

CRESCENTA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

**2700 Foothill Boulevard
La Crescenta, California**

**Agenda for the
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
of the Crescenta Valley Water District
to be held on June 3, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.**

Posted: May 30, 2014 at 3:00 p.m.

Any written materials distributed to the Board in connection with this agenda will be made available at the same time for public inspection at the District office located at the above address.

Call to Order and Determination of Quorum

Pledge of Allegiance

Adoption of Agenda

Public Comments

At this time the public shall have an opportunity to comment on any non-agenda item relevant to the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board. This opportunity is non-transferable and speakers are limited to one three (3) minute comment.

Foothill Municipal Water District Report

1. Report on activities at Foothill Municipal Water District.

Consent Calendar

1. Consideration and approval of the Minutes of the Adjourned Regular Meeting on May 20, 2014.

Action Calendar

The public shall have an opportunity to comment on any action item as each item is considered by the Board prior to action being taken. This opportunity is non-transferable and speakers are limited to one two (2) minute comment.

1. **Temporary Employee** – Consideration and motion to authorize the General Manager to hire a temporary Utility Worker I.
2. **Discussion of District Memberships** – Discussion of the various organizations in which the District has memberships.

Information Items

Written Communications to District

Staff Reports

Secretary-Treasurer

1. Cash and Investments –June 3, 2014.

General Manager

1. Administrative Report.

District Engineer

1. Water Production Report –May 2014.
2. Report on Administrative and Field Operations.

Program Specialist

1. Report of Water Conservation issues.

Information Technology

1. Report of Information Technology issues.

Attorney

1. Report on legal and related matters relevant to the District.

Reports of Committees

Engineering Committee

1. Consideration of engineering issues affecting the District.

Finance Committee

1. Consideration of financial issues affecting the District.

Employee Relations Committee

1. Consideration of employee relations issues affecting the District.

Policy Committee

1. Consideration of policy issues affecting the District.

Community Relations/Water Conservation Committee

1. Consideration of community/water conservation issues affecting the District.

Emergency Planning Committee

1. Consideration of emergency planning issues affecting the District.

Director's Oral Reports

Report on issues, meetings, or activities attended by Directors.

Closed Session

- **Conference with Labor Negotiators (§54957.6)**
 - District negotiators: Dennis Erdman and Ron Mitchell
- **Conference with Legal Counsel**
 - Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: One case.

Board Members' Request for Future Agenda Items

Adjournment

CRESCENTA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
ADJOURNED REGULAR MEETING, BOARD OF DIRECTORS
May 20, 2014

Pursuant to the order of the Board of Directors of the Crescenta Valley Water District, made at the Regular Meeting of May 6, 2014, an Adjourned Regular Meeting was held on May 20, 2014, at 7:00 p.m. at the District office at 2700 Foothill Blvd., La Crescenta, California, with President James D. Bodnar presiding.

At roll call, the following Directors and staff members were present:

Directors:	James D. Bodnar Kerry D. Erickson (Absent) Kenneth R. Putnam Kathleen M. Ross Judy L. Tejeda
Attorney:	Thomas S. Bunn
General Manager:	Dennis Erdman
Secretary-Treasurer:	Ron L. Mitchell (Absent)
District Engineer:	David S. Gould
Others Present:	Mark Hass, IT Manager Wendy Holloway, Customer Accounts Supervisor Larry Byers, Superintendent

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Bodnar opened the meeting by asking Director Putnam to lead the Board and staff in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

It was moved by Director Tejeda, seconded by Director Ross and carried by a 4-0 vote that the Agenda for the Adjourned Regular Meeting of May 20, 2014 be adopted as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

FOOTHILL MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT REPORT – Mr. Erdman reported that he attended the FMWD Board Meeting on May 19, 2014 and that there were 3 Board members present and 1 Board member who was teleconferencing from Las Vegas, NV. They had an awards presentation for the winners of the Student Art Calendar contestant. On the Action Calendar, the General Manager asked for consideration and motion to approve a proposal for extended services for Krieger and Stewart in the amount of \$71,740. This passed with a 3-1 vote with Director Matthews voting against. Mr. Gould added that Ms. Jazmadarian gave a presentation on the 2014 Drought and Conservation efforts at the CVTC meeting on May 15, 2014.

