

**KENSINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
AGENDA OF A SPECIAL and ADJOURNED MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Date of Meeting: October 17, 2019
Time of Meeting: 3:30 p.m.
Place of Meeting: Arlington Community Church, Fireside Room
59 Arlington Avenue, Kensington, CA 94707

Please Note: Copies of the agenda bills and other written documentation relating to each item of business referred to on the agenda are on file in the office of the Kensington Fire Protection District Administration Office, 217 Arlington Avenue, Kensington, and are available for public inspection. A copy of the Board of Directors packet can be viewed on the internet at www.kensingtonfire.org/meetings.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Manager, 510/527-8395. Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Kensington Fire Protection District to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title 1).

3:30 p.m. **SPECIAL MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

Directors: Dom Dommer, Janice Kosel, Laurence Nagel, Kevin Padian and Julie Stein

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS. (This place on the agenda is reserved for comments and inquiries from citizens and Board members concerning matters that do not otherwise appear on the agenda. Speakers shall be requested to provide their names and addresses prior to giving public comments or making inquiries.)

ANNOUNCE CLOSED SESSION

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
(Pursuant to Gov't Code section 54956.9, subdivision (d)(3))
Significant exposure to litigation – One case

RECESS TO CLOSED SESSION

RECONVENE SPECIAL MEETING

POSSIBLE REPORT OUT OF CLOSED SESSION

NEW BUSINESS

1. Proposal from Regional Government Services (RGS) to Provide Administrative Services 20 hours per week for a Three-Month Period and to Conduct a Search for a District Manager and Authorization for the Board President to Execute a Contract with RGS (ACTION)

ADJOURN SPECIAL MEETING

Approx:
4:15 p.m.

RECONVENE ADJOURNED BOARD MEETING from October 9, 2019

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS. (This place on the agenda is reserved for comments and inquiries from citizens and Board members concerning matters that do not otherwise appear on the agenda. Speakers shall be requested to provide their names and addresses prior to giving public comments or making inquiries.)

13. Proposed Procedure for Setting Board Meeting Agendas submitted by Padian (ACTION)

14. Proposed Procedure for Handling Correspondence Received by the District submitted by Padian (ACTION)
15. **FIRE CHIEF'S REPORT**
 - a. Review of operations.
 - b. Regional issues and developments.
16. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**
 - a. Reminder - Open House including Contract Signing Celebration – 10/12/19
17. **BOARD REPORTS**

Informational reports from Board members or staff covering the following assignments:

 - a. Emergency Preparedness Committee (Padian/Nagel): Minutes of 8/28/19 meeting; report on 9/26/19 meeting
 - b. Organization Committee: Public meeting on 11/16/19, 9 to 11 a.m.; Open House Tours on 11/9/19 10 am to 12 noon
 - c. Diablo Fire Safe Council Representative (Nagel, Staff)
 - d. East Bay Regional Parks District Liaison (Nagel)
 - e. California Special Districts Association Representatives:
 - i. County (Nagel): Next meeting October 21, 2019; October quarterly newsletter
 - ii. State Professional Development and Membership Services Committees (Kosel)

ADJOURNMENT. The next regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Kensington Fire Protection District will be held on Wednesday, November 13, 2019, at 7:00 p.m. at Building E in Kensington Park, 59 Arlington Avenue, Kensington, CA 94707.

The deadline for agenda items to be included in the Board packet for the next regular meeting of 11/13/19 is Wednesday, 10/30/19 by 1:00 p.m. The deadline for agenda-related materials to be included in the Board packet is Wednesday, 11/6/19 by 1:00 p.m., Fire Protection District Administration Office, 217 Arlington Ave., Kensington.

IF YOU CHALLENGE A DECISION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN COURT, YOU MAY BE LIMITED TO RAISING ONLY THOSE ISSUES YOU OR SOMEONE ELSE RAISED AT THE BOARD MEETING OR IN WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE DELIVERED AT, OR PRIOR TO, THE BOARD MEETING

**SPECIAL MEETING
NEW BUSINESS ITEM**

October 11, 2019

Sent via email to fire@kensingtonfire.org

Brenda Navellier, Manager
Kensington Fire Protection District
217 Arlington Avenue
Kensington, CA 94707

Dear Ms. Navellier:

Thank you for contacting Regional Government Services (RGS) on behalf of the Kensington Fire Protection District. As you know from your discussions with RGS Project Manager Chris Paxton, RGS is a joint powers agency which provides a range of administrative support to local agencies. You asked us to provide service and price information for transitional and executive search support for Kensington FPD's administration needs.

You have described the following key activities that must occur for ongoing functionality of the District.

Clerk of the Board

- Schedule and attend all monthly Board and EPC Meetings
- Schedule and attend Finance meetings
- Transcribe Board, Finance and EPC minutes
- Develop agenda with President
- Obtain all items for Board packet, publish, post and deliver by legal deadlines
- State mandated training and FPPC compliance
- Work with legal counsel and President on contracts, sensitive issues and District questions
- Bi-annual policy manual review and update

Finance

- Reconcile monthly bank statement
- Monitor all District investments and reinvest appropriately
- Create financial reports and schedules
- Work annually with auditors
- Work semi-annually with actuary
- Place special assessment on tax rolls annually
- Create draft budget and monitor throughout the year

Executive Specialist

Pay all regular bills through checking account
Create monthly transmittal with checking account roster and all larger bills
Monitor and answer all phone calls and emails
Order all office equipment/supplies & items that are District function only
Schedule and shop for all special events
Filing and records destruction
Write bi-annual District newsletter
Post to and update District website
Post on NextDoor and Nixle
Bi-annual policy manual review and update
Oversee all District functions as staff
Interface with El Cerrito Fire Department
Interface with County personnel
Contract compliance
Work with legal counsel and President on contracts, sensitive issues, District questions

Project Manager

Hire contractors for building maintenance and repairs
Hire and interface with consultants for District activities

RGS desires to meet the District's needs in the most competent manner possible and will assign a team with appropriate experience to deliver in each of these service areas.

RGS estimates that a comprehensive administrative service provided through an assigned team at 20 hours per week would not exceed \$36,000 for a three-month period. That team will be led by an individual with executive level skills. Hourly rates for executive staff are of course greater than those for other members of our administrative teams. Therefore, the more use we can make of our non-executive employees, the less the agency's costs will be. In terms of the executive search, our experience has been that these searches can be quite variable in terms of the hours involved to complete a successful process. However, we believe the costs in this case would range from \$10,000 to \$12,000 for a complete search. Please note that RGS typically provides services on an hourly bill rate basis, consistent with our team model. Thus, the agency is only billed for the hours worked.

Current hourly rates are:

Brenda Navellier, Manager

October 11, 2019

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RGS STAFF

CLASSIFICATION	HOURLY RATE*
Chief Operating Officer	\$125 to \$215
Deputy Chief Operating Officer	\$120 to \$195
Senior/Lead Advisor	\$115 to \$190
Advisor	\$105 to \$160
Project Advisor	\$95 to \$125
Project Coordinator	\$75 to \$120
Technical Specialist	\$65 to \$115

*The Hourly Rate does not include direct external costs which will be invoiced to Agency with no markup and will fall outside of the not-to-exceed (if established) for services provided.

Project Manager Chris Paxton is available at your convenience to answer any questions you may have, or to discuss the initiation of an RGS administrative service partnership with the KFPD. His contact information is: cpaxton@rgs.ca.gov, 650-587-7300, x38. We look forward to serving your agency!

