

**AGENDA FOR A MEETING OF THE
PUBLIC AWARENESS/PERSONNEL/POLICY COMMITTEE
OF THE VALLECITOS WATER DISTRICT
MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2021, AT 10:00 A.M. VIA
TELECONFERENCE**

CALL TO ORDER - DIRECTOR BOYD-HODGSON

PUBLIC COMMENT

Due to the evolving situation with the COVID-19 Novel Coronavirus, so long as state or local public health officials have imposed or recommended social distancing measures Vallecitos Water District will hold future meetings via teleconferencing and allow members of the public to observe and address the meeting telephonically or otherwise electronically. During this period of time, Vallecitos Water District will not be making any physical location available for members of the public to observe the meeting and offer public comment. The public is encouraged to watch and participate in the meeting from the safety of their homes. The meeting can be viewed on the agenda page located on the main page of the District's website. Public comments or questions can be submitted to the following email address: PublicComment@vwd.org. All written comments that are received at least 90 minutes before the meeting will be provided to the Committee members, and a record of the receipt of comment will be noted during the meeting. Members of the public viewing the meeting via the Zoom videoconferencing platform can express their desire to provide input at the appropriate time by utilizing the "Raise Hand" function. Additional instructions for online participation will be posted on the District's website. www.vwd.org/meetings

ITEM(S) FOR DISCUSSION

1. PERSONNEL

- OLD BUSINESS
 - RECRUITMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT SERVICES ENGINEER
 - CLOSED CAPTIONING OF MEETINGS

2. PUBLIC AWARENESS

- OLD BUSINESS
 - TASK FORCE FORMATION FOR CAREER PATH AND EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS AND THE COMMUNITY

3. POLICY

- OLD BUSINESS
 - UPDATE ON CONSOLIDATION OF RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES/PRACTICES DOCS

- NEW BUSINESS
 - PERMANENT SPECIAL AGRICULTURAL WATER RATE PROGRAM

4. NEXT MEETING DATE—JULY 12, 2021

5. ADJOURNMENT

If you have any disability which would require accommodation in order to enable you to participate in this meeting, please call the Executive Secretary at 760.744.0460 ext. 264 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING

I, Diane Posvar, Executive Secretary of the Vallecitos Water District, hereby certify that I caused the posting of this Agenda in the outside display case at the District office, 201 Vallecitos de Oro, San Marcos, California by 10:00 a.m., Friday, June 4, 2021.

Diane Posvar

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
PUBLIC AWARENESS/PERSONNEL/POLICY COMMITTEE
OF THE VALLECITOS WATER DISTRICT
MONDAY, JUNE 7, 2021 AT 10:00 A.M.
VIA TELECONFERENCE

Director Boyd-Hodgson called the meeting to order at the hour of 10:00 a.m.

Present: Director Boyd-Hodgson
Director Pennock
General Manager Prum
Public Information/Conservation Supervisor Robbins
Applications Specialist I Prieto
Administrative Secretary Johnson

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

PERSONNEL

(OLD BUSINESS) RECRUITMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT SERVICES ENGINEER

General Manager Prum stated interviews were conducted for the Development Services Engineer position and offers were made to three different candidates; however, all three offers were declined. The position was advertised again last week as open until filled. The top candidate was looking for flexibility similar to what her current employer provides. Staff will look at what type of flexibility the District could offer which may help to attract qualified candidates.

(OLD BUSINESS) CLOSED CAPTIONING OF MEETINGS

General Manager Prum stated staff has not had a chance to review the accuracy of the closed captioning programs that were tested during the last few Board meetings. Staff does not have a recommendation yet on what program would be best for the District.

Public Information/Conservation Supervisor Robbins stated the cost and value of the programs should be considered. The Zoom application can provide closed captioning; however, the Verbit application was better at picking up individuals' names that were provided to the vendor in advance. The YouTube application will not be as accurate with names and acronyms.

Director Boyd-Hodgson would like to move forward with a decision. Staff will make a recommendation to the Committee at its July meeting.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

(OLD BUSINESS) TASK FORCE FORMATION FOR CAREER PATH AND EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS AND THE COMMUNITY

Director Boyd-Hodgson requested a status update on Bill Dean's educational programs. Funds for two of Mr. Dean's programs (classroom and web-based) are included in the recently approved FY 2021/2022 budget and will be available on July 1. General Manager Pruum stated he would check with Mr. Dean to discuss the next steps.

