



RUNNING SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT
A MULTI-SERVICE INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICT

31242 Hilltop Boulevard • P.O. Box 2206
Running Springs, CA 92382

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS DATE POSTED: NOVEMBER 13, 2015
RE: REGULAR BOARD MEETING FROM: BOARD SECRETARY

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Running Springs Water District will be held on Wednesday, November 18, 2015, at the hour of 9:00 A.M. at the District Office located at 31242 Hilltop Boulevard, Running Springs, California. This agenda was posted prior to 5:00pm on November 13, 2015 at the Running Springs Water District Office and Website.

The Board may take action on any item on the agenda, whether listed as an action item or as an information item.

Upon request, this agenda will be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with disabilities, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. Any person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in a meeting should direct such request to Joan C. Eaton, Board Secretary at (909) 867-2766 at least 48 hours before the meeting, if possible.

Copies of documents provided to members of the Board for discussion in open session may be obtained from the District at the address indicated above.

AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance
2. Recognize and Hear From Visitors/Public Comment
3. Approval of Consent Items – The following consent items are expected to be routine and non-controversial and will be acted on at one time without discussion unless an item is withdrawn by a Board Member for questions or discussion. Any person wishing to speak on the consent agenda may do so by raising his/her hand and being recognized by the Board President.
 - A. Approve Meeting Minutes **Page 3**
 - B. Ratify October 2015 Expenditures **Page 12**
4. Action Items – The following action items will be considered individually and each **require a motion** by the Board of Directors for action.
 - A. Discussion on Measure B Next Steps and Consider Providing Additional Direction to Staff **Page 18**

November 18, 2015 Regular Board Meeting Agenda
Posted November 13, 2015

5. General Manager's Report
6. Report from Legal Counsel
7. Board Member Comments
8. Meeting Adjournment

Upcoming Meetings: Regular Board Meeting, December 16, 2015 at 9:00 am

RUNNING SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 18, 2015
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Ryan Gross, General Manager
SUBJECT: CONSIDER APPROVING MEETING MINUTES

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Directors review and approve the attached meeting minutes.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

Approval of meeting minutes.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The attached draft meeting minutes are from the Regular Board Meeting that was held on October 21, 2015.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Draft October 21, 2015 Meeting Minutes

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS RUNNING SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
OCTOBER 21, 2015**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Running Springs Water District was held on Wednesday, October 21, 2015 at the hour of 9:00 A.M. at the District office located at 31242 Hilltop Boulevard, Running Springs, California.

The following Directors were present:

Kenneth Ayers, President
Everett “Ed” Brittain, Vice-President
Mike Terry, Director
Henry Heredia, Director
Pamella Bennett, Director

Also present were the following:

Ryan Gross, General Manager
Joan C. Eaton, Secretary/Treasurer/Administration Supervisor
George Corley, Fire Chief
Dixi Willemse, Fire Department Administration Assistant
Trevor Miller, Wastewater Treatment Division Supervisor
Ward Simmons, Legal Counsel, Best, Best & Krieger
Brian Thomas, Engineer, Engineering Resources

Visitors Present:

Tony Grabow, Running Springs Fire Department Retired Fire Chief

MEETING MINUTES

AGENDA ITEMS

1. Call Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 A.M. by President Ayers and Director Bennett led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

2. Recognize and Hear From Visitors/Public Comment

Visitor Tony Grabow, Retired Fire Chief was introduced for the record.

3. Public Hearing and Consideration to Allow or Overrule any or all Objections or Protests to the Proposed Removal of Weeds and/or Wastes that have been Declared as a Public Nuisance

- A. **Open Public Hearing:** The Public Hearing was opened at 9:05 A.M. by President Ayers.
- B. **Fire Chief's Report:** Chief Corley had no comments regarding the Hazard Abatement Program and Manager Gross stated this is formality for the Public Hearing.
- C. **Written Objections or Protests:** Manager Gross confirmed there were no visitors present for the Public Hearing. Manager Gross said the District received one written email correspondence from a property owner that was not a protest and the Fire Department will resolve the issue.
- D. **Oral Objections or Protests:** None received.
- E. **Board Discussion:** Administration Assistant Willemse confirmed that due to time constraints, the properties listed in Exhibit A include all previous Hazard Abatement properties that were cited. Ms. Willemse said there were 148 properties who have received a second notice out of 1170 notices mailed and almost one-third have already complied. The Fire Department works closely with property owners to achieve compliance regarding Hazard Abatement.
- F. **Close Public Hearing:** The Public Hearing was closed at 9:12 A.M. by President Ayers.
- G. **Consider allowing or overruling any or all objections or protests to the proposed removal of weeds and/or wastes that have been declared a public nuisance, whereupon the Board of Directors shall acquire jurisdiction to proceed and perform the work of removing the public nuisance.**

No action required

4. Approval of Consent Items

The following consent items were listed for approval:

- A. **Approval of Meeting Minutes for the September 16, 2015 Regular Board Meeting.**
- B. **Ratify September 2015 Expenditures**
- C. **Ratify Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Budget Expenditure for Grit Chamber Air Lift Pump Repairs**

Director Bennett said she was impressed that the Air Lift Pump lasted forty years and Supervisor Miller explained the pump operation.

- D. **Authorize Staff to Proceed with Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Budgeted Expenditures at Treatment Plant and Ponds**

Upon motion by Director Heredia, second by Director Terry and carried by a 5 to 0 vote, the Expenditures were Ratified and Authorized and the Consent Items were approved.

5. Action Items

A. Consider Approving Budget Amendment for Wastewater Treatment Plant Membrane Bio-Reactor (MBR) Improvements

Manager Gross said Supervisor Miller has been successful in cutting costs at the Treatment Plant and he reported on the Bio-Reactor Membranes that require replacement and were included in the 2015/2016 Wastewater Treatment Plant Budget. Supervisor Miller requested a Budget Amendment and authorization to purchase and install five (5) Ovivo OV960 Submerged Membrane Units (SMUs) in lieu of purchasing 900 type “510” Membrane Cartridges and to authorize the General Manager to execute an agreement with Ovivo for the validation of the OV960 Submerged Membrane Units. Supervisor Miller reported on new technology and the validation process of stacking two (2) of the new style OV480 SMUs to create the OV960 SMU that will produce higher permeate flows with a reduction in energy consumption. If approved, the validation process will run for six (6) months and if the OV960s do not perform as outlined in the performance guarantee, the only financial obligation to Ovivo will be the first installment of \$175,000 and the District would retain all equipment as outlined in the agreement. The total cost for the purchase and installation of five (5) Ovivo OV960 SMUs will be \$436,200 (\$405,000 for the purchase of the SMUs and \$31,200 for ancillary equipment and installation labor) and Supervisor Miller provided cost tables for the District and Upstream users and the Budget Summary regarding CIP Account 12250 for the project. There will be labor and energy usage cost savings for the District estimated to be approximately \$565,580 due to the improved efficiencies of the OV960 over the ten (10) year expected life of the membranes. This cost does not include the additional savings that would also be achieved from eliminating the need to fill the vacant Treatment Plant Operator positions which is approximately \$56,000 per year in salary and benefits. Supervisor Miller confirmed there is a facility in North Carolina that utilizes this system with success and Manager Gross also discussed the system with a colleague who has membrane expertise and he highly recommended the system. Discussion continued and Manager Gross stated with project approval, the committed \$206,200 funds will be a combination of the \$98,400 budgeted amount, Upstream Users share of \$14,337 from Arrowbear, \$20,213 from CSA-79 and the remaining \$73,250 funds from the Wastewater Treatment Connection and Capacity Fund and after July 2016, the District will fund the remaining \$230,000 with the 2016/2017 Capital Improvement Budget. Manager Gross said the project will pay itself back in three (3) years and the ten (10) year savings is approximately \$500,000 with Supervisor Miller saying the District may qualify for incentives.