CONSENT CALENDAR

It was moved by Director Ross, seconded by Director Tejeda and carried by a 4-0 vote to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on May 6, 2014 and to ratify the disbursements for April 2014 which consisted of:

Payment of demands against the Crescenta Valley Water District on or before April 30, 2014 the same having been approved by the General Manager, Dennis A. Erdman, and heretofore paid, be ratified and approved subject to audit, in the aggregate sum of One Million Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred Eight Five Dollars and Eighty Five cents. (1, 017,585.85), which is composed of the individual items set forth herein.

ACTION CALENDAR

Memorandum of Understanding – Mr. Erdman reported that at the last Board meeting, during the Closed Session, the Board requested the MOU be brought back into open session for discussion and approval.

Following discussion:

It was moved by Director Ross, seconded by Director Tejeda and carried a 4-0 vote to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the employees bargaining unit for the period of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2016.

Installation of Piping & Metering Vaults at Williams Reservoir, Project E-733CS-1 – Mr. Gould reported that on April 15, 2014, the Board of Directors approved the advertising of bids for Phase 1 of this project. On May 6, 2014, staff held a mandatory pre-bid meeting that was attended by seven contractors. On May 14, 2014 the District opened and read the submitted bid proposals with E&R Construction of Baldwin Park, CA. as the apparent lowest responsible bidder. The engineer's estimate was \$170,000 and the low bid was .05% lower at \$169,000. Staff has worked with E&R Construction in the past and the experience was largely positive. References provided by the contractor also reported that they possess a great amount of knowledge pertaining to pipeline construction. It is staff's recommendation to award the project to the lowest responsible bidder, E&R Construction, for the installation of Piping and Metering Vaults at William Reservoir at a cost of \$169,000 and establish a contingency amount of \$16,900 (10% of contract) to cover the cost of unforeseen or additional work. As part of this project, CVWD will be purchasing the piping and valves for the chlorination station that is estimated to be \$70,000. In addition, the project will include CVWD's labor for inspection that is estimated to be \$30,000.

Following discussion:

It was moved by Director Ross, seconded by Director Tejeda and carried a 4-0 vote to authorize the General Manager to award the contract to E& R Construction for the installation of piping and metering vaults at William Reservoir at a cost of \$169,000 and establish a contingency amount of \$16,900 (10% of contract) to cover the cost of unforeseen or additional work.

Integrated Regional Water Management Grant for the Rockhaven Well, Project E-940 –

Mr. Gould reported that CVWD has submitted a grant application to the Upper Los Angeles River Sub-region (ULRA) of the Greater Los Angeles Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Group for a Proposition 84, Round 3 as part of the Governor's Drought Relief Grant for the Rockhaven Well project. The project will increase the amount of local water supply available to the Crescenta Valley and decrease amount of water CVWD needs to import from MWD. The project will be a joint project between CVWD and Glendale Water and Power (GWP). Staff has made presentations to the ULRA Steering Committee and the Greater Los Angeles County (GLAC) Leadership Committee for inclusion of the Rockhaven Well Grant to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) for grant funding. The GLAC Leadership Committee made a decision on May 14, 2014 to include the Rockhaven Well Project. CVWD was originally not included in the overall recommended projects and to be included CVWD/GWP's grant request was revised to a 58% DWR Grant/ 42% matching funds. CVWD and GWP have agreed to share the matching fund portion of the grant and CVWD's portion will be \$365,000. The Los Angeles County Flood Control District (LACFCD) has been authorized as the funding agency for the GLAC and requested the assistance from RMC Water and Environment to prepare the grant application. RMC provided a proposal to LACFCD to complete this work for \$354,350. There are 15 projects that will be submitted and LACFCD has requested that each project proponent be responsible for their share of RMC's cost. LACFCD has also requested that each project proponent sign a memorandum of understanding (MOU) agreeing to pay its proportional share of RMC's contract. According the MOU provided, CVWD/GWP proportional share will be \$17,327.33, and GWP has agreed to a 50/50 cost share. CVWD's overall cost will be \$8,663.67. It is staff's recommendation to authorize the General Manager to enter in to a MOU with the Los Angeles County Flood Control District regarding the preparing of a Grant Application for the Proposition 84 Round 3 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program at a cost of \$17,327.33.

It was moved by Director Tejeda, seconded by Director Ross and carried a 4-0 vote to authorize the General Manager to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Los Angeles County Flood Control District regarding the preparing of a Grant Application for the Proposition 84 Round 3 Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program at a cost of \$17,327.33.