Sincerely,



Sophia Selivanoff, Deputy Executive Director
REGIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS
Beginning with Item 13

Proposed procedure for setting Board meeting agendas

1. To submit any proposed agenda items, whether from Board members, staff, or the public, send them to either the Board President or the District Manager to be received by no later than 1 pm on the second Wednesday before the Board meeting. Late items can only be considered under the provisions of the Brown Act.
2. Requests by non-board members to present an agenda item, speak before the Board (outside normal public comment periods), or to give presentations, will be shared by the Board President and District Manager for consultation, and not accepted until approved by the Board President, on consultation with the District Manager.
3. Submit all material supplemental to proposed agenda items to the District by the Wednesday before the Board meeting at 1 pm. To maximize the efficiency of an item considered at the Board meeting, appropriate supporting and explanatory materials should be provided unless the agenda item clearly does not require them.
4. The Board President and the District Manager set the agenda by comparing submissions received, as dictated in the Policy Manual. The Board President is ultimately responsible for the content and order of agenda items and will approve the agenda (and agenda packet) before dissemination.

Proposed procedure for handling correspondence received by the District

1. Correspondence not intended for the Fire Board specifically (e.g., thank-you notes to firefighters and EMT personnel) will be forwarded to the ECFD and not retained by the KFPD or included in the Board's agenda packet.
2. Correspondence received less than a week before the board meeting (i.e., by the previous Wednesday at 1 pm) will be considered not for that meeting but for the following meeting.
3. To reach all board members, citizens either email all Board members individually (addresses are on the District website) or advise the recipient (Board President, Manager, etc.) that it is intended for all members. It will not be otherwise forwarded if addressed to particular individuals. Written correspondence will be treated similarly. Only written correspondence will be considered (no phone messages, etc.).
4. Correspondence will not be considered for inclusion in the board packet unless expressly stated *in the document* that it is so intended. Absent this consent the correspondence will not be so considered, but will be filed in the District office.
5. The Board President and District Manager review correspondence intended for inclusion in the agenda packet and will include it if it is civil and constructive, and if it addresses Fire District or Fire Department matters. No anonymous correspondence will be considered. Correspondence that contains statements that might provide actionable offense to anyone, at the discretion of the District Manager or the Board President, will not be further considered.
6. The District redacts all residential and email addresses, as well as any incidental statements that might provide personal identifying information, before inclusion in the Board packet.
7. No commercial or political correspondence (i.e., that advertises goods or services, or advocates political candidates or measures) will be included in Board Packets.

The District Manager will post these guidelines for correspondence on the District website.

CHIEF'S/PRESIDENT'S REPORTS



EL CERRITO-KENSINGTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

10900 San Pablo Avenue • El Cerrito • CA • 94530

(510) 215-4450 • FAX (510) 232-4917

www.el-cerrito.org



DATE: October 1, 2019

TO: Kensington Fire Protection District Board Members

FROM: Michael Pigoni: Fire Chief

RE: **Fire Chief's Report for October 2019**

Run Reports

There were 40 incidents that occurred during the month of September in the community of Kensington. This was an increase of 7 calls in the community over last month due to an increase in smoke investigations and public assists. However, while there was one reported structure fire that turned out to be a barbeque in the back yard of a residence, there were no major fires or property loss this past month. During this same time, Engine 65 responded to a total of 77 calls in all districts. The "Incident Log" included in the Board packets will provide more details on the dates, times, locations and incident type for these calls that the Fire District responded to this past month.

Vegetation Management

With the Board holding the public hearing at the August meeting and adopting a resolution confirming the report of costs of abatement of public nuisance conditions resulting from the presence of weeds, rubbish, litter, or other flammable material on two parcels, the Fire District is now focusing on compliant driven inspections and working on possible updates to the Vegetation Management Standards. The existing standards were adopted over 20 years ago. With the effects of climate change and the recent history of devastating fires, there is a need for the Fire Prevention Department to review and possibly update the standards to reflect the current trends and needs. Contra Costa County is updating the County Wide Wildfire Action Plan as well as local councils and other agencies are updating their lists of vegetations that is prohibited from being planted near structures.

At this point the Fire Prevention Department is just researching information and networking with other County agencies to find out what is being discussed in the line of changes. More information will be brought forward in the coming months.

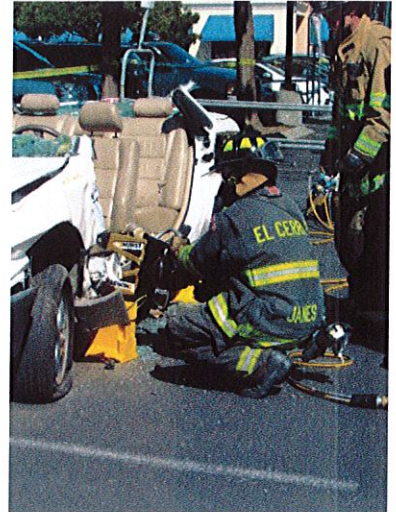
Statewide Fire Activity

As we are all aware, California has experienced the deadliest and most destructive wildfires in its history the last two years. Fueled by drought, an unprecedented buildup of dry vegetation and extreme winds, the size and intensity of these wildfires caused the loss of more than 100 lives, destroyed thousands of homes and exposed millions of urban and rural Californians to unhealthy air. While wildfires are a natural part of California's landscape, the fire season in California is starting earlier and ending later each year.

Fortunately, so far this year, while there have been almost 5,500 reported vegetation fires Statewide, only approximately 158,000 acres have burned with no direct fatalities and only 39 structures damaged or destroyed. Three of the major fires last year, the Carr Fire near Redding, the Camp Fire in Paradise and the Mendocino Complex fire each exceeded these statistics. However, while we are having cooler weather and a little rain, fire season has not ended. It helps to remember that the Oakland Hills Fire in 1991 started on October 19th.

Tri-City Safety Day

The Tri-City Safety Day was held on September 21st at the El Cerrito Plaza. Engine 365 was on display along with the Truck 171 and units from Richmond, Albany and East Bay Parks. El Cerrito PD and Albany PD were also there handing out information as well as volunteers from the El Cerrito / Kensington CERT program. The Fire Department had the Safety Trailer there and conducted a fire safety class every 30 minutes for numerous children and some parents. The highlight of the day was when the crews used the Jaws of Life to cut up a car that was donated for the demonstration.



New Hire

Joel Ferreira-Clifton was recently hired and started his career with the El Cerrito / Kensington Fire Department on Sunday September 15th as a probationary firefighter. Joel was working for the Mill Valley Fire Department and Marin County Fire Department prior to that. He has an extensive fire background as well as he spends free time working on and restoring cars. Joel will be a great asset to the Fire Department.

Fire Department Open House to Celebrate National Fire Prevention Week

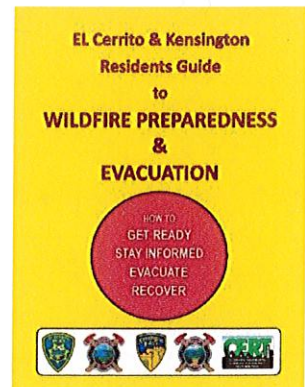
October 6 to 12 is National Fire Prevention Week. This year the theme adopted by the National Fire Prevention Associations is *"Not every hero wears a cape! Plan and Practice Your Escape!"* This ties into the Wildfire Evacuation Guide that was recently mailed to every household in the Kensington. The Department will hold its annual Open House on Saturday, October 12 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Kensington at Station 65. There will be treats and fire safety information available.