Upon **motion** by Vice-President Brittain, **second** by Director Heredia and **carried by a 5 to 0 vote**, the Budget Amendment for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Membrane Bio-Reactor (MBR) Improvements, was approved.

B. Consider Providing Additional Direction to Staff on Draft Upstream User Agreements

Manager Gross reported on the 1977 Wastewater Transportation, Treatment and Disposal Agreements (Upstream User Agreements) with Arrowbear Park County Water District (APCWD) and County Special District (CSA-79) that expires on January 20, 2017 and May 9, 2017 respectively and he stated the Ad Hoc Committee has drafted a replacement agreement that has been reviewed by Best, Best and Krieger, Legal Counsel. The new terms propose basing the cost on the proportionate share of Equivalent Dwelling Units (EDU) or what is connected to the system. The District is required to have a Wastewater Treatment and Disposal System designed to handle the capacity of what is connected and the District believes this is the reasonable way to proportion the cost share for the capital improvements and fixed costs. Manager Gross said he has been corresponding with APCWD's General Manager and the Directors of CSA-79.

The Board provided General Manager Gross with additional direction to revise the Upstream User Agreement and resubmit to the Arrowbear Park County Water District and County Special District CSA-79.

The Board recessed at 10:54 A.M. and reconvened at 11:04 A.M.

C. Consider Authorizing Staff to Proceed with Budgeted Expenditure for Replacement of Medical Aid Ambulance 51A (MA51A)

Chief Corley reported on the MA51A Medical Aid Ambulance that is twenty (20) years old, has reached the end of its useful life and will be sold at auction. Replacement of the MA51A is budgeted in Fiscal Year 2015/2016 for \$185,000 with equipment and tax. Pricing for a replacement ambulance was received from three (3) vendors with the low bidder Emergency Vehicle Group, Inc. quoting \$181,865. If approved, the expenditure will be funded from the Fire Department Equipment Replacement Reserve Fund with a current balance of approximately \$158,000 and a combination of the Breathing Apparatus and Operating Reserve Funds with a combined balance of approximately \$678,000. Chief Corley said alternatively, the District could pay a portion of the cost and finance the remaining portion through Municipal Finance Corporation with a low interest rate of 2.75% to 3.5%. Discussion continued regarding financing the ambulance purchase and Retired Fire Chief Grabow confirmed there are no grants available for rolling Fire Department equipment.

Upon **amended motion** by Director Bennett, **second** by Vice-President Brittain and **carried by a 5 to 0 vote**, Authorizing Staff to Proceed with Budgeted Expenditure for Replacement of Medical Aid Ambulance 51A (MA51A) Purchasing the New Ambulance and Financing \$35,000 Only if Measure B Fails, was approved.

D. Consider Authorizing Staff to Proceed with Budgeted Expenditure for Replacement of Comet Billing/Accounting System

Supervisor Eaton reported that in 2014, the Administration Division Financial Operations were assessed by an outside consultant who recommended that the District pursue a new accounting and billing software system capable of Governmental Fund Accounting and to replace the current antiquated system for increased efficiencies. Administration staff has been diligently researching accounting software and received the lowest proposal from Tyler Technologies for their Incode System in the amount of \$68,008.76 including \$13,000 for the server upgrade. The new accounting software expenditure was included in the Fiscal Year 2015/2016 Water, Wastewater and Fire Department Budgets for a total of \$98,500. The Tyler-Incode proposal is approximately \$20,000 less than budgeted but Administration is requesting consideration of the full budget amount should additional funds be required during the conversion. Supervisor Eaton stated the conversion will take approximately nine (9) months and will be consistent with the new 2016/2017 Fiscal Year and she confirmed the Tyler-Incode customer references were all exceptional. Manager Gross said the conversion will be challenging but the new General Ledger Accounting System will be streamlined and also integrate with the upcoming Electronic Meter Reading System. Best, Best and Krieger is currently reviewing the Tyler Technologies Contract to ensure everything is incorporated in the final agreement. Supervisor Eaton confirmed that Tyler Technologies, Sunny Kim, Financial Consultant and Grant Foraker, Comet System Administrator will be involved in the conversion process and we do not expect to hire additional outside support. Supervisor Eaton said Tyler Technologies anticipates the system will last ten (10) years before an upgrade will be required.

Upon **motion** by Director Heredia, **second** by Director Terry and **carried by a 5 to 0 vote**, Authorizing Staff to Proceed with the Budgeted Expenditure up to \$98,500 for Replacement of Comet Billing/Accounting System, was approved.

E. Consider Awarding Contract for Sewer Pipeline Point Repair

Manager Gross reported in Supervisor Hall's absence regarding the 2015 Sewer Pipeline Point Repair Project. During the annual inspection of sewer pipelines, a hole was discovered in the CalTrans Right of Way in Downtown Running Springs. CalTrans will be paving the area in the coming weeks so this repair should be completed as soon as possible. Three (3) bids were received with Professional Pipe Services being the low bidder in the amount of \$5,500 + \$1800 for additional section if required, and using the Ultraviolet (UV) Cure Process that is completed within one (1) day. The funding source will be the Wastewater Collections O&M Account 55010 which includes \$10,500 for miscellaneous and emergency repairs. Professional Pipe has the most experience with spot repairs and Manager Gross said they are comfortable with this company completing the work.

Upon motion by Director Bennett, second by President Ayers and carried by a 5 to 0 vote, Awarding the Contract to Professional Pipe Services for the Sewer Pipeline Point Repair, was approved.