Encinal Booster A Pump Replacement, Project E-918 – Mr. Gould reported Encinal Booster Pump (A) was designed to operate at 800 gpm with a 50 hp motor. It was last rehabilitated in 2007, and over the past year, the pump and motor have steadily dropped in efficiency. In late April 2014, the System Operators reported that the pump had failed and was no longer able to provide enough pressure to distribute water. This pump is critical for the distribution of water in the upcoming summer months to the upper pressure zones. On April 29, 2014, staff solicited bids for the inspection and replacement of the pump. The rehabilitation will be done by CVWD. A pre-bid meeting was held on May 8, 2014. This was not mandatory, and it was attended by two contractors. On May 14, 2014, the District opened and read the bid proposals for this project. General Pump Company of San Dimas, CA. was the apparent lowest responsible bidder. The engineer's estimate was \$26,000 and the low bid was 59.6% lower at 10,500. Staff has worked with General Pump Company extensively in the past and the experience was very positive. It is staff's recommendation to award the project to the lowest responsible bidder, General Pump

Company for the replacement of Encinal Booster A Pump and Motor Assembly at Encinal Reservoir. In addition, establish a contingency amount of \$1,050 (10% of contract) to cover the cost of unforeseen or additional work. If approved the work should be completed in late June 2014.

It was moved by Director Ross, seconded by Director Tejeda and carried a 4-0 vote To approve Project E-918 and to authorize the General Manager to award a contract to General Pump Company for the replacement of Booster A at Encinal Reservoir at a cost of \$10,500 and establish a contingency amount of \$1,050 (10% of contract) to cover the cost of unforeseen or additional work.

INFORMATION ITEMS – LAFCO: Notice of vacancy for Public Member. Bay Delta Conservation Plan: Sample comment letter for Metropolitan Member Agencies. CV Weekly: What to do about Rockhaven. GWP pull back on water rate increase. LA Times: Bonds are quietly outperforming stocks. Glendale Newspress: Crescenta Valley Water District eyes bump in water rates. Council moves to limit gush of increasing GWP water rates. SoCalWater.org: Los Angeles office of Public Accountability finds Bay Delta Conservation Plan affordable for City households at roughly \$2 per month. La Canada online: Foothill residents asked to reduce water by 20%. Art contest spotlights importance of water.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS TO DISTRICT – CVTC sent out a flyer for the 15th Annual Arbor Day Ceremony on May 31, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. LAFCO: Amended 2014/15 Fiscal Year Budget.

REPORTS OF PERSONNEL

SECRETARY-TREASURER – No Report.

GENERAL MANAGER – Mr. Erdman reported that on May 14th he was a guest speaker at the Kiwanis Club of La Canada Flintridge and spoke on the drought and measures CVWD is implementing to help conserve supplies, the Bay Delta conservation plan, and the importance of the tunnel project, infrastructure replacement, cost of water and energy-water nexus and water quality/MTBE issues. Mr. Erdman said that he provided take home bags with water conservation supplies and emergency preparedness material and said we are paying close attention to the “red flag” conditions and making every effort to keep our system topped off. CVWD operators participated in two electrical load reduction requests from Constellation Energy due to the high heat and electrical demand. On May 5-9, 2014 He attended the JPIA and ACWA Spring Conference. District crew members performed the grading work at Orange and Rosemont Avenue in support of the Eagle Scout project the Board authorized at the last meeting. The results of this work look good and two loads of spoil were hauled away. As of May 15, 2014, the District has worked 187 days without a lost time accident. He also reported that will not be attending the June 3rd Board Meeting as he will be on vacation. He also discussed with the Board regarding hiring a summer intern to help David and Christy with data entry.

DISTRICT ENGINEER

Water Production – For the period of May 1 through May 18, 2014, water production averaged 84.3 million gallons per day, which is **15.9% greater** than the daily average production of the

same period in 2013. This is **13.3% greater** from the daily average production of the previous five years.

Rainfall: May 2014	0.00"
Season-to-date:	9.02"

Administrative and Field Operations – Mr. Gould provided a memorandum and discussed the following:

Rainfall Update – 0.00" for May 2014. Rainfall total for 2013-14 is at 9.02".