Get Ready! Be Ready! Wildfire Evacuation Guide

The El Cerrito & Kensington Wildfire Preparedness and Evacuation guide has been sent to every home and business in Kensington. The booklet was designed to help residents protect their family, home, and neighborhoods as we approach wildfire season. Please review the information in the packet and commit to improving our community's ability to withstand a wildfire or other emergency.

Register with the Contra Costa County Community Warning System

It can not be stressed enough the importance take a moment to register cell phones with the Contra Costa County Community Warning System (CWS). CWS will alert you when life-threatening incidents, like wildfire or power shutdowns, occur. www.cwsalerts.com



The Fire Plug



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Fire Prevention Week Plan and Practice Your Escape!

The National Fire Protection Association has declared this year's Fire Prevention Week to be—*Not Every Hero Wears a Cape, Plan and Practice Your Escape!*

There are many ways to prepare for and practice escaping a fire event.

First, prepare for a home fire. You may have less than two minutes to escape safely from the time a smoke alarm sounds. Draw the layout of your home, marking two exits from every room and a path from each exit to the outside. You can find free templates at the NFPA website: <https://www.nfpa.org/Public-Education/Staying-safe/Preparedness/Escape-planning>. Pick a meeting place outside in front of your home where everyone will meet. Review the plan with your entire family and practice your plan twice each year.

Next, prepare for neighborhood

evacuation during a wildfire event. In order to be notified of an evacuation, first sign up with the Contra Costa Community Warning System at



www.cococws.us. You must take this action in order to receive alerts. In addition, study the *Residents Guide to Wildfire Preparedness & Evacuation* that was mailed to all residents and businesses in early September. This document includes evacuation tips, how to prepare ahead of time and what actions should be taken at the time of evacuation. You can also find this booklet on our website at <http://www.kensingtonfire.org/safety-tips-resources>

Make a Plan to be Prepared!

Open House & Celebration!

KFPD will be holding its annual Fire Prevention Week Open House on **Saturday, October 12th** from



10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. at the Kensington Fire Station (217 Arlington Avenue). There will be lots of safety information on hand, 24-hour emer-

gency kits, fire hats for the kids and firefighters!

KFPD will be also be celebrating the renewal of its contract with the El Cerrito Fire Department with a celebratory cake cutting at **11:00 a.m.** KFPD and ECFD have been partners since 1995 and are excited to have extended this mutually beneficial agreement to 2030! Come join us!

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KFPD BOARD OF

DIRECTORS:

- Julie Stein, President
- Don Dommer, Vice President
- Larry Nagel, Secretary
- Janice Kosek, Director
- Kevin Padian, Director

KFPD STAFF:

- Michael Pignoni, Chief
- Brenda Navellier, Manager



Fall Shredding Event

KFPD's popular bi-annual shredding event will take place this fall on Saturday, **October 19th**.

This is a free event for Kensington residents only to dispose of unwanted, stockpiled flammable papers. The shredding event will take place in the parking lot next to the community center/library from **10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.**



All papers are shredded on site to protect confidentiality and there is no limit to the amount of shredding material that you may bring. It is not necessary to remove staples and paper clips; however, please remove papers from binders or binding materials.

If you have any questions about this community event, please contact us at (510) 215-4450.

Consider Your Neighbors and Park Safely

Based on an example from the Oakland Fire-safe Council, KFPD's Emergency Preparedness Committee has developed a Kensington "parking flyer" for use by Kensington residents. If you see a neighbor that is parked unsafely, you can download and print this flyer and put it on their windshield. Be

sure to allow 14 feet minimum roadway clearance at all times so that emergency responders can get through.

The flyer can be found on the KFPD website at: <http://www.kensingtonfire.org/parking-flyer-for-neighbors>

Pharmaceutical Drop Off Event

KFPD and KPPCSD are joining together to bring the residents of Kensington a pharmaceutical drop off on **Saturday, October 26, 2019**. This free event will take place at the Kensington Public Safety Building (217 Arlington Avenue) from **10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.**

This program is possible through the National Drug Enforcement Agency's "Drug Take Back Day" campaign to safely dispose of unnecessary medications. The National Prescription Drug

Take Back Day strives to provide a safe, convenient, and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating the general public about the potential for abuse of medications.

Fire and Police personnel will be available during the designated hours only to accept all unused or expired medications including narcotics, pills, syrups, inhalers, etc. Questions? Call (510) 215-4450.

CPR/First Aid Classes

Your KFPD will be offering a CPR/First Aid class to the community on **Saturday, November 2nd** at the El Cerrito Community Center in El Cerrito.



American Heart Association

life is why®

All classes are American Heart Association Heart Saver courses and are registered with Kaiser Per-

manente School of Allied Health Sciences.

Space is limited and priority registration is given to Kensington and El Cerrito residents.

Cost for residents is \$43 for CPR and \$86 for both CPR and First Aid.

Additional classes will be scheduled for the following year. You can sign-up by emailing fire@kensingtonfire.org or calling (510) 215-4450.

Public Safety Building Forum



The Kensington Fire Protection District will be hosting an informational forum on the status of the Public Safety Building (Station 65) on **Saturday, November 16th** from **9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.**

at the Arlington Community Church (52 Arlington Avenue) in Kensington.

KFPD owns and manages the Public Safety Building at 217 Arlington Avenue. The building was built in 1970 and has been renovated several times over its 49-year life. However, the Public Safety Building is not up to current codes including, and most importantly, to Essential Services stan-

dards. Currently the building is not designed to withstand a major earthquake. When we need our first responders most, many may be injured or trapped inside the sub-standard building. Correcting this problem triggers accessibility requirements within the first floor at a minimum if not throughout the entire building. In addition, interior overcrowding and shared spaces do not meet current code or legal standards for fire and police.

Prior to the public forum, KFPD will be holding an Open House on **Saturday, November 9th** from **10 a.m. to 12 noon** for tours of the Public Safety Building.

You can read extensive coverage on this topic in the October *Outlook*.

Year-Round Vegetation Management

The fall season is still prime fire season for California. Last year, KFPD personnel were responding to wildfires within the State as late as November. With the extreme fire danger in California, weed abatement standards should be observed all year long.

Here are some simple rules to abide by: Make sure to keep your grass mowed down, ensure that all bushes and trees are cut back away from your home (particularly your chimney), keep roofs and gutters clear of debris, and keep trees limbed-up.

Consider replacing hazardous plants (like junipers) with more fire resistant plants.

Kensington's vegetation management standards can be found at <http://www.kensingtonfire.org/fire-hazard-reduction-standards>



Protecting your home and community from the devastating effects of wildfire is the property owner's responsibility.

Kensington Evacuation Zones--Community Warning System

The Kensington Fire Protection District is currently working on an evacuation "polygon" plan. These polygons will divide the community into notification zones if the need for an evacuation rises within Kensington. This will allow the Contra Costa Community Warning System to evacuate Kensington in a controlled manner by affected zone or polygon instead of a mass warning to the entire community at once.

To further refine the plan, KFPD has also commissioned a traffic study of the Kensington community. The information gathered in

this study will be fed into the polygon program to create more accurate evacuation scenarios. The traffic study is currently projected to be completed in December at which time all information will be incorporated into the county Warning System.