6. Information Items

A. Quarterly Capital Improvements Project Report

Manager Gross reported that the Ayers Acres Groundwater Well Project is 51% complete and total payments received to date are \$348,395 with expected completion to be late fall 2015. The first debt service payment was made to Municipal Finance Corporation in September 2015. The Infrastructure R&R customer charge of \$1.88 per month began in July 2015 and \$69,080 has been collected to date for debt service reserve. Manager Gross stated there have been no major problems and no significant change orders were required regarding this project and he said the area is secured should we experience significant rainfall this season.

The Sewer Lift Station Nos. 1, 2 & 3 Improvement Project is approximately 20% complete and \$437,549 has been paid to date with the expected completion projected for spring 2016 due to a few delays. The annual debt service payments of \$169,143 will begin in July 2017 and the Infrastructure R&R Charge of \$2.25 per month per customer began in July 2015 with approximately \$102,000 collected to date for the debt service reserve. The existing Treatment Plant Loan will be paid off in March 2017 and the District will revisit the \$3.00 per month per customer fee in 2017. The District has \$526,000 in the Wastewater CIP and Capacity Reserves and \$218,000 is expected from the next CWSRF Reimbursement Check. Manager Gross confirmed that the easement acquisition to the Sewer Lift Station Project has been finalized.

B. Quarterly Budget/Financial Update

Manager Gross distributed and summarized the revised quarterly reports stating the CalPERS GASB 68 reports delayed the year end reporting and an accounting adjustment of approximately \$40,000 affected the quarterly Water Division revenue and will be corrected in October, 2015.

Regarding the Wastewater Division Fund Balance, Manager Gross noted the CWSRF Reimbursement Check will go back into the Capital Improvement Reserve Fund Account replacing the payments for the Lift Station Improvement Project. The Wastewater System Capacity Fund will also be reduced by the approval today of the MBR Improvements.

The Fire Department Future Equipment Fund will also be reduced with Board approval of the new Ambulance.

Manager Gross closed by saying staff will propose to utilize Assessment District No. 9 and No. 10 Funds to implement the new Electronic Water Meter Reading System.

C. Quarterly Investment Report

D. Water Production and Precipitation Report

7. General Manager’s Report

Manager Gross reported that Zev Negal with the David Oved Retreat Camp has requested that the Running Springs Water District consider taking over operation of their Treatment Facility. The Board concurred that the Running Springs Water District would not consider this request.

8. Report from Legal Counsel

Attorney Simmons had no further report.

9. Board Member Comments

President Ayers distributed written publications and reported on the article from the Press Enterprise regarding recycled wastewater offered to residential users. President Ayers also provided publication from the State Water Resources Control Board regarding Frequently Asked Questions on Mandatory Consolidation or Extension of Service for Water Systems and discussion continued regarding consolidation of Public Water Systems.

Vice-President Brittain reported on the October 14, 2015 Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) Meeting regarding the Preliminary Feasibility Study for the proposed Rim of the World Incorporation. The Feasibility Study states Rim of the World could face severe financial challenges and LAFCO and the County of San Bernardino have no position. The costs to Rim of the World would be approximately \$14,000 for LAFCO fees and between \$14,000 and \$200,000 to complete a detailed study and Vice-President Brittain said he felt the proposed incorporation stopped right there. Discussion continued regarding redevelopment.

The next Running Springs Water District Board Meeting will be held on November 18, 2015.

10. Meeting Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 12:32 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

President, Board of Directors

Secretary of the Board of Directors

Running Springs Water District

Running Springs Water District

RUNNING SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 21, 2015
TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Ryan Gross, General Manager
SUBJECT: RATIFY OCTOBER 2015 EXPENDITURES

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

It is recommended that the Board of Directors review the attached accounts payable check register and ratify the District's October 2015 expenditures.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

Each month staff presents the monthly check register and recommends that the Board of Directors ratify the District's expenditures.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Attached is a list of expenditures for October 2015.

FISCAL INFORMATION

Refer to attached accounts payable check register.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Accounts Payable Check Register for October 2015

SYSTEM DATE: 11/03/2015
 SYSTEM TIME: 10:03:29
 POSTING DATE: 10/30/15

RUNNING SPRINGS WTR
 M T D B O A R D S U M M A R Y
 Friday October 30,2015

GENERAL LEDGER DISTRIBUTION SUMMARY

ORG G/L ACCT CODE NUMBER VEND# NAME	INVOICE #	TR CODE	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT
01 HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT						
10510 ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE-CUSTOMERS WELFA WELLS FARGO BANK	10/22/15 CUST REFUND	BI	139.40	CUSTOMER REFUND	139.40	
	AMOUNT TO BE POSTED		139.40		139.40 NET	
20110 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE						
ABERG ROBERT ABERG	10/9/15 REIMB CLAIM	BI	273.98	PAYMENT AMOUNT		273.98
ACTIO ACTION AUTOMOTIVE REPAIR	35372	BI	71.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		71.00
AFLAC AFLAC	010649	BI	616.66	PAYMENT AMOUNT		616.66
AIRGA AIRGAS USA, LLC	9926245882	BI	17.54	PAYMENT AMOUNT		17.54
AMERI AMERIPRIDE SERVICES, INC.	9/30/15 STATEMENT	BI	146.72	PAYMENT AMOUNT		146.72
ARRO LAKE ARROWHEAD SECURITY	782554	BI	120.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		120.00
ARROW ARROWBEAR PARK COUNTY WAT	SEPTEMBER 2015	BI	2905.60	PAYMENT AMOUNT		2905.60
ARRW READY FRESH	05I0029508470	BI	19.69	PAYMENT AMOUNT		19.69
ASBSD ASSOCIATION OF SAN BERNAR	10/19/15 SPC DIST MT	BI	32.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		32.00
AWWA AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSO	7001088363	BI	420.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		420.00
BACON BACON/WAGNER EXCAVATING,	12259	BI	736.50	PAYMENT AMOUNT		736.50
BACON BACON/WAGNER EXCAVATING,	12268	BI	21013.25	PAYMENT AMOUNT		21013.25
BACON BACON/WAGNER EXCAVATING,	12276	DM	8.41	PAYMENT AMOUNT		8.41
BACON BACON/WAGNER EXCAVATING,	12276	CM	8.41-	PAYMENT AMOUNT	8.41	
BACON BACON/WAGNER EXCAVATING,	12276 - BALANCE PMT	BI	7952.76	PAYMENT AMOUNT		7952.76
BACON BACON/WAGNER EXCAVATING,	12276 - BALANCE PMT	CM	8.41-	PAYMENT AMOUNT	8.41	
BACON BACON/WAGNER EXCAVATING,	CHNG ORDER 12276	BI	1092.50	PAYMENT AMOUNT		1092.50
BACON BACON/WAGNER EXCAVATING,	CHNG ORDER 12276	DM	54.62	PAYMENT AMOUNT		54.62
BACON BACON/WAGNER EXCAVATING,	CHNG ORDER 12276	CM	109.24-	PAYMENT AMOUNT	109.24	
BARR BARR DOOR, INC.	24807	BI	2990.88	PAYMENT AMOUNT		2990.88
BB&K BEST, BEST & KRIEGER LLP	757621	BI	1261.64	PAYMENT AMOUNT		1261.64
C&E C & E SUPPLY	4009	BI	470.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		470.00
CCO CALIFORNIA COMPUTER OPTIO	18336	BI	1800.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		1800.00
CCO CALIFORNIA COMPUTER OPTIO	18818	BI	1229.92	PAYMENT AMOUNT		1229.92
CHART CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS	OCTOBER 15	BI	649.14	PAYMENT AMOUNT		649.14
CHRT2 CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS	OCTOBER 15	BI	186.86	PAYMENT AMOUNT		186.86
CHRT3 CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS	OCTOBER 2015 BILLING	BI	74.97	PAYMENT AMOUNT		74.97
CLAWA CRESTLINE-LAKE ARROWHEAD	9/29/15 STATEMENT	BI	27712.33	PAYMENT AMOUNT		27712.33
CLINI CLINICAL LABORATORY	946156	BI	970.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		970.00
CORLE GEORGE CORLEY	10/7/15 REIMB CLAIM	BI	411.71	PAYMENT AMOUNT		411.71
COUAS SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY	106814	BI	2.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		2.00
COUN1 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO	18571	BI	84.04	PAYMENT AMOUNT		84.04
COUNT COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO	050012	BI	46.73	PAYMENT AMOUNT		46.73
CWEA CALIFORNIA WATER ENVIRONM	NIKAS/MEMBR/GRD1 REN	BI	245.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		245.00
CWEA CALIFORNIA WATER ENVIRONM	WINTER-MEMBER 15-16	BI	164.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		164.00
DIXIE DIXI WILLEMSE	10/7/15 REIMB CLAIM	BI	375.13	PAYMENT AMOUNT		375.13
DIXIE DIXI WILLEMSE	9/30/15 REIMB CLAIM	BI	80.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		80.00
DOMIN DOMINIC MISTRETТА	10/21/15 REIMB	BI	27.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		27.00
DOMIN DOMINIC MISTRETТА	10/21/15 REIMB CLAIM	BI	23.17	PAYMENT AMOUNT		23.17