Report on Engineering:

CIP Projects – Pipeline – 3000 & 3100 Block of Paraiso Way – Complete. Pipeline – 3800 Block of Honolulu Avenue – Pipeline complete. Well Rehabilitation, E-934 – Well 9 back in service. Well 12 – Back in service. Well 5 – Test pumping complete; waiting on new pump. Well 8 – Begin rehabilitation in June 2014. Well 11 – Begin rehabilitation in July 2014 (maybe delayed till November 2014). Ocean View Chlorination Project – Piping project – Award Contract; construction to start in July 2014. Building Project – finalizing design. Edmund #1 Roof – Roof demo – complete. Installing steel columns and roof – completed. Coating new steel columns and roof – 75% complete. Planning to be back in service within next 3 weeks. Oak Creek MCC – Canon working on 100% submittal.

Crescenta Valley County Park -Local Groundwater Assistance Grant – Flow Monitoring in Verdugo Wash – Permitting and installation are proceeding. Water quality sampling – Obtained access permit. Monitoring /wells – Preliminary design under review.

Glendale – Rockhaven Well – CEQA Documentation for Project complete; public hearing – June 17. Preparing grant application for submittal by RMC to DWR. Meeting with GWP on agreement.

FMWD Issues – FMWD shutdown planned for May 21 & 28 to emergency generator at P1 Station.

ULARA – Working on 2012/13 Annual Report and 2013 Pump & Spreading Plan. Watermaster & Legal Counsel contracts expires on December 31, 2014. Working on new 3 year agreement.

Water Meter Replacement Program: FY 13/14 Water Meter Replacement Program – replaced 840 meters to date.

Report on Administrative and Field Operations:

Well Status – Well production capacity – Ave. 2.2 MGD, due to Well 5 out of service.

Booster Pumps – Encinal Booster "A" out of service.

Glenwood Nitrate Plant – No Report.

Water Quality – Department of Public Health Inspection this week.

Mills Plant – No Report.

Reservoirs/Booster Stations – Edmund #1 out of service until roof replacement completed.

MTBE Update – MTBE levels in Wells below 1ppb

Field Maintenance and Operations update for May 1 – May 18, 2014

Water lateral leaks & repairs

- 2755 Orange
- 4811 Cloudsdale
- 3036 Prospect
- 3130 Montrose
- 3051 Henrietta
- 3255 Altura
- 4532 Rosemont

Water Main Leaks – No Report.

Fire Hydrant Replacement – S/W corner Foothill and La Canada Place.

Developer Projects – No Report.

Valve Replacement – No Report.

General Maintenance – No Report.

SCADA/Telemetry System – No Report.

Sewer Maintenance – No Report.

Mr. Gould also let the Board know that he will not be at the June 3, 2014 Board meeting, and that he will be meeting with Paul Rabinoff on Friday, May 23, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. to discuss installing a new gate at the Rosemont Preserve.

PROGRAM SPECIALIST – Mr. Erdman reported for Christy and said that she and Dave Spain had met with Karen Wong from the Department of Public Health for the past two days, and have been doing the tri-annual inspection of the District facilities. They found no issues except for some rust at the reservoirs which is typical with the steel structures and we should have good results.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY – Mr. Hass reported that the District will be looking at a reduction of approximately \$8,000 a year starting this fiscal year with changes in communications. We have installed new circuits, and have realized that with the voice over IP at remote locations instead of phone lines, we are able to use the existing equipment with new handsets, and this enables us to eliminate the phone lines. We have renegotiated for pool minutes and for pool data and canceled the unlimited minutes, because it is no longer the best choice. He also reported that he has been providing assistance to FMWD on their SCADA project, and their Capital Improvement Projects.

ATTORNEY – Mr. Bunn reported on recent cases in the employment area, both of them pro employer decisions. The first one was about family and medical care leave act. This employee worked for the county and with her job duties of serving arrest warrants and making arrests, she had some emotional difficulties and went out on medical care leave. She was cleared to return to work, and when she went back to work, her employer was concerned about her condition and

