

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE
PUBLIC AWARENESS/PERSONNEL/POLICY COMMITTEE
OF THE VALLECITOS WATER DISTRICT
MONDAY, AUGUST 9, 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 Pruim
 Administrative Services Manager Emmanuel
 Information Technology Supervisor Labarrere
 Public Information/Conservation Supervisor Robbins

Others Present: Assistant Professor Jacob Shiba, Palomar College

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

PERSONNEL

(NEW BUSINESS) BILL CONSOLIDATION FOR LARGE CUSTOMERS

Director Boyd-Hodgson made opening comments about the San Elijo Hills Homeowners Association (SEH HOA) which has multiple meters (including irrigation meters) and receives multiple bills. SEH HOA has invested in upgrading the irrigation system. The SEH HOA hopes they can compare and contrast before and after water consumption. The new system should save the SEH HOA 30%. General Manager (GM) Pruim noted that VWD bills by meter and the volume of consumption is noted on each bill. Interested customers can look back at the detail. GM Pruim will talk with Finance Manager Wes Owen and his team to see how we can assist. Director Boyd-Hodgson expected to have representatives from SEH HOA attend the meeting, but they ran into technical difficulties. Director Boyd-Hodgson requested that the issue be returned to the Committee at the September meeting.

PUBLIC AWARENESS

(OLD BUSINESS) HYBRID VIRTUAL AND IN-PERSON MEETING CONDUCT

GM Pruim noted that all of the District is looking forward to a return to normal including Board meetings where both staff and the Board can meet in person. GM Pruim expects that the public will continue to be allowed to participate remotely. Hurdles would be if the Board wants to participate both in person and remotely at the same time. Brown Act requirements would require a remote Board member to offer the remote location to members of the public.

(OLD BUSINESS) BILL DEAN COLLABORATION

GM Pruim noted that this project is moving forward. GM Pruim is reviewing the scope of work. Director Boyd-Hodgson noted that she would prefer that the school selected be a public school. Bill Dean is working with the San Marcos Unified School District to identify the

school and classroom that will participate. GM Pruim stated the desire is for a school and classroom within the VWD service area. He expects the project to move forward shortly after the school year starts.

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

Director Boyd-Hodgson introduced Jacob Shiba, Assistant Professor and Water and Wastewater Technology Program Coordinator at Palomar College. Mr. Shiba provided a PowerPoint presentation on a possible internship partnership between VWD and Palomar College. Palomar College is almost across the street from the District and serves approximately 30,000 students. The cost of education at Palomar is \$46 per unit.

Mr. Shiba explained the existing internship program with the San Diego County Water Authority (CWA). While this is a really good program, it has a limited number of students, happens only once per year, and is extremely competitive. Mr. Shiba hoped to initiate a separate internship program with VWD that could occur more often, be less competitive and more local.

Mr. Shiba noted that many of the Water and Wastewater Technology students at Palomar are "career changers" who haven't had a chance to gain experience in the water workplace. He noted that the initial strategy would be to have the interns to VWD be unpaid with the liability belonging to Palomar College. Interns would be enrolled in a CE100 (elective) three (3.0) unit class that would require them to have 12 hours of instruction at VWD weekly for 16 weeks.

VWD would be required to develop three learning objectives for each student, depending on their educational goals. VWD would also provide training, supervision, mentorship and feedback to the student. VWD would be required to sign off on Palomar time sheets.

Mr. Shiba hopes to have an internship program in place with VWD by Spring of 2022.

POLICY

None.

NEXT MEETING DATE – SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 13, 2021.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at the hour of 11:06 a.m.