SYSTEM DATE: 11/03/2015
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RUNNING SPRINGS WTR
 M T D B O A R D S U M M A R Y
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GENERAL LEDGER DISTRIBUTION SUMMARY

ORG G/L ACCT CODE NUMBER VEND# NAME	INVOICE #	TR CODE	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT
01 HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT						
20110	(CONTINUED)					
E0014 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/26/15 STATEMENT	BI	27.15	PAYMENT AMOUNT		27.15
E1111 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/26/15 STATEMENT	BI	110.32	PAYMENT AMOUNT		110.32
E1141 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/25/15 STATEMENT	BI	705.31	PAYMENT AMOUNT		705.31
E1489 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/26/15 STATEMENT	BI	124.44	PAYMENT AMOUNT		124.44
E1497 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/25/15 STATEMENT	BI	30.31	PAYMENT AMOUNT		30.31
E1566 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/25/15 STATEMENT	BI	356.07	PAYMENT AMOUNT		356.07
E1690 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/29/15 STATEMENT	BI	156.43	PAYMENT AMOUNT		156.43
E3583 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/29/15 STATEMENT	BI	304.79	PAYMENT AMOUNT		304.79
E3586 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/26/15 STATEMENT	BI	288.79	PAYMENT AMOUNT		288.79
E4412 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/29/15 STATEMENT	BI	69.75	PAYMENT AMOUNT		69.75
E7092 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/26/15 STATEMENT	BI	167.98	PAYMENT AMOUNT		167.98
E7246 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	10/2/15 STATEMENT	BI	190.40	PAYMENT AMOUNT		190.40
E7316 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/25/15 STATEMENT	BI	106.96	PAYMENT AMOUNT		106.96
E7393 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/26/15 STATEMENT	BI	235.54	PAYMENT AMOUNT		235.54
E7555 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/25/15 STATEMENT	BI	618.60	PAYMENT AMOUNT		618.60
E7688 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/25/15 STATEMENT	BI	596.11	PAYMENT AMOUNT		596.11
E8017 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/29/15 STATEMENT	BI	132.24	PAYMENT AMOUNT		132.24
E8067 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/26/15 STATEMENT	BI	8530.48	PAYMENT AMOUNT		8530.48
E8166 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/29/15 STATEMENT	BI	241.12	PAYMENT AMOUNT		241.12
E8174 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/29/15 STATEMENT	BI	32.96	PAYMENT AMOUNT		32.96
E8306 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	10/1/15 STATEMENT	BI	11.17	PAYMENT AMOUNT		11.17
E8561 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/29/15 STATEMENT	BI	428.58	PAYMENT AMOUNT		428.58
E8777 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/29/15 STATEMENT	BI	313.56	PAYMENT AMOUNT		313.56
E8942 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/26/15 STATEMENT	BI	134.04	PAYMENT AMOUNT		134.04
E9049 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/26/15 STATEMENT	BI	559.77	PAYMENT AMOUNT		559.77
E9133 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/25/15 STATEMENT	BI	491.65	PAYMENT AMOUNT		491.65
E9572 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/26/15 STATEMENT	BI	192.63	PAYMENT AMOUNT		192.63
E9614 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISO	9/29/15 STATEMENT	BI	412.28	PAYMENT AMOUNT		412.28
EATON JOAN C. EATON	9/25/15 REIMB	BI	205.57	PAYMENT AMOUNT		205.57
ELLSB RICK ELLSBERRY	10/22/15 REIMB	BI	500.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		500.00
EMPIR EMPIRE INSTRUMENT COMPANY	19129	BI	1770.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		1770.00
ENDRE ENDRESS + HAUSER, INC.	6001733741	BI	1188.97	PAYMENT AMOUNT		1188.97
ENGIN ENGINEERING RESOURCES	46171	BI	2365.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		2365.00
ENGIN ENGINEERING RESOURCES	46173	BI	1547.50	PAYMENT AMOUNT		1547.50
ENGIN ENGINEERING RESOURCES	46174	BI	3780.16	PAYMENT AMOUNT		3780.16
ENGIN ENGINEERING RESOURCES	46175	BI	1257.50	PAYMENT AMOUNT		1257.50
ENGIN ENGINEERING RESOURCES	46190	BI	725.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		725.00
ENGIN ENGINEERING RESOURCES	46191	BI	1015.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		1015.00
ENGIN ENGINEERING RESOURCES	46192	BI	2567.17	PAYMENT AMOUNT		2567.17
ENGIN ENGINEERING RESOURCES	46193	BI	725.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		725.00
EVANS EVANS-HYDRO, INC.	65904	BI	6279.01	PAYMENT AMOUNT		6279.01
EVANS EVANS-HYDRO, INC.	65905	BI	6225.01	PAYMENT AMOUNT		6225.01
FEDER FEDERAL EXPRESS CORPORATI	5-186-66518	BI	24.14	PAYMENT AMOUNT		24.14
FOX FOX OCCUPATIONAL MEDICAL	131085-63910	BI	35.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		35.00