ordered another evaluation. She said that her rights were being violated by the Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA), but the courts said that even though they returned her to work, they still have the right to have another evaluation done at their expense. The second one involves the Meyers-Milias Brown Act, which Public Employers negotiate with labor unions. This case was with the County of Santa Clara and they had a proposal to reduce the hours of some of the employees. Under the Meyers-Milias Brown Act, employers and employees are required to bargain in good faith, but ultimately the decision of most issues is that of the employer. In this case the employer made the determination and the union said they weren't bargaining in good faith. The County of Santa Clara reduced their labor budget and they didn't want to do any layoffs, so instead they wanted to reduce hours and the union did not have control over the organizations budget. The courts said if they are not going to layoff, then they can reduce the hours. The act does not have a procedure for determining impasses; however the county had adopted a procedure similar to the District's procedure for resolution if you get to an impasse and theirs called for a series of procedures with a mandatory mediation and the union said they did not do any of that. The reached an agreement with the union and said they would give a 45 day notice before reducing the hours and give them an opportunity to meet and confer. The union arrived to meet and confer but to implement this policy they would need to accomplish this in 45 days and a full mediation cannot be done in that time, so the by time the union agreeing to the 45 days it waived the right to go through the impasse procedure.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Engineering Committee – Mr. Gould reported that the Committee met on May 9, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. and reviewed the Well levels and Well capacity status charts, discussed the status on Project E-934 – Well 5, 8, 9, 11 & 12 Rehabilitation, the status of the Crescenta Valley Stormwater Project, discussed the Rockhaven Well and Proposition 84 Grant, the Ordunio Wall, and the status of FY 13/14 Capital Improvement Project Program.

Finance Committee – Director Bodnar reported that the Committee met on May 6, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. and discussed the 2013/14 Fiscal Year Audit.

Employee Relations Committee – Director Bodnar reported that the Committee had not met; however a meeting will be scheduled as needed.

Policy Committee – Director Ross reported that the Committee had not met; however a meeting will be scheduled as needed.

Community Relations/Water Conservation Committee – Director Tejeda reported that the Committee had not met; however a meeting will be scheduled as needed.

Emergency Planning Committee – Director Bodnar reported that the Committee had not met; however a meeting will be scheduled as needed.

DIRECTORS ORAL REPORTS

Director Ross – No Report

Director Erickson – No Report

Director Bodnar reported that he attended the Finance Committee meeting on May 6th and the Engineering Committee meeting on May 9th. On May 10th he worked with the community on trash clean up on La Crescenta Ave. off ramp. On May 15th he attended the CVTC meeting.

Director Tejeda reported that she attended the ACWA Spring Conference with Mr. Erdman and Director Erickson and said it was a well ran conference. She also attended the MWD Delta Tour.

Director Putnam reported he saw the District servicemen working on Rosemont and said that the staff was well organized and that they did a good job with the traffic control.

CLOSED SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

There being no other business to come before the Board at 8:50 p.m., it was moved by Director Ross, seconded by Director Tejeda and carried that the meeting be adjourned to June 3, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

APPROVED

James D. Bodnar
President

Ron L. Mitchell
Secretary-Treasurer

CRESCENTA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item No. 1
June 3, 2014

To: Honorable President and Members of the Board of Directors
From: Ron L. Mitchell – Secretary-Treasurer
Subject: Temporary Employee

AGENDA ITEM

Temporary Employee – Consideration and motion to authorize the General Manager to hire a temporary employee for a period not-to-exceed six months.

BACKGROUND:

CVWD currently employs five full-time Utility Workers along with one Supervisor to perform construction & maintenance duties related to meter replacements, lateral replacements, repair of leaking water mains, exercising valves, fire hydrant repairs and maintenance, and various tasks related to these duties. In addition, the District employs two Maintenance Workers and a Supervisor who performs the cleaning, videotaping and maintenance of the sewer collection system and is trained to help with the construction crews when needed.

The District is once again faced with a situation that due to a work related injury, a non-work related injury, and a need for a leave-of-absence, we are short-handed and need additional help to do all the work necessary. The work related injury to one of our Utility Workers was reported to the Board by Mr. Erdman in November 2013. At that time it was believed that the injury was not too serious and the employee would be able to return shortly. As it turns out, the injury was more severe than first expected and the employee still has not returned to work and it appears that he may not return for several more months. A second Utility Worker has been granted a leave-of-absence for personal reasons and is expected back around the end of June. Over the weekend, our System Operators Supervisor suffered an injury and will be unable to work for a minimum of six weeks. Due to Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA) regulations I am unable to give more details related to these situations.

