

Ventura County Special Districts Association

403 W. Hillcrest Drive
Thousand Oaks, CA 91360
805 495-6471 Fax: 805 497-3199

VCSDA

MINUTES

VENTURA COUNTY SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
DINNER MEETING

Tuesday, October 7th, 2008

The regular meeting of the Ventura County Special Districts Association was held at the Camarillo Health Care District.

1. Call to Order/Flag Salute/Roll Call

President George Lange called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and Jane Rozanski from Camarillo Health Care led the flag salute.

Roll call was taken.

The following districts and agencies were represented:

**Calleguas Municipal Water District
Camarillo Health Care
Camrosa Water District
Conejo Recreation and Park District
Montalvo Municipal Improvement District
Pleasant Valley Recreation and Park District
Ojai Valley Sanitary District
Oxnard Harbor District
Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District
Saticoy Sanitary District
United Water Conservation District
LAFCO**

2. Welcome and Introductions – President George Lange

Lange welcomed and thanked everyone for his/her attendance and support. He thanked Camarillo Health Care District for their help and hospitality in hosting the meeting.

3. Approval of the Minutes for June 3rd, 2008

It was moved by Al Fox, seconded by Elaine Freeman, and carried to approve the minutes of June 3rd, 2008 as presented.

4. Treasurer's Report – Bill Lotts for Jack Curtis

Lotts provided a Treasurer's Report on the Association's funds for the period of April 30th, 2008 to August 29th, 2008. The balance on hand as of June 3rd, 2008 was \$6,856.85. Checks paid through August 29th totaled \$1,136.61. Balance on hand as of August 29th was \$8,226.45.

Lange announced that the Association's Bylaws required an internal audit of the Association's financial records and that this audit would be performed by February 2009. A report will be provided at the annual dinner meeting.

It was moved by Jim Acosta, seconded by Nancy Acosta, and carried to accept the Treasurer's Report for August 29th, 2008.

5. Reports & Announcements

a. LAFCO Update – Kim Uhlich

Uhlich presented a LAFCO update. She said in July, LAFCO staff attended a workshop on agricultural mitigation that was hosted by CALAFCO. Uhlich also reported that Ted Grandsen's term on LAFCO would end in December, providing for the advancement of Bill Lotts from Alternate to the full Board Position. She said the deadline to submit a vote for the alternate LAFCO representative position was October 24th.

Lange thanked Uhlich.

b. Legislative Update - Elaine Freeman

Freeman provided an update on legislation of interest to special districts. She discussed Prop 1A and informed the group that a budget was adopted and that special districts still needed to be diligent in protecting local property taxes due to the economy and federal prison obligations.

The CSDA Legislative Committee took a position on 40 bills. Of the nine CSDA opposed, the Governor vetoed seven. CSDA supported thirty-one and the Governor vetoed 5 of these.

She specifically discussed AB 983 and said that this bill was vetoed. CSDA lobbied hard against this bill that would require public entities to accept responsibility for mistakes in plans submitted for projects. Under the bill, an agency would bear the cost for these mistakes rather than the preparer of the plans.

Lange mentioned that he and Freeman had discussed the idea of VCSDA taking positions on bills in the future and setting up a system for member agencies to take positions. The group entertained a vote and concurred that VCSDA should consider

taking positions on bills, as necessary. Lange said that the Executive Committee would contact those agencies not in attendance to vote and provide their comments.

Freeman said the CSDA Legislative Committee was scheduled to meet on October 17th and set a course for next year. She offered assistance to any agency that needed legislative support.

Lange and the group thanked Freeman for her presentation.

c. CSDA Update – Jim Acosta, CSDA President

Acosta reported on the annual CSDA Conference held in Irvine, California and noted the location for the 2009 Conference. He encouraged everyone to attend. He said that CSDA had a budget but fell short of expectations and that they were successful in protecting Prop 1A funding. He asked for each agencies support on issues facing special Districts. Acosta said he was a candidate for Region 5 and that he was reelected for another five year term as a CSDA Board of Directors. The group congratulated Acosta for his service as President of CSDA.

