 2, 2012
Development of Alternative Analysis by Subcommittees (Including Subcommittee Meetings)	October 2 through week of November 12 th , 2012
Committee Meeting - Development of Ranking Criteria	Week of November 12 th , 2012
Completion of Alternative Analysis by Subcommittees	Through Week of January 7 th , 2012
Committee Meeting - Subcommittees to Present Alternatives	Week of January 7 th , 2013
Committee Meeting – Perform Ranking	Week of January 14 th , 2013
Committee Meeting – Review Rough Draft of Report	Week of January 28 th , 2013
Committee Meeting – Finalize Report	Week of February 11 th , 2013

Member Matsuyama noted she was concerned with the schedule for the analysis considering the holiday season, particularly since there is no deadline for the work. She requested stretching the schedule to accommodate the holidays.

Member Miller proposed modifying the outline to separate Cost from Constraints and include it after the Schedule item. Members Matsuyama and Watson expressed support. Member Watson stated the subcommittees could perform the bulk of the evaluation, without cost opinions, in the next 2 or 3 weeks. He also stated the Committee could get as much done as possible prior to Thanksgiving and various members expressed support.

October 2, 2012
 Nipomo Community Services District
 Special Meeting Minutes
 Supplemental Water Alternatives Evaluation Committee

Member Miller suggested the Committee meet again during the first week of November to review progress, and the Committee members discussed meeting on November 1.

Member Watson stated the Committee may need staff to perform some analysis or help establish meetings when they regroup at the next meeting. Chairman Nunley stated he would be available to help with those efforts.

Member Watson asked if the Committee could discuss ranking criteria at the next meeting and proposed including this as an agenda item for the next meeting, in case there was adequate time to address it. If not, it could be deferred to a future meeting. Various members discussed this.

There was no public comment.

The Committee voted to modify the schedule proposed above and meet on November 1 at 1:30 PM to review draft deliverables from the subcommittees and to add ranking criteria as a topic if time allows. The subcommittees will provide a progress report by October 29, 2012 for assembly by Chairman Nunley as part of the meeting packet, no later than 24 hours prior to the meeting. The Committee also voted to revise the schedule as follows:

Selection of Subcommittees and Beginning of Evaluation	October 2, 2012
Development of Alternative Analysis by Subcommittees (Including Subcommittee Meetings)	October 2 through week of November 12 th , 2012
Committee Meeting – Progress and Development of Ranking Criteria (if time allows)	November 1
Committee Meeting - Development of Ranking Criteria	Week of November 12 th , 2012
Completion of Alternative Analysis by Subcommittees	Through Week of January 21st, 2012
Committee Meeting - Subcommittees to Present Alternatives	Week of January 21st, 2013
Committee Meeting – Perform Ranking	Week of January 28 th , 2013
Committee Meeting – Review Rough Draft of Report	Week of February 11th, 2013
Committee Meeting – Finalize Report	Week of February 25 th , 2013

7. DISCUSS NEED FOR SPOKESPERSON TO PROVIDE UPDATE TO THE BOARD

Chairman Nunley noted this would be a standing item for all meetings and the Bylaws require the Committee to present the alternatives being evaluated, as well as Committee members assigned to the alternatives, to the Board of Directors.

Member Matsuyama asked if a written report would be required. Chairman Nunley stated this could be a verbal update. General Manager LeBrun noted the presentation would be the first item on the agenda and that a written report could be submitted to the Chairman for distribution to the Committee if needed.

There was no public comment.

The Committee voted for Member Matsuyama to serve as Spokesperson at the next Board meeting.

8. PRESENT REFERENCE DOCUMENTS FOR REVIEW AND ACCEPTANCE

Chairman Nunley presented the standing item.

Member Woodson asked if industry standards such as professional society manuals (American Water Works Association and National Sanitation Foundation) and guidelines should be included. Chairman Nunley stated he assumed industry standard documents would be acceptable without needing to specify them. He noted that other reports, documents, etc., should be brought to the Committee as members identify them.

There was no public comment.

Member Miller noted that discussions with individuals relevant to the evaluation may end up being documented. Chairman Nunley agreed that it would be important to make sure those discussions are with individuals with the appropriate authority or knowledge.

The Committee had no action.

9. SET NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING DATE AND TIME

The Committee voted to meet on November 1 at 1:30 PM at the end of Item 6. Member Matsuyama noted that subcommittees would be meeting as well.

There was no public comment.

The Committee had no action.

10. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.

ATTACHMENT:

Revised Outline per Committee comments

NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMUNITY DISTRICT
SUPPLEMENTAL WATER ALTERNATIVES EVALUATION COMMITTEE

DRAFT OUTLINE – EVALUATION OF SUPPLEMENTAL WATER ALTERNATIVES – REV 10/2/12

1. Introduction (Draft by Chair)
 - a. Objectives
 - b. Supply goals
 - 1000 AFY by June 2015
 - 3000 AFY
 - 6200 AFY (Future)
2. State Water (Subcommittee)
 - a. Brief description
 - Options considered / evaluated (from 9/24/12 Meeting Notes and other sources)
 - b. Supply
 - c. Quality
 - d. Reliability
 - e. Required facilities
 - f. Constraints
 - Institutional
 - Legal
 - Regulatory (including permitting requirements and effluent disposal requirements, if any)
 - Capacity
 - g. Implementation schedule
 - 1000 AFY delivery
 - 3000 AFY delivery
 - 6200 AFY delivery (if feasible)
 - h. Cost range
 - Capital cost
 - Operating or ongoing cost
3. Demand Management - Conservation / Domestic Graywater (Subcommittee unless otherwise noted)
 - a. Brief description
 - Current District efforts/policies (NCSA Staff)
 - Options considered/evaluated
 - b. Goals
 - c. Institutional requirements
 - d. Legal requirements
 - e. Cost range & responsibility
4. Agricultural and Industrial Reuse (Subcommittee)

Comment [M1]: All alternatives would follow the same format except as noted below.

5. Santa Maria Waterline Intertie Project (Subcommittee)
6. Recycled Wastewater from Municipal Facilities (Subcommittee)
7. Local Groundwater (Subcommittee)
8. Surface Water (Subcommittee)
9. Seawater (Subcommittee)
10. Ranking (Committee)
 - a. Evaluation Criteria and Definitions
 - b. Priority and Weighting
 - c. Summary of Ranking

NOVEMBER 14, 2012

ITEM G

ATTACHMENT B

NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2012
10:00 A.M.

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES **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

Chairman Winn called the meeting to Order at 10am. Director Winn and Director Vierheilig were present.

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

District General Manager Michael LeBrun reviewed the staff report and answered questions from the Committee.

Public Comment:

Felicity Lazo commented on classroom presentations and development of a program to recognize customers with water conserving landscapes

The Committee directed staff to provide the Conservation Program summary to the Board of Directors and further to:

- Re-establish a formal water audit program prior to May 2013. The program will be carried out via contract with a certified water auditor (contractor).
- Provide a review of the effectiveness of conservation based tiered water rates in 2013.
- Re-bid the water conservation classroom education contract in time for 2013-2014 school year.
- Provide a link on District website to Nipomo Native Garden website
- Advertise existence and utility of "SLO Waterwise" website and recommend that the website provide additional conservation related links
- Research and return to the Committee a draft program for recognizing customers with water-conserving landscapes.
- Prominently feature water conservation messages in 2013 Newsletters

3. ADJOURN

Chairman Winn adjourned the meeting at 11:22 a.m.