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 M T D B O A R D S U M M A R Y
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GENERAL LEDGER DISTRIBUTION SUMMARY

ORG G/L ACCT CODE NUMBER VEND# NAME	INVOICE #	TR CODE	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT
01 HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT						
20110	(CONTINUED)					
G3001 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS C	10/8/15 STATEMENT	BI	45.35	PAYMENT AMOUNT		45.35
G3005 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS C	10/8/15 STATEMENT	BI	90.17	PAYMENT AMOUNT		90.17
G6003 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS C	10/9/15 STATEMENT	BI	23.41	PAYMENT AMOUNT		23.41
G7378 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS C	10/7/15 STATEMENT	BI	31.01	PAYMENT AMOUNT		31.01
G8006 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS C	10/6/15 STATEMENT	BI	47.26	PAYMENT AMOUNT		47.26
GALSQ GALLS/QUARTERMASTER	004085755	BI	77.74	PAYMENT AMOUNT		77.74
GALSQ GALLS/QUARTERMASTER	004085756	BI	75.16	PAYMENT AMOUNT		75.16
GALSQ GALLS/QUARTERMASTER	004176047	BI	77.74	PAYMENT AMOUNT		77.74
GALSQ GALLS/QUARTERMASTER	004176048	BI	87.36	PAYMENT AMOUNT		87.36
GALSQ GALLS/QUARTERMASTER	004218317	BI	77.10	PAYMENT AMOUNT		77.10
GOLD GOLD COAST ENVIRONMENTAL	11257	BI	2509.22	PAYMENT AMOUNT		2509.22
HAZ HAZ MAT TRANS INC	66995	BI	700.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		700.00
HAZ HAZ MAT TRANS INC	67019	BI	1725.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		1725.00
HILL HILLTOP AUTO SUPPLY	9/30/15 FIRE	BI	172.36	PAYMENT AMOUNT		172.36
HILL HILLTOP AUTO SUPPLY	9/30/15 WATER STATEM	BI	2.76	PAYMENT AMOUNT		2.76
HILLG HILLTOP GEOTECHNICAL	15126	BI	2948.64	PAYMENT AMOUNT		2948.64
HOMED HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICE	9/28/15 STATEMENT	BI	249.47	PAYMENT AMOUNT		249.47
HOUST HOUSTON & HARRIS PCS, INC	15-19200	BI	1260.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		1260.00
HOUST HOUSTON & HARRIS PCS, INC	15-19232	BI	35059.35	PAYMENT AMOUNT		35059.35
HSBCC CAPITAL ONE COMMERCIAL	SEPTEMBER 2015	BI	717.91	PAYMENT AMOUNT		717.91
INLA INLAND DESERT SECURITY &	151000890101	BI	72.80	PAYMENT AMOUNT		72.80
INWTR INLAND WATER WORKS SUPPLY	277842	BI	84.24	PAYMENT AMOUNT		84.24
JOSE JOSEPH BORRIE, JR.	10/21/15 BOOT REIMB	BI	153.05	PAYMENT AMOUNT		153.05
KENT KENT JENKINS	10/26/15 REIMB CLAIM	BI	224.19	PAYMENT AMOUNT		224.19
LEID BRIAN LEIDNER	10/7/15 REIMB CERT	BI	260.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		260.00
LIB LIBERTY COMPOSTING, INC.	19047	BI	369.60	PAYMENT AMOUNT		369.60
LIFE LIFE-ASSIST, INC.	726317	BI	177.32	PAYMENT AMOUNT		177.32
LIFE LIFE-ASSIST, INC.	727779	BI	747.82	PAYMENT AMOUNT		747.82
LINCO LINCOLN FINANCIAL GROUP	OCTOBER 2015	BI	1127.77	PAYMENT AMOUNT		1127.77
LIQ LIQUINOX	34707	BI	3885.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		3885.00
LNCUR L.N. CURTIS & SONS	1370792-00	BI	216.69	PAYMENT AMOUNT		216.69
LNCUR L.N. CURTIS & SONS	1370792-01	BI	108.54	PAYMENT AMOUNT		108.54
LNCUR L.N. CURTIS & SONS	1370792-03	BI	626.85	PAYMENT AMOUNT		626.85
LNCUR L.N. CURTIS & SONS	1371492-00	BI	162.81	PAYMENT AMOUNT		162.81
M0259 MOUNTAIN DISPOSAL	9/30/15 STATEMENT	BI	174.01	PAYMENT AMOUNT		174.01
M4284 MOUNTAIN DISPOSAL	9/30/15 STATEMENT	BI	319.44	PAYMENT AMOUNT		319.44
M9982 MOUNTAIN DISPOSAL	10/1/15 STATEMENT	BI	67.89	PAYMENT AMOUNT		67.89
MCI MCI	9/22/15 STATEMENT	BI	47.58	PAYMENT AMOUNT		47.58
MCMAS MCMAS-CARR	40670963	BI	26.44	PAYMENT AMOUNT		26.44
MCMAS MCMAS-CARR	41127365	BI	389.28	PAYMENT AMOUNT		389.28
MERIT MERIT OIL COMPANY	314585	BI	4217.67	PAYMENT AMOUNT		4217.67
MET METLIFE - GROUP BENEFITS	OCTOBER 2015	BI	156.90	PAYMENT AMOUNT		156.90
MIKEV MICHAEL VASQUEZ	10/6/15 REIMB	BI	292.66	PAYMENT AMOUNT		292.66
MVP MVP ATHLETICS	20580	BI	637.82	PAYMENT AMOUNT		637.82