Due to the injury to the Utility Worker and a higher than normal volume of leaks, we have been utilizing our Maintenance Workers more to help with these repairs. This has put our sewer cleaning program behind schedule and has not allowed us to exercise valves as directed by the Department of Public Health. It also hinders our ability to utilize crews to help in the distribution area if necessary for sampling or other operations maintenance issues. In order to avoid further disruption of our regular work crews, it is recommended that a temporary employee be hired to supplement our utility crews until we can return to full strength.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

There will be a cost for the temporary employee during the period of employment of approximately \$3,800 per month, which will be offset by not having to pay the salary of the full time Utility Worker II. Temporary employees do not receive any benefits and the only cost in addition to pay is the cost for workers compensation insurance.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to hire a temporary employee, for a period not-to-exceed six months, to perform Utility Worker I duties.

Prepared and submitted by:



Ron L. Mitchell
Secretary-Treasurer

CRESCENTA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item No. 2
June 3, 2014

To: Honorable President and Members of the Board of Directors
From: Ron L. Mitchell – Secretary-Treasurer
Subject: Discussion of District Memberships

AGENDA ITEM

Discussion of District Memberships – Discussion of the various organizations in which the District has memberships.

BACKGROUND:

During the course of preparing the FY 2014/15 budget, staff was asked by Director Erickson to provide a list of the various organizations in which the District and its employees are members and bring this information back to the Board for discussion.

Attached is a list of the various organizations in which the District has memberships for the current fiscal year for review and discussion. The list includes the organization name, number of memberships, which enterprise (water or wastewater) is the primary beneficiary, the amount paid in the current year, and the name of the member.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff feels that memberships in the various organizations are beneficial to District operations and provide staff with valuable information pertaining to new products and methods used to perform the duties necessary to run the District. It is recommended that the Board of Directors continue to support memberships in these organizations.

Prepared and submitted by:



Ron L. Mitchell
Secretary-Treasurer

Crescenta Valley Water District Memberships for FY 2013/14

Organization	Memberships	Primary Enterprise Benefit	Dues	Member Name
Association of California Water Agencies (AWCA)	1	Water Enterprise	\$16,120.50	District
American Back Flow Association (ABA)	1	Water Enterprise	\$75.00	Cory
American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)	1	Water & Wastewater Enterprises	\$285.00	Dennis
American Water Works Association (AWWA)	2	Water Enterprise	\$1,886.00	District & Raymond
Costco Wholesale Membership	1	Water & Wastewater Enterprises	\$165.00	District
California Utility Executives Management Assoc. (CUEMA)	2	Water & Wastewater Enterprises	\$800.00	Dennis & Ron
California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC)	1	Water Enterprise	\$2,677.14	District
California Water Environment Association (CWEA)	8	Wastewater Enterprise	\$1,450.00	Jim, Raymond, Morgen, Rob Alan, Cesar, Christy, Larry
Montrose Chamber of Commerce	1	Water & Wastewater Enterprises	\$60.00	District
Crescenta Valley Chamber of Commerce	1	Water & Wastewater Enterprises	\$75.00	District
National Notary Association	1	Water & Wastewater Enterprises	\$179.00	Ron
Southern California Water Utilities Association (SCWUA)	8	Water Enterprise	\$200.00	Dennis, Ron, David, Mark Brook, Pete, Christina, Joe
Southern California Alliance of Publicly Owned Treatment Works (SCAP)	1	Wastewater Enterprise	\$538.00	District
Springbrook National Users Group	1	Water & Wastewater Enterprises	\$100.00	District
Water Education Foundation	1	Water Enterprise	\$3,459.00	District
Water Environmental Federation	3	Wastewater Enterprise	\$747.00	Dennis E, Dennis M, Brook
Total Membership Dues		Water & Wastewater Enterprises	\$28,816.64	

NEWS FROM THE CVWD board of directors



Posted by [Robin Goldsworthy](#) on May 29th, 2014 and filed under [Viewpoints](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#). You can leave a response or trackback to this entry

The Drought and Crescenta Valley Water

Governor Brown declared a statewide drought in January 2014 urging all Californians to voluntarily reduce their water usage by 20%. This action was followed by an executive order in late April further emphasizing the severity of the drought and calling for all Californians to conserve water in every way possible.

Crescenta Valley Water District (CVWD) is a public agency regulated by the State of California under Division 12 of the California Water Code. Formed in 1950, the District provides water services to approximately 32,000 residents, businesses, schools, and parks located in La Crescenta, Montrose, and portions of Glendale and La Cañada-Flintridge. Approximately 60% of our water comes from ground water pumped from 12 wells located along the base of the Verdugo Mountains plus a small tunnel located high in Pickens Canyon. The remaining 40% is imported from the Foothill Municipal Water District (FMWD), a wholesaler of water. FMWD receives water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) which in turn obtains the water from the Colorado River and the State Water Project. The District uses 17 storage reservoirs located throughout the community to distribute the water. Residents use 88% of the water while commercial, dedicated landscape, schools, and Caltrans use the remaining 12%.