Camarillo Health Care District presented Acosta with an “Accommodation” plaque.

d. VCSDA Website Report – Lee Martin

Martin reported that the VCSDA website now offered a video of Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District (RSRPD), Conejo Recreation and Park District and the Oxnard Harbor District. He urged everyone to keep him informed of any changes that should be reflected on the website, to communicate goals, and to send videos or slides to be incorporated on the site. He provided suggestions and ideas and offered his services to the agencies for assistance with creating a video of their agencies. He asked everyone to view the website.

Lange thanked Martin.

e. VCSDA RPRP (Roving Public Relations Panel) – George Lange

Lange informed the group that he and the Treasurer had made presentations to service clubs and said that speakers were needed. He encouraged each agency to entertain the idea to have staff from their District be a speaker.

6. Old Business

b. Members’ Contribution to our VCSDA Newsletter...*The President’s Page* – George Lange

Lange said the President’s Page was emailed to the Association. He encouraged the members to share this newsletter with their staff members.

7. New Business

a. Candidates Forum

Lange thanked the two candidates for attending that evening. In alphabetical order, he opened the floor to Bruce Dandy, Director for United Water Conservation District. Dandy thanked Lange and the group for allowing him the opportunity to address the Association. He said humbly that he was withdrawing his name from the candidates list due to personal reasons but vowed to return in the future. He asked those in attendance for their future support.

Gail Pringle, Director for Calleguas Municipal Water thanked the group for the opportunity to address the Association. She provided a brief background of her experience and spoke of the challenges facing the water community. She spoke of her knowledge of LAFCO and the experience she would bring to face the responsibilities needed to assist in LAFCO's success. She asked for their support and vote.

Lange thanked Dandy and Pringle for their presentations.

b. Nominations and volunteers selected to participate on the VCSDA Nominations & Annual Dinner Committee.

Lange opened the floor for volunteers for the Nomination Committee. Paul Rockenstein (Pleasant Valley), Susan Craig (Camarillo Health Care) and Gail Pringle (Calleguas Municipal Water District) volunteered to be the Nomination Committee. Lange thanked them and noted that Judy Cofer would move into the President's position and that the Committee would select a new Vice-President and Treasurer.

Lange opened the floor for volunteers for the Dinner Committee. Susan Craig (Camarillo Health Care), Elaine Freeman (Simi Valley Rec and Park District) and Jim Acosta (Montalvo Municipal Improvement District) volunteered.

Lange said the annual dinner meeting would take place on February 3rd, 2009 and would be held at the Tower Club in Oxnard.

c. Kim Uhlich, newly elected to State CALAFCO's Executive Board.

Uhlich said that at the annual CALAFCO's Conference, George Lange was elected to the CALAFCO Executive Board. She commented that Lange was the only Commissioner elected from Southern California. Lange said it was an honor to be elected to this position.

8. Membership Comments

Al Fox, Director for Camrosa Water District informed the group that Leisure Village was now on 100% recycled water for their landscape.

Dandy introduced Mike Solomon, General Manager for United Water Conservation District. Dandy said that Solomon had recently been promoted to this position due to

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Dana Wisehart's retirement. The Group congratulated Solomon and wished him success in his new position.

Adjournment to Next Meeting, December 9th, 2008 at Thousand Oaks Hill Canyon Facility.

Lange informed the group of a change in the December meeting date. He said due to the ACWA Conference, the December 2nd meeting would take place on December 9th. A tour of the Thousand Oaks Hill Canyon Facility was offered by Mark Watkins, Public Works Director for the City of Thousand Oaks, and Lange said the meeting time would change to accommodate the tour during daylight. He said the Association would be advised of the start time.

Lange again thanked Camarillo Health Care District for their hospitality.

Lange declared the meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Alida Inouye for Shirley Ohren, Secretary