None of this information will be useful to Kensington residents if you are not signed-up to receive notifications from the Contra Costa County Community Warning System. In order to be notified by CWS of an evacuation or other emergency alert, go to www.cococws.us



**KENSINGTON FIRE
PROTECTION DISTRICT**

Kensington Public Safety Building
217 Arlington Avenue
Kensington, CA 94708

Phone: (510) 527-8395
Fax: (510) 527-8396
E-mail: fire@kensingtonfire.org

*When in Doubt—
Call Us Out!*

We're on the Web!
www.kensingtonfire.org



Community Emergency Supply Program

The Kensington Fire Protection District has budgeted funds for CERT sheds to be located throughout the community. CERT Area Coordinators and other Community Group Representatives can apply for an emergency supply shed and contents.

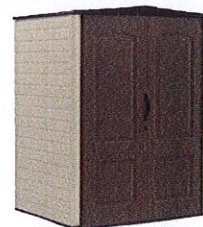
The application can be found on our website at:
<http://www.kensingtonfire.org/cert-community-emergency-response-team>

Download the application, fill it out and return to CERT program Coordinator, Joseph Grupalo at jgrupalo@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us.

Haven't taken your CERT training yet? Check our website soon for the

upcoming 2020 CERT schedule. CERT training can help you be better prepared to take care of yourself and your loved ones in the event of a major disaster in our community.

If you have any questions about the program or the application, contact Joseph Grupalo at 510-215-4353.



BOARD REPORTS

**MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 28, 2019 EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE MEETING
OF THE KENSINGTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT**

PRESENT: Directors: Kevin Padian and Larry Nagel
 Committee Members: Lisa Caronna, Cortis Cooper, Katie Gluck, Peter Guerrero, Peter Liddell, David Spath
 Staff: Brenda Navellier, Manager
 Absent: Paul Moss

CALL TO ORDER:

Director Padian called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m. All members were present except Paul Moss who was excused.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

None.

INTRODUCTIONS:

The Committee members introduced themselves.

FORMAT OF MEETINGS; BROWN ACT; COMMUNICATIONS:

The Committee discussed potential meeting places to accommodate the public. Navellier will create a directory of members.

Protocols of the Brown Act were discussed. One-way communication of information, listed as “for information only” is the only way to share findings with other committee members, and such communications cannot include recommendations for Committee or Board decisions. A quorum of the Committee is any five members. Regarding public communication, Committee members are encouraged to discuss their work and their findings with their neighbors; they do not discuss possible actions to be recommended to the Board; and they do not speak officially for the Committee or the Board. The Committee discussed a task-oriented system instead of subcommittees. Inquiries could be funneled to Padian and Nagel.

CHARGE OF THE COMMITTEE:

Director Padian read the relevant portion of KFPD Policy 1140 that included the committee’s charge. It was noted that KPPCSD does not have an Emergency Preparedness Committee but one Director that serves as an Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.

DIRECTIONS OF ACTIVITIES NEEDED, AND INTERRELATIONSHIPS AMONG THEM:

The activities of the Committee to date were discussed as a prelude to the directions of future activities by the new Standing Committee, and the relationships among the activities. The EPC has been working on advertisements and letters in *The Outlook*, a traffic study and a resident parking flyer. Navellier will contact KPPCSD to encourage use of the parking flyer.

1. Traffic Study: commissioned for the Board by the EPC, the consultants will map and measure the streets of Kensington and immediately adjacent streets; compile data on vehicle loads, traffic flows, street directions, and parking orientations; make recommendations about possible changes in traffic flow directions, parking orientations, and evacuation routes (good and bad); and provide their data to the evacuation polygon project designers. Using these data and recommendations, the Committee will present actions to the Board; the Board may elect to recommend to the County such changes as will be deemed necessary to insure safer traffic flow in case of evacuation. Guerrero recommended the consultants check with the County to ensure that their methods are consonant with County standards, so that their eventual recommendations will be recognized as valid.

2. Paths: A long-standing concern of the community that will be addressed in more depth at the next meeting.
3. Warning Systems: These include but are not limited to cameras, sensors and sirens. Because Kensington is so small, its roads are narrow and overloaded with vehicles, and much of its population is in need of early warning, pre-evacuation is seen as the most important priority. However, the District cannot invest in technology until it is clear who will control it, what the criteria are for activating it and personnel are trained. Directors Padian and Nagel will consultant County officials for answers.
4. CERT training and the institution of FireWise communities: Because residents will be largely on their own in case of a major fire or earthquake, neighborhood groups and training are critical to public safety. The EPC could take the lead at the neighborhood level to educate, provide help, identify new leaders, and help to organize meetings to raise consciousness.
5. Earthquake Preparedness: Fire preparedness and earthquake preparedness share common features, there are also distinct characteristics of each. Fire poses a more tangible immediate danger but it is just as important to educate residents about dealing with an earthquake. This will be addressed at a future meeting.

DEPLOYMENT OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS ON ACTIVITIES:

Spath and Caronna will spearhead the initiative on Paths. Directors Padian and Nagel will work with the County and Supervisor Gioia's office on the traffic study methodology, warning systems criteria and a regional approach to hazard mitigation within East Bay Regional Park District property. Gluck and Moss will investigate the logistics of sirens. Director Padian will discuss the topic of cell towers with County personnel. Publicizing and propagating CERT neighborhoods and FireWise communities will be under the purview of Director Nagel, along with Liddell, Cooper and Guerrero. Contributions to these efforts are fluid but cannot comprise of more than four members before recommendations are discussed in an open meeting.

DISCUSSION OF OTHER CONCERNS:

Encouraging a shift in priorities for mitigation work in Tilden Park was addressed at both the local and regional level. The topic of Fire Danger signs, to be placed at the intersection of Grizzly Peak and Beloit, and on the median strip of the Arlington south of the Public Safety Building, was discussed and will be on the Board's September agenda. The topic of providing emergency radios to all Kensington households, starting with a pilot program, should be investigated by the Committee at its next meeting before a possible Board recommendation.

OBJECTIVES FOR NEXT MEETING

A report on the paths; a discussion of emergency radios; and progress on the assigned items.

SCHEDULE FUTURE MEETINGS:

Several members will be absent during September. The Committee will try to schedule for late September.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

MINUTES PREPARED BY: Brenda J. Navellier

These minutes were approved at the Committee meeting of September 26, 2019.

Attest:

Emergency Preparedness Committee Member



Contra Costa Special Districts Association Newsletter

Contra Costa Chapter of the California Special Districts Association

October 2019 Quarterly Newsletter

October 21st Meeting Location

For our October meeting we will meet back at the Central Contra Costa Sanitary District Collection System Operations building (CSO) located at: 1250 Springbrook Road in Walnut Creek, Ca.

At the October meeting we will consider changing our current meeting times of quarterly to bimonthly. It is proposed that we change from January, April, July and October to January, March, May, July, September, and November.

The joint Alameda/ Contra Costa Chapter meeting was a success and we will also consider doing the same in 2020.

The October Speaker will be Jason Warner, General Manager Oro Loma Sanitary District. He will talk to us about the Horizontal Levee -an overview of lessons learned, and preliminary research findings from a full scale demonstration of one of the leading alternatives for sea rise response in the SF Bay Area and beyond.