SYSTEM DATE: 11/03/2015
 SYSTEM TIME: 10:03:29
 POSTING DATE: 10/30/15

RUNNING SPRINGS WTR
 M T D B O A R D S U M M A R Y
 Friday October 30,2015

GENERAL LEDGER DISTRIBUTION SUMMARY

ORG	G/L ACCT	TR					
CODE	NUMBER VEND# NAME	INVOICE #	CODE	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT
01 HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT							
20110	(CONTINUED)						
	MYERS MYERS-STEVENS & TOOHEY CO	1185441	BI	154.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		154.00
	ONE STOP LANDSCAPE SUPPLY	10688	BI	2536.80	PAYMENT AMOUNT		2536.80
	PERSL PERSONAL BEST	RMNLEF-1	BI	382.59	PAYMENT AMOUNT		382.59
	POLYD POLYDYNE INC.	1001675	BI	534.60	PAYMENT AMOUNT		534.60
	POLYD POLYDYNE INC.	996668	BI	534.60	PAYMENT AMOUNT		534.60
	POLYD POLYDYNE INC.	999376	BI	534.60	PAYMENT AMOUNT		534.60
	PREMI PREMIER ACCESS INSURANCE	OCTOBER 2015	BI	1051.10	PAYMENT AMOUNT		1051.10
	PURCH PURCHASE POWER	SEPT 2015	BI	2020.99	PAYMENT AMOUNT		2020.99
	RAMS ROGERS,ANDERSON, MALODY &	45354	BI	10518.50	PAYMENT AMOUNT		10518.50
	RUNNI RUNNING SPRINGS AREA CHAM	11/7/15 RECOGN DINNE	BI	30.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		30.00
	SAFEG SAFEGUARD BUSINESS SYSTEM	030998545	BI	146.53	PAYMENT AMOUNT		146.53
	SBCFP SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FIR	IN0107453	BI	506.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		506.00
	SBCFP SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FIR	IN0108099	BI	311.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		311.00
	SBCFP SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FIR	IN0108100	BI	311.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		311.00
	SBCFP SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FIR	IN0108101	BI	311.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		311.00
	SBCFP SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FIR	IN0108102	BI	311.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		311.00
	SBCFP SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY FIR	IN0108104	BI	311.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		311.00
	SCOTT SCOTT BENSON	10/6/15 REIMB CLAIM	BI	35.06	PAYMENT AMOUNT		35.06
	SOFT SOFTWARE SYSTEMS ASSOCIAT	002378-00	BI	300.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		300.00
	STEP STEP SAVER INC	294770	BI	163.30	PAYMENT AMOUNT		163.30
	STFIR STATE FIRE TRAINING	10/23/15 CERT REQ	BI	40.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		40.00
	TERM TERMINIX PROCESSING CENTE	348743674	BI	41.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		41.00
	TERM TERMINIX PROCESSING CENTE	349044349	BI	60.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		60.00
	TIPPS TIPS PRINTING	76320	BI	179.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		179.00
	TREVO TREVOR MILLER	8/17/15 REIMB CLAIM	BI	2832.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		2832.00
	TRINI TRINITY CONSTRUCTION COMP	5114	BI	168725.70	PAYMENT AMOUNT		168725.70
	TRUSS TRUSSELL TECHNOLOGIES	2719	BI	944.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		944.00
	USA UNDERGROUND SERVICE ALERT	920150586	BI	21.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		21.00
	USABL USA BLUE BOOK	748123	BI	221.22	PAYMENT AMOUNT		221.22
	USABL USA BLUE BOOK	754138	BI	288.30	PAYMENT AMOUNT		288.30
	USPOS US POSTAL SERVICE	10/12/15 PERM #14	BI	2500.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		2500.00
	V2175 VERIZON CALIFORNIA	9/13/15 STATEMENT	BI	95.80	PAYMENT AMOUNT		95.80
	V2608 VERIZON CALIFORNIA	9/22/15 STATEMENT	BI	49.66	PAYMENT AMOUNT		49.66
	V3106 VERIZON CALIFORNIA	9/16/15 STATEMENT	BI	66.12	PAYMENT AMOUNT		66.12
	V3237 VERIZON CALIFORNIA	9/19/15 STATEMENT	BI	66.12	PAYMENT AMOUNT		66.12
	V3689 VERIZON CALIFORNIA	10/1/15 STATEMENT	BI	196.29	PAYMENT AMOUNT		196.29
	V4354 VERIZON CALIFORNIA	10/10/15 STATEMENT	BI	45.66	PAYMENT AMOUNT		45.66
	V4971 VERIZON CALIFORNIA	10/1/15 STATEMENT	BI	45.39	PAYMENT AMOUNT		45.39
	V7637 VERIZON CALIFORNIA	9/19/15 STATEMENT	BI	49.66	PAYMENT AMOUNT		49.66
	V7690 VERIZON CALIFORNIA	9/28/15 STATEMENT	BI	49.66	PAYMENT AMOUNT		49.66
	V7936 VERIZON CALIFORNIA	10/16/15 STATEMENT	BI	50.13	PAYMENT AMOUNT		50.13
	V7936 VERIZON CALIFORNIA	9/16/15 STATEMENT	BI	49.64	PAYMENT AMOUNT		49.64
	V9289 VERIZON CALIFORNIA	9/25/15 STATEMENT	BI	99.32	PAYMENT AMOUNT		99.32
	VERW VERIZON WIRELESS SERVICES	9753062255	BI	168.13	PAYMENT AMOUNT		168.13

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RUNNING SPRINGS WTR
 M T D B O A R D S U M M A R Y
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GENERAL LEDGER DISTRIBUTION SUMMARY

ORG G/L ACCT CODE NUMBER VEND# NAME	INVOICE #	TR CODE	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	DEBIT	CREDIT
01 HEADQUARTERS DEPARTMENT						
20110	(CONTINUED)					
VIERO RICHARD VIERO	10/12/15 REIMB CLAIM	BI	100.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		100.00
VISA VISA	10/1/15-CORLEY	BI	1314.91	PAYMENT AMOUNT		1314.91
VISA VISA	10/1/15-MILLER	BI	700.34	PAYMENT AMOUNT		700.34
VISA VISA	10/1/15-VASQUEZ	BI	3.91	PAYMENT AMOUNT		3.91
VISA VISA	9/23/15 STATEMENT	BI	476.97	PAYMENT AMOUNT		476.97
WELFA WELLS FARGO BANK	10/22/15 CUST REFUND	BI	139.40	PAYMENT AMOUNT		139.40
XEROX XEROX CORPORATION	081571238	BI	452.62	PAYMENT AMOUNT		452.62
YORK YORK INSURANCE SERVICES G	10/2/15 STATEMENT	BI	442.41	PAYMENT AMOUNT		442.41
YORK YORK INSURANCE SERVICES G	10/23/15	BI	12.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		12.00
YORK YORK INSURANCE SERVICES G	10/9/15 STATEMENT	BI	1709.17	PAYMENT AMOUNT		1709.17
YORK YORK INSURANCE SERVICES G	4715	BI	20000.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		20000.00
YORK2 YORK RISK SERVICES GROUP	500013332	BI	224.00	PAYMENT AMOUNT		224.00
ZOLL ZOLL MEDICAL CORPORATION	2288576	BI	473.22	PAYMENT AMOUNT		473.22
	AMOUNT TO BE POSTED		404,398.95			404,398.95 NET

