



Ventura County Special Districts Association

May/June
2015

Offering Quality of Life Services Through Direct Representation



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Mike Paule

Greetings VCSDA Members.

We had a wonderful meeting at the Port of Hueneme on April 7th in which our members were treated to an informative tour and learned about the amazing happenings at the Port and the economic impact that it provides to Ventura County and the region as a whole. A special thanks to the staff of the Oxnard Harbor District for hosting the meeting and to Will Berg who provided an outstanding briefing on the Port's operations and future opportunities.

It is our plan to showcase as many of our VCSDA member facilities as possible as we move ahead with our bi-monthly meetings.

The Spring has been busy with proposed legislation and some of the most significant that impact our members and constituents have been outlined in this newsletter. The CSDA Special District Legislative Days is coming up May 19th and 20th in Sacramento and we will have a report for you at our June 2nd regular meeting.

Water issues continue to dominate the news in California as the State Water Control Board, following Governor Brown's mandate, voted to implement far reaching restrictions that will impact all of us.

Mike Solomon (General Manager of United Water Conservation District) is our guest speaker for the June 2nd meeting. He will provide additional insight into the challenges that we face as we all strive to meet these new cutbacks.

I hope to see all of you at our June 2nd meeting which will be held at the Camarillo Health Care District.

How to reach us:

VCSDA, c/o Port of Hueneme,
Attn: Michelle Kinnun
333 Ponoma Street
Port Hueneme, CA 93041
Phone:(805) 488-3677, Fax:(805) 488-2620
E-mail: mkinnun@portofhueneme.org

VCSDA MEETING

June 2, 2015 at

The Camarillo Health Care District
Adult Center

5:30 PM Registration and Dinner
6:00 Meeting

More details with the RSVP form

RSVP before deadline with enclosed form

Guest Speaker:

Michael Solomon—General Mgr.
United Water Conservation District

Mike Solomon



Mr. Solomon will provide us with an update on the State's worsening drought situation and the regional impact of recent State mandated restrictions.

Mike Solomon Joined United Water Conservation District in 1997 as the Chief Financial Officer.

Prior coming to United, Mr. Solomon spent 12 years as the Budget and Risk Manager for the City of Ventura and four years as a financial analyst for Getty Oil Co. Mr. Solomon has been actively involved in State-wide water issues as a former member of ACWA's Board of Directors and Executive Committee and participation in the State Water Contractors' Audit-Finance Committee.

Mr. Solomon received his B.S. in Business Administration from California State University Northridge and has served as the General Manager of the District since September 2008.

VCSDA Board Members



PRESIDENT
Mike Paule



VICE PRESIDENT
Mike Mishler



TREASURER
Kate O'Brien



SECRETARY
Mary Anne Rooney



PAST PRESIDENT
Elaine Freeman



Legislative Update



LEGISLATIVE REPORT – Ventura County Special Districts Assoc.

Our Legislature has been busy and here are a few that are in committee:

SCA 5 (Hancock) Local government: special taxes: voter approval. This is a repeat of a bill that didn't make it last year. It decreases the voter requirement for special taxes from two-thirds to 55%. It would require the ballot to contain a specific list of programs and purposes to be funded with the requirement that tax proceeds be spent solely for those programs or purposes and also requires an annual independent audit and requires the governing board create a citizens' oversight committee. This has a SUPPORT position.

SB 975 (Frazier) Local Agency Public Construction Act: bid criteria This bill would prohibit local agencies from disqualifying or penalizing contractors during the prequalification process if a contractor is involved in an ongoing affirmative claim. Agencies will only be able to penalize or disqualify contractors based upon past claims if the award amount was more than 20% of the total contract. This has an OPPOSE. the feeling being that the State is overstepping its authority on contractor selection.

AB-2 (Aleio) Community revitalization authority. This bill is a repeat of AB 1080 (2013) and AB 2280 (2014), which we supported. It allows local governments to establish a Community Revitalization and Investment Authority as an economic development financing tool. It allows special districts to participate via a JPA and requires the consent of all affected taxing entities before the allocation of tax increment. Participating special districts can choose to allocate less than the full amount of the tax increment, establish maximum amount of time that the allocation takes place, or limit the use of the funds by the authority for specific purposes or programs. Additionally, special districts can repeal their participation with 60 days' notice, except to the extent the tax increment has been pledged to debt payment. SUPPORT position

AB 988 (Stone) Outdoor Environmental Education & Recreation Grants Program This bill would require the Dept. of Parks & Recreation to establish, on or before 3/30/16, an Outdoor Environmental Education and Recreation Grants Program with the purpose of increasing the ability of underserved and at risk populations to participate in outdoor recreation and educational experiences by awarding grants to public organizations, nonprofit organizations or both. SUPPORT position



Legislative Update



AV 108 (Lara) Integrated regional water management plans: grants: advanced payment
This bill would establish a process whereby the state agency administering an IRWMP grant could provide advance funding of integrated regional water management plan grants where the project proponent is a nonprofit organization or a disadvantaged community, or the project benefits a disadvantaged community. SUPPORT position.

SB 272 (Hertzberg) The California Public Records Act: local agencies: inventory
This bill would require local agencies to create a catalogue of all enterprise systems used by that agency. "Enterprise system means a system that is both of the following: A multi-departmental system or system that contains information collected about the public and a system or record which means a system that serves as an original source of data within an agency. This would mean any records such as GIS, payroll system, etc. The League of California Cities as well as County Supervisors Assoc. are in opposition over questions of privacy and security. This has a WATCH position as we work with these two groups.

SB 331 (Mendoza) Public contracts: local agencies: negotiations This bill would enact the Civic Reporting Openness in Negotiations Efficiency Act to establish specific procedures for the negotiation and approval of contracts valued at \$50,000 or more for goods or services by local agencies that have adopted a civic openness in negotiations ordinance (COIN) WATCH position

AB 1017 (Campos) Employers This bill would require all employers to post a minimum rate of pay within any job advertisement and prohibit employers from paying less than the amount advertised. This bill would prohibit employers from seeking salary history information from an applicant. Finally, this bill would prohibit a current or former employer from providing salary history information without written authorization from the employee. OPPOSE

More information will be provided at the June meeting.

Photos from the April 7, 2015 Meeting at the Port of Hueneme