At the January 27, 2020 meeting (our annual business meeting) we will have the Election of Officers - President, Vice President and Member at Large. If you are interested in becoming part of the chapter executive team contact Mike McGill chairperson on the nominating committee. At the January meeting we will also be voting on chapter bylaws amendments, and conduct other chapter business.

New LAFCO Office Location

Contra Costa LAFCO has moved! The office moved from Pine Street on Thursday July 18th, and they were up-and-running on Monday, July 22nd.

New Location:

Contra Costa LAFCO
40 Muir Road, 1st Floor
Martinez, CA 94553

Lou Ann Texeira phone: 925-313-7133

Executive Assistant Talbott phone: 925-313-7131

Did You Know?

There are 77 special districts in Contra Costa County. Of these, 42 are governed by locally elected boards and four have appointed boards; these 46 districts are referred to as "independent special districts." The remaining 31 special districts are governed either by the Board of Supervisors or appointed boards and are termed "dependent special districts."

We are always looking for Special District Highlights and News Stories!

The Contra Costa Special Districts Association welcomes information about your district, as either a speaker and/or presenter at a future meeting, or as a news story for our newsletter. If your district would like to present and be highlighted at a future meeting or can provide a news story please contact Stan Caldwell.

Senator Steve Glazer Receives Award

The Regional Parks Foundation & East Bay Regional Park District has selected Senator Glazer as the Radke Championing Advocacy Award recipient for 2019.

They are honoring Senator Glazer for my efforts to secure \$5 million for Del Valle Regional Parks, to protect the Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area (SRVA) to add the Tesla Expansion Area lands, and to ban smoking in state parks and on state beaches.

"The East Bay Regional Park District & Regional Parks Foundation values your leadership and continuous support for open space, state beaches and parks, and outdoor recreation throughout California."

East Bay 
Regional Park District

CSDA adopts support for SB268

The California Special Districts Association (CSDA) has adopted a support position on SB 268 (Wiener), related to local tax ballot measures. SB 268 will expand transparency for local tax measures while addressing recently enacted ballot label requirements that have proven to be problematic for bonds and tiered tax rate measures. The existing law is creating significant voter confusion and threatening districts ability to meet the public safety, health, flood protection, and other needs of California residents.

The Elections Code now requires local tax and bond measures to state on the ballot label: the amount of money to be raised annually; the rate of the tax to be levied; and the duration of the tax to be levied.

While these provisions were enacted with the intention of increasing transparency to voters regarding the costs of proposed ballot measures, they actually have resulted in less transparency because of voter confusion. The requirements have and will continue to have a detrimental effect on the ability of communities to pass local bonds and other local revenue measures by the required super majorities, including any tiered tax rates that incorporate social justice or other important public policy goals.

SB 268 will require a local measure that imposes or increases tiered tax rates, authorizes the issuance of bonds, or imposes a tax with a rate structure that cannot be accurately described in the ballot label, to include in the ballot label the words "See voter guide for information." The local tax measure would be exempted from the requirement to provide the rate, duration, and annual revenue in the ballot label, but would be required to include in the voter information guide key financial measures that include all those in existing law and more. Specifically: Public Benefits - How tax revenue will be spent to provide public benefits; Rates - A list of all the tax rates that would apply; Duration - An explanation of when or if the tax expires; Annual Revenue - Best estimate of annual tax revenue; this bill also would clarify that financial measures stated in the ballot label or in the voter information guide are estimates, and not caps above which a local jurisdiction would be subject to legal challenge.

SB 268 will protect the ability of local agencies and communities to support schools, roads, hospitals, flood protection, fire protection, and other vital public services, while ensuring accurate, clear cost information is provided to voters.

California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS)

The California Public Employees Retirement System (CalPERS) announced their preliminary investment returns for fiscal year 2018-19. The returns came in at a 6.7 percent return on investment for the year, just shy of their 7 percent goal, resulting in a total fund value of \$373 billion. CalPERS reported the returns as follows: Fixed Income program generated a 9.6 percent net return, followed by Private Equity and Public Equity net returns of 7.7 percent and 6.1 percent returns respectively.

What does this mean for your district if you are a CalPERS member? This means you can expect a moderate rate increase in 2021-22 to cover the 0.3 percent shortfall; the difference between the 6.7 percent return and 7 percent projected return. Only a few months ago CalPERS returns were as low as 1.62 percent, which would have resulted in significant increases in rates for employers who are already facing rate increases resulting from the gradual lowering of the discount rate to match future expected returns.

While CalPERS narrowly missed their target this year, they are taking steps to increase returns in future years through increased investment in private equity, which has regularly been a top earner for the CalPERS portfolio. With the increased returns potential from private equity comes greater risk of losses. That is a risk many CalPERS members have indicated they are willing to take to reduce their annual contribution rates.

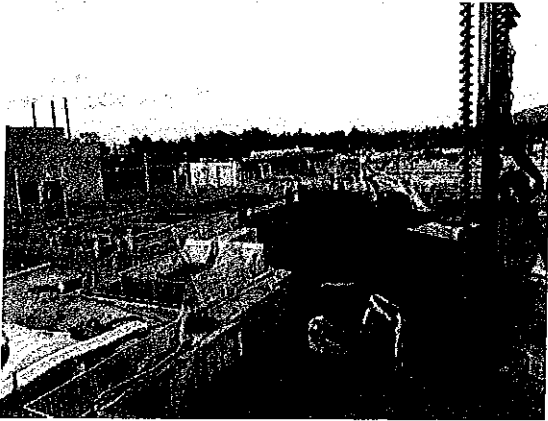
Ironhouse Sanitary District

Thank you to the Contra Costa County Taxpayers' Association (CoCo Tax) for awarding Ironhouse Sanitary District a Bronze Medal Award for Good Government at their The Good, the Bad & the Ugly Awards event on July 12th.



Primary Treatment Project to Increase Efficiency

The Dublin San Ramon Services District has started a major capital improvement project at the Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility in Pleasanton that will increase efficiency to improve the wastewater treatment process and reduce energy costs. The \$19 million project is the largest project undertaken by the District since a treatment plant expansion in 2000.



An aerial view of the demolished primary tank in May 2019.

Contractors began work in April on the Primary Sedimentation Expansion and Improvements Project, which will increase the primary treatment capacity by 33 percent. Construction is estimated to continue through fall 2021.

The grit tanks remove small material, such as gravel and sand, to protect equipment and prevent clogged pipes at the plant. Once the wastewater reaches the primary sedimentation step, scum is skimmed from the water's surface and solids are scraped from the bottom of each tank. From here, the sewage is split into two separate streams of treatment for liquids and solids.

Currently the primary treatment capacity is undersized for the facility's average dry weather flow of more than 10 million gallons a day. Insufficient primary treatment capacity can add stress to the next steps in the wastewater treatment process.

Once the project is complete, having two deeper tanks as well as improving the internal mechanism configuration will allow the wastewater to spend more time in the primary tanks, which will improve separation of solids and liquids. Removing solids earlier in the process will also help reduce energy use in secondary treatment.

The improvements will also enable the plant to send more solids to digesters that create biogas, a renewable fuel used to generate electricity to heat and power the plant. The expansion and improvements will provide the

needed primary treatment capacity for both current flows as well as anticipated community buildout.

Water-Wise Gardening Workshop

The public was invited to join a free water-wise gardening workshop from 6 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, July 31, in the Community Room at the Dublin Library.

FREE WATER-WISE WORKSHOP

Grow Your Garden

NOT YOUR WATER BILL

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 6-8 P.M.

