

County News Briefs

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NCSD water, sewer master plan hearing Jan. 9

Few changes were made last week to a draft of the Nipomo Community Services District Water and Sewer Master Plan, which is scheduled to come back for formal adoption at the Jan. 9 board of directors meeting.

Directors did some "minor wordsmithing" and corrected a few typos but left the plan substantially intact, said Bruce Buel, district general manager.

The plan is an update of the district's previous master plan and analyzes the status of such facilities as sewer lift stations, the wastewater treatment plants and water service system.

It lays out upgrades, maintenance and repairs that may or will be necessary, along with potential costs and a timeline for the projects.

Although a recent campaign has been initiated to fight a sewage treatment plant at 776 Mesa Road, Buel said no such proposal is included in the master plan.

He noted a variety of potential projects to manage the Nipomo groundwater basin have been listed, no options have been studied, chosen or prioritized.

District officials said a new sewage treatment plant is not one of the options, although one involves the potential tertiary treatment of already treated wastewater to make it clean enough to inject into the groundwater basin.

That would not be considered a supplemental water source but rather a return of water already pulled from the basin.

The updated master plan is available for review on the district's Web site at <http://>

nipomocsd.com by clicking on "News & Info" and then "Water and Sewer Master Plan Update."

The Jan. 9 meeting is scheduled to begin at 9 a.m. in the district board room at 148 S. Wilson St.

Proposal to boost NCSD directors' pay delayed

A request to increase compensation for Nipomo Community Services District directors' attendance at committee meetings was delayed last week so the district's legal council can review the proposal.

Director Clifford Trotter had asked the board consider increasing the amount paid for committee meetings, but legal counsel Jon Seitz felt the proposal should be reviewed for compliance with state law, said Bruce Buel, district general manager.

Currently, directors receive \$100 for each board meeting they attend and \$50 for each NCSD committee meeting. Buel noted the \$100 stipend is the maximum allowed under state law.

"State law is very clear that ad hoc meetings (attendance) cannot be compensated, only committee meetings that are open to the public," Buel said.

No date was set for reconsidering the proposal, which will depend upon when the report is received, he said.