General discussion took place regarding partnering with the community colleges to create a pipeline to educate young people about water and encourage them to go into water related fields. The District has affiliations with Palomar College and Cal State San Marcos. Cuyamaca College has good water and wastewater programs. Palomar College's water and wastewater programs are not quite as good; however, they do not have the resources that Cuyamaca College has and there has been turnover of the program's administrative staff.

General Manager Pruum participates in a workgroup focused on workforce development. Members of the workgroup include Don Jones of Cuyamaca College, representatives of Palomar College, and other General Managers from agencies throughout the county. Part of the workgroup's focus includes participation in the San Diego County Water Authority's internship program.

Staff will reach out to the new administrators of the water programs at Palomar College to find out how the District can help them. Director Boyd-Hodgson expressed her interest in attending any meetings that are scheduled.

POLICY

(OLD BUSINESS) UPDATE ON CONSOLIDATION OF RESOLUTIONS/ ORDINANCES/PRACTICES DOCS

General Manager Pruum stated progress on the Administrative Code has slowed due to a staffing shortage. A copy of the California Special Districts Association's Sample Policy Handbook has been ordered. When the handbook is received, staff will provide the Table of Contents to the Committee and sample policies of interest to them.

Applications Specialist I Prieto demonstrated the Laserfiche WebLink on the District's website, how the public can access resolutions and ordinances, and what the public is able to view. WebLinks to the information are located in several areas of the website: Transparency Page, I Want To Page, Engineering Page, and Public Records Request (located on the Transparency Page). Clicking on the WebLink on any of these pages will take the user to the Public Records Archive where links to all active resolutions and ordinances are available. Inactive documents are not available to the public. Document searching was also demonstrated and discussed.

(NEW BUSINESS) PERMANENT SPECIAL AGRICULTURAL WATER RATE PROGRAM

Public Information/Conservation Supervisor Robbins discussed the classes of the District's agricultural customers for which lower water rates are available:

- San Diego County Water Authority's (SDCWA) Transitional Special Agricultural Water Rate (TSAWR), a low, flat rate with no tiers that is subject to supply cutbacks in times of drought;
- Vallecitos' Certified Non-Participating Agricultural Water Rate (CNPAWR), a flat rate at Tier 2;
- Customers in either of the discounted programs that are residential with a residence on the property; and
- Customers in either of the discounted programs that do not have a residence on the property.

SDCWA has provided its TSAWR program since 2008 as a transitional program after Metropolitan Water District of Southern California discontinued its discounted interim agricultural water program. SDCWA decided to make TSAWR a permanent program known as the Permanent Special Agricultural Water Rate (PSAWR) as of January 1, 2021. Customers in the TSAWR program are required to transition into the new PSAWR program by June 30, 2021, and must be on one of the following four county-maintained lists in order to transition to the PSAWR program:

- Regional Board General Agricultural Orders Enrollment List
- Grower's List
- Active Certified Producers
- Organic Producers

Public Information/Conservation Supervisor Robbins stated he sent letters to the District's agricultural customers in December 2020, announcing the new PSAWR program and explaining the steps they need to take to transition to the PSAWR. He followed up with customers again in May 2021 and is seeking direction on what to do with current TSAWR customers who do not transition to the PSAWR program. His recommendation is to transition those customers into the District's CNPAWR program.

General discussion took place. Of the District's estimated 120 agricultural customers, about half have completed the steps to transition to the PSAWR. The Committee offered to go door-to-door and speak to the customers who have not. General Manager Pruim noted that there is a possibility the SDCWA may extend the transition deadline to August 30, and that other agencies are struggling with this issue as well.

Public Information/Conservation Supervisor Robbins will provide more detailed information to the Committee about the PSAWR program.

NEXT MEETING DATE – JULY 12, 2021

The next Committee meeting is scheduled on Monday, July 12 as the first Monday of July falls on the District holiday in observance of the Fourth of July holiday.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at the hour of 11:19 a.m.