DUBLIN LIBRARY, COMMUNITY ROOM
200 DAVIS PLAZA, DUBLIN, CA 94568

RSVP BY JULY 25 @ WWW.TRIVALLEY.WATERWISE.COM
QUESTIONS? CONTACT BLEVA@DSRSD.COM (925) 875-2294



LEARN ABOUT

- Designing your garden (what to do/what not to do)
- Low-water-use plants
- Irrigation 101

Presented by



Dublin San Ramon
Services District
A Partnership of Communities



GUEST SPEAKER

- Environmental Educator Frank Niccoli**
- Environmental horticulture instructor
 - Past president of the CA Landscape Contractors Association
 - Sustainable landscape management and native plants specialist

"Grow Your Garden—Not Your Water Bill," presented by the Dublin San Ramon Services District and Zone 7 Water Agency, served as a guide for residents looking to make their yards water-smart. Attendees learned about designing their garden (including what to do and what not to do), choosing plants that only need low-water use, plus irrigation tips and tricks.

Environmental educator Frank Niccoli is the featured speaker for the event. Niccoli is an environmental horticulture instructor, past president of the California Landscape Contractors Association, and a specialist in sustainable landscape management and native plants.

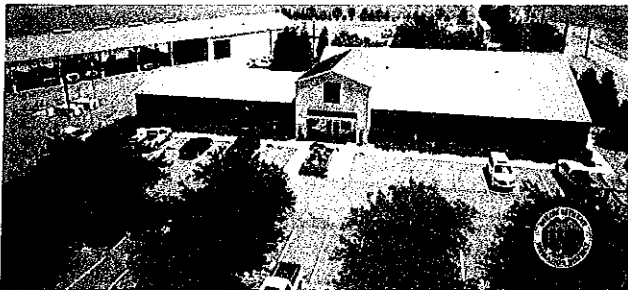


**Dublin San Ramon
Services District**

Water, wastewater, recycled water

District Consolidation One Step Closer to Reality for Byron-Bethany Irrigation District

Byron-Bethany Irrigation District (BBID) is a multi-county special district serving parts of Alameda, Contra Costa, and San Joaquin Counties across 47 square miles and 30,000 acres. The district serves 160 agricultural customers and more than 20,000 residents of the Mountain House community.



BBID also manages the West Side Irrigation District (WSID), which serves agricultural customers and provides raw water to the City of Tracy. BBID provides management services and operations & maintenance support to the Byron Sanitary District, which provides wastewater and sewer services to Byron residents.

June 13, 2019) - The proposed consolidation between the Byron-Bethany Irrigation District (BBID) and the West Side Irrigation District (WSID) took a significant step forward.

The San Joaquin County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) formally approved the updated Municipal Service Review (MSR) and Sphere of Influence (SOI) related to the consolidation. BBID and WSID have worked collaboratively with interested stakeholders in both service areas for quite some time. The planned consolidation would help secure greater water reliability and improve delivery efficiencies.

"We thank LAFCO staff and commissioners for their diligence throughout this process," said BBID GM Rick Gilmore. "We look forward to moving forward in the coming months."

Transparency Certificate of Excellence Awarded to Contra Costa Water District

The Contra Costa Water District received the District Transparency Certificate of Excellence by the Special District Leadership Foundation (SDLF) in recognition of its outstanding efforts to promote transparency and good governance.

BART plans to issue 2019 general obligation green bonds



BART is offering its third Green Bond issuance, certified by the Climate Bonds Initiative. BART plans to hold an early order period exclusively for individual in the counties of Alameda and Contra Costa, and the City and County of San Francisco. The Series 2019 Green Bonds are General Obligation Bonds secured by ad valorem property taxes collected in the three-county BART District.

The estimated \$600 million of proceeds from the sale of these Green Bonds represents a significant investment in climate-friendly mass transportation for the Bay Area. Bonds issued under Measure RR for the BART System Renewal Program will go toward continued work on improving BART's core infrastructure including track replacement, tunnel repair, station improvements and train control system upgrades. Bonds sold under Measure AA will finance new improvements to BART facilities or refinance prior projects completed as part of the Earthquake Safety Program. These projects include retrofitting the Transbay Tube and upgrading various portions of the BART system to ensure the safety of the public and BART employees and to prepare for a rapid return to operations after a major earthquake.

The bond issue meets the criteria established by the Climate Bonds Initiative relating to reporting and transparency and will finance projects that provide low-carbon transportation alternatives for Bay Area residents and reduce the impacts of climate change.

Green Bonds (also known as Climate Bonds) were popularized in 2010 as a method for raising capital for climate-friendly projects across the globe. In 2018, \$169 billion in Climate Bonds were issued worldwide according to the Climate Bonds Initiative, an international nongovernmental, nonprofit organization dedicated to stimulating investment in projects and assets supporting environmental sustainability. In 2017, BART was the first California transit agency to obtain third-party green bond certification.

Interpretive Center at the Los Vaqueros Reservoir

Did you know that Contra Costa Water District has an Interpretive Center out at the Los Vaqueros Reservoir? There are exhibits on the cultural history of the area, animals, and the unique role Los Vaqueros plays in providing you clean and healthy water. The center is open on weekends.

Announcing CASA's New Executive Director!



Adam Link new Executive Director for CASA



The California Association of Sanitation Agencies (CASA) is excited to announce the selection of CASA's new Executive Director! Following an open process, the Board of Directors was pleased to select Adam Link, CASA's current Director of Operations. Adam will assume the role in January upon Bobbi Larson's retirement.

CASA's President Traci Minamide noted, "This is a very exciting time for CASA. Adam's appointment is an affirmation of CASA's multi-year succession planning effort. He will provide a fresh leadership perspective while maintaining the high level of advocacy and service our members have come to expect."

Link has been with CASA for nearly seven years and managed numerous aspects of the organization including a variety of legal, regulatory and legislative initiatives. Prior to joining CASA, he was a practicing attorney focused on environmental and local government law. He holds degrees from the University of California, Santa Barbara and University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law.

Link will be working with current staff over the next several months to finalize a transition plan that ensures CASA will continue to provide excellent service to its members in the coming years. Congratulations, Adam, and well deserved!

Celebrating P2 Month in September

"Pollution Prevention" or "P2" is any practice that reduces, eliminates, or prevents pollution at its source (also known as "source reduction"). P2 is different and more desirable than recycling, treatment, and disposal, and it's one of the simplest and most effective keys to saving our resources and moving toward sustainability.



Have you seen the MVSD Pollution Prevention Billboard along I-680?

William Hollingsworth Award of Excellence

Each year, CSDA presents various awards during the CSDA Annual Conference & Exhibitor Showcase. There are several different categories to enter your district, chapter, and/or an individual. While an independent third-party selects nearly all of the winners in each category, the William Hollingsworth Award of Excellence is selected exclusively by the CSDA Board of Directors.

The CSDA Board may consider the following qualities and characteristics in individuals when selecting the recipient of this award:

- Leadership: Demonstrated significant leadership for special districts regionally or statewide over time;
- Collaboration: Actively worked to identify and implement programs and/or partnerships that benefit special districts regionally or statewide;
- Commitment: Dedicated a significant portion of their time, efforts, and/or career toward the advancement of special districts; and/or
- Advocacy: Advocated extensively on behalf of special districts regionally or statewide over time.