TRANSACTION AMOUNTS

TOTAL DEBITS..... 265.46
 TOTAL CREDITS..... 404,525.01

NET AMOUNTS TO BE POSTED

TOTAL DEBITS..... 139.40
 TOTAL CREDITS..... 404,398.95

RUNNING SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 18, 2015

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Ryan Gross, General Manager

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION ON MEASURE B NEXT STEPS AND CONSIDER PROVIDING ADDITIOANL DIRECTION TO STAFF

RECOMMENDED BOARD ACTION

Discussion on Measure B Next Steps and Consider Providing Additional Direction to Staff.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Running Springs Water District Measure B failed to pass on November 3, 2015.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The following are the final results from the Registrar of Voters:

Last Updated: November 9, 2015 3:38 PM

Registration & Turnout

434,757 Voters

	Vote Count	Percent
Precinct Turnout	8,299	1.91%
Vote by Mail Turnout	42,627	9.80%
Total	50,926	11.71%

MEASURE B - RUNNING SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT

16/16 100.00%

	Vote Count	Percent
YES	255	45.62%
NO	304	54.38%
Total	559	100.00%

In October 1962, fire protection became the second service provided for the Running Springs community by the District at a local level. Until that time, fire protection for the area had been provided by an all-volunteer fire department comprised of a group of concerned citizens. As the needs of the community outgrew the ability of the volunteer fire department to provide and maintain this service, there was a recognized need for change. Because of the increased community need, a comprehensive study was conducted to determine the best method of providing fire protection. The study concluded that the District had the authority and the ability to provide fire protection services.

Primarily, it was determined this would be the most cost effective alternative, while at the same time, would allow local control by an already established locally elected governmental agency.

While the fundamental purpose of the District's Fire Department is the protection of life and property from fire, several operational functions are provided by the Fire Department as well. These functions include a variety of public assistance services, field emergency medical care services, ambulance transportation services, hazard abatement, community education and awareness programs. Of the services provided, the greatest public emphasis and need has been in the area of field emergency medical care and ambulance transportation.

Over the years, medical aid responses have grown to the point where they significantly outnumber fire related responses. In an attempt to provide better service and better meet the needs of the community, in September 1978 the District's Fire Department implemented advanced life support (ALS or paramedics) into its medical care services. With the implementation of advanced life support services, the District's Fire Department became the first fire agency in the San Bernardino Mountains to provide a 24-hour continuous paramedic program.

On March 11, 1980, the Board of Directors adopted Ordinance No. 9 determining and proposing for approval by the voters of the District an annual tax, called an availability charge, for fire suppression service in an amount not to exceed \$65 per unit of benefit, beginning in fiscal year 1980-81, pursuant to Sections 53970-53980 of the California Government Code as those sections then existed.

In July 1980, the Board of Directors adopted Resolution No. 620 calling an election on November 4, 1980 for the purpose of submitting Ordinance No. 9 to the voters.

On November 4, 1980, more than two-thirds of the voters of Running Springs Water District who voted on the proposition approved the District's Ordinance No. 9, establishing the annual fire suppression availability charge beginning in fiscal year 1980-81.

In 1984, to enhance its emergency medical care system, the District's Board of Directors authorized the Fire Department to provide ambulance transportation services. Until this time, ambulance service had been provided by the Lake Arrowhead Fire Protection District. Improved patient care, public need and economics were the primary reasons for the Director's authorization of this additional service. The ambulance service boundary includes Running Springs, Smiley Park, Arrowbear, Green Valley Lake, Snow Valley and along State Highway 18 to Lake View Point. The ambulance coverage also includes State Highway 330 to City Creek Ranger Station. The Running Springs Fire Department operates from two local fire stations.

The existing Running Springs Fire Department Fire Availability Fee is a Special Tax that owners of developed property in the Running Springs Water District service area pay to help fund the operation of the Running Springs Fire Department. The voters approved

this \$65/year fee which was put into effect on March 11, 1980 by Ordinance No. 9. If adjusted for inflation the fee would be \$158/year in 2014.

At a Special Board Meeting held on April 2, 2014 the District's Board of Directors and staff discussed the need for increased revenue to fund the operation of the Running Springs Fire Department and Emergency Medical (Ambulance) Services. The Board has directed staff to proceed with obtaining the necessary information to place a measure on the ballot for the voters to consider in 2015 to increase the Fire Availability Fee to \$158 per year with an annual inflationary increase. If approved by the voters, this additional revenue will help to fund the continued local operation of the Department which is still the most cost effective and efficient alternative.

In the fall of 2014, the District conducted a survey of its customers and the results were reviewed by the Board of Directors at the January 2015 workshop.

CAL FIRE - Fire Prevention Fee

It is important to note and make the clear distinction to our customers that the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) Fire Prevention Fee is not in any way affiliated with the Running Springs Water District or Running Springs Fire Department. A bill passed by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown in July 2011 established this annual Fire Prevention Fee to be collected from the owners of private property located within the State Responsibility Area. The fee is \$115 per habitable structure for those that already pay a special tax or assessment to a local fire district. This fee is currently being challenged by the Howard Jarvis Tax Payers Association. If you do not agree with the legality / constitutionality of the CAL FIRE fee and would like to protest it, the following link has information on how to do so:

http://firetaxprotest.org/?page_id=13

FISCAL INFORMATION

None at this time

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 – Sacramento Bee Article

Attachment 2 – Email from Fallon Research

Fire districts losing tax votes point finger at state fee

About two-thirds of fire district tax measures have failed to pass

Local officials say a state fee has soured voters on local fire-related charges

Firefighters' union wants a "California disaster" surcharge instead

BY JIM MILLER

jmiller@sacbee.com

Frank Treanor doesn't have exit polling to help explain why almost 38 percent of voters in the fire district he leads north of San Francisco voted against a November 2012 ballot measure to increase what property owners pay the district annually.

But Treanor, chief of the Rancho Adobe Fire Protection District, said he is sure of the reason: Most of the district falls within the vast swath of the state where property owners pay a state fire prevention fee, in addition to any local charges.

The 'no' vote was enough to deprive the Rancho Adobe measure of the two-thirds support it needed to pass, he said, and continue the district's financial stress.

"If you hadn't gotten a bill I think it would have been pretty easy to get that extra 4 percent," Treanor said.

In the four years since lawmakers approved it, a state fire prevention fee on properties in about a third of the state's rural areas had yielded more than \$300 million through June for prevention-related activities.

The money has gone to administration and statewide prevention, such as defensible space inspections and vegetation clearing, amid concern by some local officials that non-profit fire safe councils haven't received more money

At the same time, officials contend, the fee has had an unintended consequence: undermining local agencies' ability to raise their own money for fire protection and prevention efforts, even as the state's long drought has increased the fire risk.