This is our third consecutive year of below normal rainfall. Our local total for this year stands at 8.9 inches, far below the average of 23.3 inches per year and below the previous two drought years, both of which were about 11.0 inches. The groundwater table in the Verdugo Basin is declining due to the low rainfall over the last three years. The District is in the process of rehabilitating six of its wells this year and plans to rehab others next year to improve water production. MWD states that water storage in Southern California is healthy but its supply will continue to decrease as the water is used to offset the pumping restrictions of water being released from the State Water Project due to the drought.

The District is studying the possibility of a storm-water collection system located within Crescenta Valley County Park to help recharge the Verdugo Basin. Obtaining the funding and clearing the regulatory process has taken time, and project completion will most likely be another four to five years. Water recycling for park irrigation is another area the District is looking to implement if state or other funding becomes available.

Working with FMWD and neighboring communities, the District follows the Water Alert Status system: blue, green, yellow, orange, and red. Presently we are at yellow alert, but this could change if the water situation worsens. Water conservation yellow alert permits outdoor irrigation

on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Complete details of the water conservation alert system can be found at www.cvwd.com. The District recognizes that our community is conservation-minded, already achieving the 20% reduction requested by Gov. Schwarzenegger in February 2008. The District is asking the community to reduce outside watering, check for leaks inside and outside your home, and shorten your time in the shower. View the District website, www.cvwd.com or contact the office at (818) 248-3925 for the latest water alert status, conservation information, and rebate programs.

Rockhaven Plans Spark Discussion at CVCA



Posted by [Robin Goldsworthy](#) on May 29th, 2014 and filed under [News](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#). You can leave a response or [trackback](#) to this entry



Photo by Aimee YEGHIAYAN BECK

Possible plans for the development of the property housing the former Rockhaven sanitarium were discussed at the CVCA meeting.

By Jason KUROSU

Debate continues to swirl around the property formerly known as the Rockhaven Sanitarium in Montrose, the fate of which continues to hang in limbo since the city of Glendale purchased it for \$8.25 million in 2008. The city has begun to tell developers that they would hear proposals for potential affordable housing developments, along with ideas for other projects. Meanwhile, the public continues to express concern over the possible loss of a historically significant property, which served as women's care facility for 78 years.

The Crescenta Valley Community Association (CVCA), which regularly discusses land use issues, brought up the matter at its May 22 meeting.

Mike Lawler of the Historical Society of the Crescenta Valley and the Friends of Rockhaven told the CVCA that the Friends of Rockhaven were introduced to the idea of a "public/private partnership development" which would aid in restoring and preserving the myriad buildings that make up Rockhaven.

“Although we hesitated, with a lot of gnashing of teeth and tearing of hair, we decided to give it a shot,” said Lawler.

Recently, around 30 to 40 individuals toured the grounds of Rockhaven, the first of two open houses for any interested parties. Another open house on Rockhaven’s grounds is scheduled for June 4.

The city issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) stating what they were looking for in a prospective developer. Among the criteria listed in the RFQ for any sort of development are the preservation of historic buildings on the property and measures for involving the community in the decision-making process.

But to some, the city’s talks with developers is the death knell for any sort of resolution that will reflect the public’s wishes, whether that be for historical preservation or a move away from overdevelopment.

Those attending the meeting were adamant about making their presence felt at future city council meetings, where they would request the city to slow down talks with developers.

Former city councilman John Drayman urged residents of La Crescenta to make their voices heard, especially because of what he described as clear intent towards development when the Rockhaven property was purchased.

“This was not just purchased in a vacuum to say, ‘Here, let’s just think up what we can do with it.’ Until the Crescenta Valley begins to speak with a voice, saying to the city, ‘This is what we want,’ you’re not going to get it,” said Drayman.

Drayman, who was on the city council at the time of the purchase, said, “They purchased it for a specific reason. A funding stream was created specifically for that property.”

City council candidates Paula Devine and Vartan Gharpetian were in attendance and offered their views on the subject.

Gharpetian said he “isn’t against development. I’m for responsible development.”

