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Nipomo

Target changes for water lobbyist

Nipomo Community Services District's shift in focus from a short-term to a long-term project to procure supplemental water has changed the target for a lobbying firm hired to help secure government funding.

Greg Burns of Marlowe and Co. told NCSD directors Wednesday the change means the district likely won't qualify for state assistance grants.

Instead, the lobbying group intends to look at U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Department of Agriculture and Army Corps of Engineers funding.

Burns said the group also would look at so-called "earmarks," or funds budgeted by Congress for specific projects.

In addition to touring the Nipomo community Wednesday, Burns said he and a Marlowe and Co. associate planned to meet with San Luis Obispo County's 4th District Supervisor Katcho Achadjian to familiarize themselves with the issues.

"We plan to hit the ground running Jan. 1 when the appropriation process kicks in," Burns said.