31 million

Number of acres for which the state has the primary firefighting responsibility

Near Auburn, voters in August rejected a ballot measure to increase a special tax that benefits the Higgins Fire Protection District. It would have repealed a longtime \$25 parcel tax and replaced it with a fire protection tax that averaged about \$141 parcel.

Fifty-nine percent of voters supported the proposal, short of the necessary two-thirds and the second time in two years that a special fire tax had failed. Virtually all of the district is in the state responsibility area.

“The only misunderstanding that I heard was that people assumed the SRA fee goes to the fire district,” said Pete Marchinek, an engineer with the department, who talked with voters during the campaign.

The first state prevention bills started showing up in people’s mailboxes in summer 2012. Since June 2012, at least 32 local fire tax measures have been on the ballot. Of those, 21 failed, almost all of them in districts that include significant portions of responsibility area.

In the four years before the fee took effect, there were at least 35 fire district revenue measures. Of those, two dozen passed and 11 failed, according to election results compiled by the California Local Government Finance Almanac.

In other cases, officials said, the presence of the state fee has kept local officials from even trying to win over voters for a higher parcel tax.

Some officials had warned of a local impact when the state Board of Forestry and Fire Protection crafted regulations to impose the charge. The final rules included a \$35 discount for property owners covered by a local fire district. Today, the discounted rate of \$117.33 applies to about 98 percent of the more than 800,000 properties subject to the fee.

Cal Fire has not tracked the success rate of local measures since the state prevention fee took effect, department spokesman Daniel Berlant said.

“We recognize the important role fire districts play. From our standpoint there’s no intention to compete when it comes to funding sources,” Berlant said.

“

THEY DON’T HAVE OPTIONS

Michael Coleman, local government finance expert, on special districts’ revenue-raising challenges.

Local districts seeking higher taxes have long faced the challenge of getting two-thirds support. Cities and counties can pass general-purpose tax measures on a majority vote, but fire districts and other special districts need to achieve super-majority backing.

Of the fire district tax and bond measures that failed since 2012, more than half received majority support.

“It’s big,” local finance expert Michael Coleman, who writes the local government finance almanac, said of the effect of the two-thirds threshold. “They don’t have options. They can’t do a majority-vote tax.”

In addition, Coleman said, most of the state area and overlapping local districts are in parts of California where voters are more conservative and skeptical of taxes to begin with. “These measures are often hard to pass anyway,” he said.

In the Rancho Adobe district, officials shuttered stations on a rotating basis following the defeat of Measure Z in November 2012. A grant from the nearby Graton Resort and Casino has helped balance the department’s books, he said, but represents only a short-term solution. “Personally, I don’t want to depend on that money,” Treanor said, adding that the district might put another measure on the ballot in 2016.

Republican lawmakers unanimously opposed the fee during the 2011 budget vote. Since then, there have been multiple attempts to eliminate the charge, mostly by GOP lawmakers who represent the bulk of the area subject to the charge. Some Democrats, though, also have expressed misgivings.

Earlier this year, Assemblyman Reggie Jones-Sawyer, D-Los Angeles, introduced a bill to repeal the fee and replace it with a disaster-response surcharge on residential and commercial insurance policies. The bill’s backers include firefighters unions concerned about the fee, in part because of concerns that it crowds out local tax measures to help pay for firefighters and equipment.

A disaster-response surcharge would raise money for efforts besides preventing wildfires, supporters say.

“California is disaster central,” said Carroll Wills, a spokesman for California Professional Firefighters, an umbrella group for unionized firefighters. “By limiting the (responsibility area) assessment to these areas, it puts an undue burden on those taxpayers and ignores the larger risk we face.

“We understand the fiscal circumstances that led to its introduction, but we think it should go away,” he said.

Jim Miller: 916-326-5521, @jimmiller2

Related: Millions of dollars in California fire prevention money goes unspent

Ryan Gross

From: Paul Fallon <Paul@FallonResearch.com>
Sent: Monday, November 09, 2015 3:35 AM
To: Ryan Gross
Subject: Election Results

Mr. Gross,

I understand from the newspaper that your city's ballot issue was defeated in last week's election. Aside from campaigns, one of the foremost obligations of public officials is to understand the needs of the community and develop effective 2-way communication. Regardless of the outcome, making sense of the results, and being able to properly interpret them, can help equip you to better understand the needs of your community.

As someone who works on levy and bond issue elections all over the country, I know that the temptation is to salve your "wounds" and hard feelings by stepping away from the election for a while and putting it out of your mind. However, now is a critical time to gather information that could help you understand what occurred during the election, as well as what the results suggest about your organization and how it is viewed by the public.

First, do a "content analysis" to determine what information voters might have heard and how frequently they heard it. This includes literature, news articles, editorials and letters to the editor, and fliers. Keep in mind that every election is about something, and regardless of what may have been touted, the volume and amount of information the community has received from the most persistent source is probably what shaped their impressions. This also is a good time to re-examine your external public communications to determine whether they were too narrowly focused or too esoteric for the general public.

Second, if there has been organized opposition, it is a good idea to have a comprehensive understanding of what kinds of strategies and tactics they used. My experience has taught me that they tend to follow the same tactics, once they believe they have a recipe for success. By knowing what to expect, you can often times thwart opposition with pre-emptive actions to mar the image of your institution.

Third, conduct an informal focus group among citizens and voters you don't necessarily associate with, so you can ask frank questions about what they thought the election was about and why they think other people – not themselves, because that may be a prickly question for you to ask and for them to answer – voted against the issue.

Fourth, formulate a working hypothesis about why the issue was rejected by voters. It can serve as the cornerstone for the pivotal decision you will need to make: what will be done differently in the future! Many local governments are "repeat offenders," that make the same mistakes in successive efforts and consequently reinforce the very notions that may be undermining their support and standing in the community.

Finally, if it is essential to ask voters to re-consider the request in a subsequent election, formulate a carefully scripted response to answer why, after a defeat, the issue will be placed back on the ballot...especially if the subsequent issue is similar or identical to the previous one that was just rejected. Keep in mind that the first thing voters hear about an issue is what they will believe most intently and remember most vividly. Sometimes, thoughtless off-the-cuff comments to the media or on public access television can doom such efforts before the first ballot is ever printed!

If you would like to talk with me about this to get clarification on any of the suggestions herein, or just chat, for any reason, feel free to call me at 800-676-3996.

Sincerely,

Paul M. Fallon
FALLON RESEARCH & COMMUNICATIONS, INC.
Paul@FallonResearch.com
www.FallonResearch.com

Nationwide toll-free:
(800) 676-3996

Columbus, Ohio:
(614) 341-7005
(614) 297-7090

Washington D.C.:
(202) 263-7292
(202) 318-0346 - fax