Gharpetian posited that the city’s recent interest in Rockhaven stems from Glendale’s hopes to expand and develop, such as the recent revitalization efforts of downtown Glendale and the arts and entertainment district. Gharpetian said this expansion may be happening too quickly, and suggested a potential local history museum on Rockhaven’s grounds.

Devine said that any development the city pursues would be less than the 80-unit housing development once believed was a possibility.

“The plan is to bring in developers who know they have to preserve the integrity of that historic site and, if there’s any development, it is not zoned for 80 units. It is zoned for a small development that must mimic the neighborhood,” said Devine.

The residents present agreed to draft a letter to Glendale City Manager Scott Ochoa urging him to put a hold on the RFQ process and offer more community meetings regarding Rockhaven.

According to the RFQ, interested developers have until July 2 to submit statements of qualifications.

GWP to hear residents concerns over new rate tiers next Wednesday at Sparr Heights



Posted by [Robin Goldsworthy](#) on May 29th, 2014 and filed under [News](#). You can follow any responses to this entry through the [RSS 2.0](#). You can leave a response or trackback to this entry

By Ted AYALA

Staff from Glendale Water & Power will be conducting community outreach for a new rate tier proposal at the Sparr Heights Community Center next Wednesday.

The new rate plan was devised by GWP after the previous plan, which had been designed by Willdan Financial Services of Temecula, was found to be flawed by city staff late last year. The discovery of the error, however, came too late. Willdan's rate structure, which undercharged some customers, while overcharging others, resulted in a loss of millions annually for the utility.

A new rate structure commissioned by Bartle Wells of Berkeley is now being pushed forward.

Glendale is currently pursuing litigation against Willdan for its flawed work.

Residents in the Crescenta Valley will be the first in a new round of GWP community outreach set to take place across the entire month of June.

Concerned residents are encouraged to attend the meeting on Wednesday, June 4 at the Sparr Heights Community Center (1613 Glencoe Way, Glendale 91208). Meeting begins at 6 p.m. and ends at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call the GWP at (818) 548-3300, or the Sparr Heights Community Center at (818) 957-7503.

Monthly water bills for Glendale residents, businesses could increase

City Council expects to vote on new water rates in July.

info item

By Brittany Levine, brittany.levine@latimes.com

May 28, 2014 7:27 p.m.

Monthly water bills for average single-family residences and commercial customers could increase by \$17.98 and \$16.67, respectively, by fiscal year 2017-18 if the City Council approves the rate cap they set earlier this month, according to figures released Tuesday by the city.

The council limited Glendale Water & Power's revenue increases to a compounded 20.4% over four years on May 13, but officials did not know at the time how that lid would impact individual customer bills.

The utility mailed out notices about the rate increase this week to customers.



The council, which expects to vote on new water rates in July, can select a new rate plan that will have smaller bill impacts than their proposed ceiling, but they can't go over it, according to state law.

Glendale Water & Power needs to increase water rates to fix botched ones which were approved by the council in 2012 even though there was opposition from customers.

The five years of water rates approved in 2012 overcharge some customers and undercharge others, officials have said. In addition, the utility made \$8.8 million less than expected since the 2012 rates went into effect.

The water side of the utility was \$9.9 million in the red as of early May.

Since the water rates are designed to encourage conservation as well as protect the utility from losing vast amounts of revenue when customers curtail their use, the rate increase will differ depending on one's customer type, meter size and water use.

While most customers could see their rates ratcheted up over time, commercial customers with a 4-inch fire line could experience a nearly 27%, or \$157.65, drop because they were one of the most overcharged customers due to the rate errors.

Officials are pursuing legal action against the consultant that made the mistakes, Willdan Financial Services of Temecula. The city paid Berkeley-based Bartle Wells \$130,000 to come up with the new rate proposal. The city paid Willdan \$107,000 to design the 2012 rates.

The proposed rates also include an adjustable drought charge that would be triggered during mandatory conservation phases to protect utility revenues.

Community meetings about the proposed rate increases are scheduled from 6 to 7:30 p.m. on the following dates and places:

- June 4, Sparr Heights Community Center, 1613 Glencoe Way
- June 5, Police Community Room, 131 N. Isabel St.
- June 18, Pacific Edison Community Room, 501 S. Pacific Ave.
- June 19, [Boy Scouts of America](#), 1325 Grandview Ave.

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