David McMurchie is the recipient of CSDA's 2019 William Hollingsworth Award of Excellence.

Some of you may recall that David's Father (Don McMurchie) also received the award in 2009 for his many years of service to CSDA, special districts, and SDRMA. Definitely a family committed to serving special districts and well-deserved recognition.

Congratulations to the 2019 CSDA board Member of the Year Award Winner

Each year, California Special Districts Association (CSDA) presents various awards during the CSDA Annual Conference & Exhibitor Showcase. There are several different categories including Board Member of the Year, this year the Board Member of the year was awarded to Stan Caldwell, Mt. View Sanitary District. The award was presented during the opening general session of the Annual Conference

East Bay Regional Parks News

The East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) has partnered with the City of Concord and the National Park Service to provide a new regional park in Concord on the former Concord Naval Weapons Station. The Concord Hills Regional Park is the working name for a world class regional park that will provide a full range of trail opportunities, wildlife preservation, and environmental and historic interpretation including a partnership with the National Park Service to develop a joint visitor center highlighting the history of the Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial.

More than 2,200 acres of former Concord Naval Weapons Station (CNWS) land in eastern Concord is now in the hands of the East Bay Regional Park District, which plans to make this land the center of a new park. The park district board voted on July 2 to accept 2,216 acres of land from the U.S. Navy.

Concord Hills Regional Park, which is envisioned to eventually comprise about 2,500 acres, is a major element of a redeveloped weapons station property.

Another 2,300 acres will be transferred to the city of Concord, whose Concord Community Reuse Project has been overseeing planning for housing, businesses, a college campus and other development.

This has been a years-long planning process, and build out is expected to take many more years. The inland portion - south of state Highway 4 - of the weapons station was closed in 2005. Most of the portion of the base north of Highway 4 became Military Ocean Terminal Concord, operated by the U.S. Army.

The District will pursue creative opportunities and collaborative partnerships to provide world-class environmental education and interpretation programs and facilities throughout the CNWS to preserve and share the unique natural, cultural, social, and military history of the CNWS and the Central Contra Costa County region.

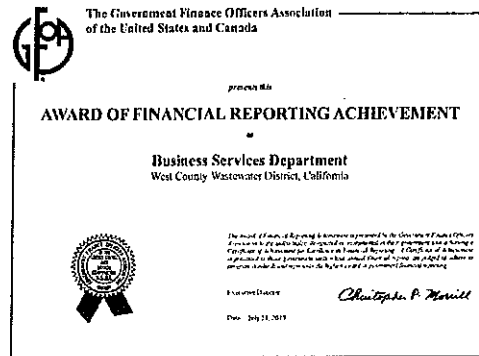


The East Bay Regional Park District has partnered with the National Park Service to develop a joint visitor center that will expand access to the Port Chicago Naval

Magazine National Memorial story and provide other natural and cultural interpretive opportunities.

The Visitor Center will interpret subjects including the history of Port Chicago during war and peace, and the area's natural history. The facility will be jointly operated by East Bay Regional Park District and the National Park Service.

West County Wastewater District receives Certificate of Achievement from Government Finance Officers Association



The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in financial reporting has been awarded to West County wastewater District by 'Government finance Officers Association for its comprehensive annual financial report for the fiscal year ended June 30 2018.

The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting it represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management. West County Wastewater received the Achievement Award for the District's 2018 Fiscal Year End Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

MVSD Manager Retires

Mt. View Sanitary District (MVSD) Manager Neal Allen retired September 16th. Assistant General Manager Lilia Corona was named to replace him as manager. An Ad Hoc Committee narrowed the field of perspective managers to five candidates and performing interviews the board of directors decided that Lilia would be best suited for the new role.



California Water Environmental Association's Community Engagement Chair Angela Lowrey Recognized by CAPIO with 2019 Communicator of the Year Award

The California Association of Public Information Officials (CAPIO) has named Angela Lowrey as the state's Communicator of the Year for 2019, recognizing her dedication to clean water education and resource recovery outreach, her overall expertise in the communications field, and for award-winning creativity in her work.

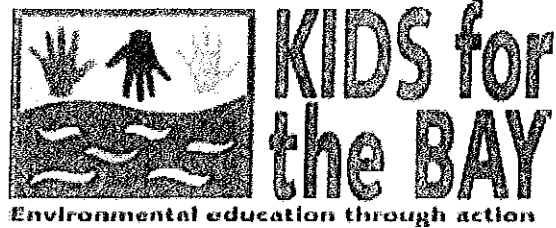
"Angela stood out this year for her time, energy, and the remarkable impact she's made for her agency, as well as the California communications field as a whole," said CAPIO President Christine Brainerd, APR and communications manager for the City of Folsom. "We chose Angela for her exceptional contributions to improve Delta Diablo's outreach efforts through public and media engagement. Her ongoing advancement of the profession made her the top choice for the 2019 Communicator of the Year."

Contra Costa Water District Board welcomes science fair winners

The future is bright for the water industry, as two students from De La Salle High School in Concord, California attended a recent CCWD Board meeting where they received certificates and monetary awards for their winning science projects. The students took second and third place in the Senior Division of the Water, Wastewater and Recycled Water Research category of the 2019 Contra Costa County Science and Engineering Fair for their water-related projects. The budding scientists were joined by their teacher and families at the Board meeting, as each student presented their projects to the audience before accepting their awards.



A Ten Years of Partnership Helping Local Students Become Inspired Environmentalists



Since 1992, KIDS for the BAY has been introducing San Francisco Bay Area elementary school students to the Bay watershed environment that we all share. For the past 10 years, Stege Sanitary District has been part of that mission, supporting local students and teachers and inspiring a new generation of environmentalists with an increased awareness of watershed stewardship. During its decade-long partnership with KIDS for the BAY, the District has helped over 500 students in the District understand that a healthy sewer system helps our creeks and our Bay. They learned that "FOGs" (Fats, Oil, and Grease) are dangerous to the sewer because they can harden clog pipes, and cause wastewater to overflow into neighborhood creeks, storm drains.

Kids for the Bay, Hands-on science and nature field trips are a big part of KIDS for the BAY's program of environmental awareness-ss. Whether students are investigating a striped bass fish, using satellite maps to create their own estuary model, studying the rocky shore habitat, bird-watching, or cleaning up 40 gallons of trash from Keller Beach in Richmond, students learn that everyone shares responsibility for protecting their environment.



Students from Madera Elementary School in El Cerrito at Keller Beach in Richmond. Left: Studying the rocky shore Habitat Right: Birdwatching.

As a condition of funding, the District worked with KIDS for the BAY to include a wastewater component to their Watershed Action Program.

New California Special Districts Association Board Members

The CSDA Board election was on August 13th and below are the individuals with the most votes in each network is listed below. There will be three new board members in 2020.

Northern Network (Seat B: Term = 2020-2022)
Greg Orsini, General Manager, McKinleyville
Community Services District (incumbent)

Sierra Network (Seat B: Term = 2020-2022)
Jerry Gilmore, Director, Truckee Sanitary District

Bay Area Network (Seat B: Term = 2020-2022)
Ryan Clausnitzer, General Manager, Alameda County
Mosquito Abatement District (incumbent)

Central Network (Seat B: Term = 2020-2022)
Lorenzo Rios, Chief Executive Officer, Clovis Veterans
Memorial District

Coastal Network (Seat B: Term = 2020-2022)
Jeff Hodge, SDA, General Manager, Santa Ynez
Community Services District (incumbent)

Southern Network (Seat B: Term = 2020-2022)
Kathy Tieg, Director, Cucamonga Valley Water District

New board members will take office on January 1, 2020 and will be invited to sit in and will be invited on upcoming CSDA Board meetings held September 6th and at the 2019 Annual Conference & Exhibitor Showcase.

