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IT PAYS TO COME TO THE MEETINGS



New This Year— PRIZE DRAWINGS

President Judy Cofer kicked off the year's first official meeting with a new twist, A PRIZE drawing. Everyone was given a ticket just for coming and at the end of the evening the drawing was held. You can see the excitement on the faces of the winners! It

truly paid to come to the meeting. The drawings will continue at each meeting with more prizes and fun for all who attend. Anyone is welcome to donate prizes to the drawing. Just let Judy or Robin know what and

how much you have to donate and they'll do the rest. The next prize drawing will take place on June 2, 2009 after the Tug Boat ride, a great dinner and a productive meeting. Don't miss it!

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April 7, 2009—Chinese Food and Lively Conversation



Oxnard Harbor District—Port of Hueneme by Will Berg

When you ask Will Berg, Marketing and Public Information Officer for the Port of Hueneme, to talk about the Port, you had better bring a lunch (or dinner as it were) because he has no problem telling you about the comings and goings involved in operating a commercial Port.

Will's update included the most recent activities concerning The Maintenance Dredging Project. He described the use of the CAD Confined Aquatic Disposal site to hold contaminated sediment.

*containment of sediment
approximately 8,000 years with
Contained Aquatic Disposal*

The CAD will contain the sediment for 8,000 years!

Mr. Berg also talked about the TWIC (Transportation Worker Identification Credential) program implemented at the Port.

Well Done Immediate Past President—George Lange

Judy Cofer presenting a plaque to immediate past president,

George Lange. Judy thanked George for all the leadership and guidance he provided Ventura County Special

Districts Association over the past two years.

The plaque reads::

In recognition and appreciation of
2 years of exemplary service
as President of Ventura County Special
Districts Association

2007 - 2009

Thank You

The VCSDA thinks you are a STAR!



LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

The CSDA Legislative Committee reviewed the Propositions appearing on the May 19th ballot and recommended a support position. It was generally felt that while the measures were not perfect they did provide a plan for dealing with the budget crisis facing California. Now that the voters have rejected all but one of the propositions, it is apparent that the State will look to the cities, counties and special districts to make up \$2 billion of the budget shortfall. Local governments can lose up to 8% of their property tax monies at a time when most are already financially struggling to provide the services needed and wanted by their constituents. Please contact your representatives in Sacramento and make your voice heard on this matter.

There are several other pieces of legislation to watch. One in particular is SB 711 by Leno. This bill is being pushed by newspapers which would require that the legislative body, before holding a closed session regarding employee compensation, to identify the employee or class of employees that are the subject of the negotiations, the representatives of the employees, and all known matters within the scope of the negotiations, and to also make available to the public certain written proposals.

The bill would require the legislative body, before commencing negotiations for a new collective bargaining agreement or initial proposal for an unrepresented employee, to present, in an open and public session, the new collective bargaining agreement or initial proposal.

It would additionally require any vote of the legislative body on the collective bargaining agreement or initial proposal to be taken at an open and public session.

This bill has a good chance to get to the Governor. Contact your legislator to express opposition and if it does get to the Governor, all need to contact his office in opposition.

Another Leno bill, SB 802, would cap the retention on for contracts to 5% of the contract. This certainly reduces the control of contracts in favor of the independent contractor.

CSDA Legislative Days were May 5 and 6.

IT HAPPENED AT THE FAIR!

I am completing the application form for the Ventura County Fair and it appears at this time that we will have a 10 x 10 space in the Ag Pavilion.

So far we have commitments from:

- 1) Conejo Recreation & Park District – George Lange
- 2) Rancho Simi Parks & Recreation District – Larry Peterson
- 3) Camrosa Water District -- Al Fox
- 4) Ventura Port District - Oscar Pena
- 5) Oxnard Harbor District – Judy Cofer



The Fair opens Wednesday August 5 and set up runs for the entire prior 7 days (July 29 – Aug 4).

Fair runs until Sunday August 16 and tear down is Monday August 17.

TOTAL OF 12 DAYS!. August 13 is Water/Natural Resources Day at the fair so it seems a natural for Camrosa to man the booth. Any more water agencies out there??? We know United will have its own booth. If we don't get any more members to participate that means each participating member will need to cover a little over two days. We will make a schedule that overlaps each other.



The Ventura County Special Districts Association (VCSDA) represents the more than 30

independently governed special districts located in Ventura County. Some of these special districts have been in the public agency business for nearly 80 years.

Special Districts are a grass roots form of local government, representing 95 percent of Ventura County's residents. Services provided by special districts are as divergent and varied as the public need. Taken in the aggregate, special districts offer more kinds of public service than other forms of local government.

Special Districts respond quickly to the needs of local residents through direct accessibility thereby avoiding layers of bureaucracy residents may encounter with other forms of local

government.