2020 CSDA Committee & Expert Feedback Team Participation

CSDA's strength and effectiveness as an organization is directly related to our ability to involve members in the work of the association. Special districts board members and staff, as well as business affiliates bring tremendous talents and energy to CSDA and to the issues that concern special districts in California.

With this in mind, we are asking for volunteers to participate and contribute on one or more of our committees and/or expert feedback teams to assist in shaping CSDA. If you or any others from your district or company would like to get involved with CSDA, please go to our Get Involved page at CSDA.net (<https://www.csdanet/about-csda/get-involved>) to view a complete list of committees and expectations for committee member service.

New Fee on Special Districts Imposed by CalPERS Even if Your District is Not a CalPERS Member

The State Social Security Administrator (SSSA) will begin to assess fees to special districts and other public agencies that have a Section 218 Agreement. The fees are intended to cover the costs of administering the federal program on behalf of all local agencies. They will range from \$200 - \$2,500 per year based on number of employees and will be charged to agencies whether or not they are a CalPERS employer.

A Section 218 Agreement is a voluntary agreement between an agency and the Social Security Administration (SSA) to provide Social Security and Medicare Hospital Insurance (HI) or Medicare HI-only coverage for State and local government employees. These agreements are called "Section 218" Agreements because they are authorized by Section 218 of the Social Security Act.

CalPERS serve as the SSSA on behalf of all public agencies in California and have been operating up to this point using the interest that was earned from the Social Security and Medicare tax holding account. After 30 years the fund has now diminished, and it can no longer pay for the expenses required to continue to operate the SSSA. The Social Security Administration (SSA) does not provide any funding for the SSSA to operate. Additionally, the state Legislature does not allow CalPERS to use any retirement funds to cover expenses which are not related to the cost of the administration of the retirement system.

SSA regulations require each state to designate an official to administer that state's Section 218 Agreement. From 1955-1986, the SSSA was also responsible for collecting Social Security and Medicare withholdings for all public employers in California. The Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (OBRA) Bill of 1986 moved the responsibility of collecting taxes from the SSSA to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

As of July 1, 2019, there are two types of fees that are being assessed. The first fee is a contracting fee of \$650 to establish a new Section 218 Agreement or to amend an existing Section 218 Agreement for Social Security and/or Medicare coverage. The second fee is an annual maintenance fee for all employers that have an existing Section 218 Agreement. The annual maintenance fee is based on the number of employees currently employed with your agency.



Moorhen Marsh Receives Prestigious CASA Award

Mt. View Sanitary District is very pleased to announce that the Moorhen Marsh Western Pond Turtle Habitat Enhancement Project was awarded the prestigious Outstanding Capital Project by the California Association of Sanitary Agencies (CASA) for 2019.

Moorhen Marsh, constructed in 1974, was the first wetland on the West Coast to use treated effluent as its primary water source. MVSD produced the Moorhen Marsh Management Plan (2013), which called for significant improvements to the historic constructed treatment wetland.

These improvements became the recently completed Moorhen Marsh Western Pond Turtle Habitat Enhancement Project. The two-year project provided: 1) improvements including pond excavation/deepening, levee reconstruction, replacement of water control structures, wetland to riparian habitat enhancements, additional basking habitat for western pond turtles, and nesting habitat for herons, and 2) improved visitor access and facility upgrades, including a new ADA-compliant pathway and boardwalk, viewing platform, and additional improvements.



A western pond turtle basks in the sun at Moorhen Marsh.

amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

Special District Leadership Foundation is now a part of Amazon Smile.

Amazon Smile is the same Amazon you already know. The same products, same prices, same service, but with the added joy of supporting (SDLF)!

When you shop at Amazon Smile, Amazon will donate to Special District Leadership Foundation. Please go to Smile.amazon.com and select SDLF

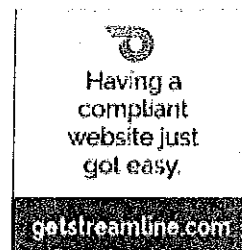
Central Contra Costa Sanitary District Awarded CASA Excellence in Public Outreach/Education

Pipe Protectors Student Education Program

The 2019 Awards of Excellence from the California Association of Sanitary Agencies (CASA) included the Excellence in Public Outreach/Education to Contra Costa Central Sanitary District for the Pipe Protectors Student Education Program. The Pipe Protectors was designed to fill a void in current wastewater student education, as Kindergarten through 2nd grade programming simply does not exist. As more of our schools fully transition to the Next Generation Science Standards, the need for high quality learning activities for all age groups becomes paramount.



As part of this effort, Central San wanted to create a program with accessible characters that young students could relate to. Central San felt it was especially important that our characters were representative of the heterogeneous community of students in our service area.



STREAMLINE

Streamline Web is the only content management system designed specifically for special districts, with a meeting dashboard, agenda reminders, transparency guidelines, and an easy to use interface. Stay compliant with all existing and upcoming State and Federal Website requirements. Visit their website:

<https://www.getstreamline.com/>



Please send your district news releases to stan_caldwell@comcast.net to keep us informed of all the exciting things your Special District is doing and to share your news with other districts by having it appear as an article in the next newsletter.

Mark your calendars with our future Chapter Meeting Date

~ January 27, 2020 ~

The January meeting will be our bi-annual elections of officers.

Plan to come early there will be a meet and greet opportunity to network, with refreshments available.

☛ Meeting begins at 10:00 AM

We will meet at the Central Contra Costa Sanitary District Collection System Operations building (CSO) located at: 1250 Springbrook Road in Walnut Creek, Ca.

We suggest you review a map for precise directions.

From I-680 Southbound

Follow I-680 South to Olympic Blvd in Walnut Creek, turn left at bottom of the ramp.

Continue on Olympic Blvd.

Take Alpine Rd on the left, and left on Mt Diablo Blvd

Turn right onto Camino Diablo then right onto Springbrook Rd

From I-680 Northbound

Follow I-680 N to Olympic Blvd in Walnut Creek.

Take the State Route 24/Olympic Blvd exit from I-680 N

Use the right lane to take the State Route 24/Olympic Blvd exit toward Oakland/Lafayette

Take Alpine Rd, Mt Diablo Blvd and Camino Diablo to Springbrook Rd

Contra Costa Special Districts Association
C/o Central Contra Costa Sanitary District
5019 Imhoff Place
Martinez, CA 94553

Central Contra Costa Sanitary District contact Suzette Crayton Email: scrayton@centralsan.org

Stanley Caldwell - President & Newsletter Editor - Email: stan_caldwell@comcast.net

Edward Duarte - Vice President - Email: duarte@dsrsd.com

Susan Morgan - Member at Large email: smorgan@equilytics.com

Bert Michalczyk Treasurer - Email: leedsourt@comcast.net

California Special Districts Association
1112 "I" Street, Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95814 877.924.2732

Our chapter has its own dedicated web site

<https://contracostasda.specialdistrict.org/>

Our chapter web page is powered by Streamline. Streamline is the host and creator of the web page. We thank them and appreciate the services they provide our chapter.