

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: RAY DIENZO, P.E. R.D.
GENERAL MANAGER
DATE: OCTOBER 3, 2024



PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

The following presentations and reports are scheduled:

- C-1) DIRECTORS' ANNOUNCEMENTS OF DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY INTEREST AND REPORTS ON ATTENDANCE AT PUBLIC MEETINGS, TRAINING PROGRAMS, CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS. [RECOMMEND RECEIVE AND FILE REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS].

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: RAY DIENZO, P.E. *R.D.*
GENERAL MANAGER
DATE: OCTOBER 3, 2024



CONSENT AGENDA

The following items are considered routine and non-controversial by staff and may be approved by one motion if no member of the Board wishes an item removed. If discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda by a Board member and will be considered separately at the conclusion of the Consent Items. Individual items on the Consent Agenda are approved by the same vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration. The recommendations for each item are noted in bracket. Members of the public may comment on the Consent Agenda items.

**Questions or clarification may be made by the Board members
without removal from the Consent Agenda**

- D-1) WARRANTS [RECOMMEND APPROVAL]
- D-2) APPROVE SEPTEMBER 25, 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES
[RECOMMEND APPROVE MINUTES]

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

REVIEWED: RAY DIENZO, P.E. *R.D.*
GENERAL MANAGER

FROM: JANA ETTEDDGUE *J*
FINANCE DIRECTOR

DATE: OCTOBER 4, 2024

AGENDA ITEM
D-1(A)
OCTOBER 9, 2024

WARRANTS

COMPUTER CHECKS GENERATED – SEE ATTACHED	\$286,934.22
HAND WRITTEN CHECKS	NONE
VOIDED CHECKS	NONE

Item D-1(A) Warrants OCTOBER 9, 2024

Nipomo Community Services District

By Payment Number

Payment Dates 10/09/2024 - 10/09/2024

Vendor Name	Description (Payable)	Payable Number	Payment Date	Amount
Payment: 12788				
Alexander's Contract Services,	Meter reading	202409280012	10/09/2024	4,164.82
				Payment 12788 Total: 4,164.82
Payment: 12789				
Allweather Landscape	LMD	52717	10/09/2024	325.00
				Payment 12789 Total: 325.00
Payment: 12790				
Aquatics Informatics Inc.	WIMS user licenses	110343	10/09/2024	2,627.52
				Payment 12790 Total: 2,627.52
Payment: 12791				
AT&T	Telephone	000022333607	10/09/2024	30.42
AT&T	Telephone	000022333606	10/09/2024	34.56
AT&T	Telephone	000022333608	10/09/2024	119.05
				Payment 12791 Total: 184.03
Payment: 12792				
AT&T Mobility	Cell service	287318508827X10022024	10/09/2024	1,326.25
				Payment 12792 Total: 1,326.25
Payment: 12793				
Brenntag Pacific, Inc.	Citric acid	BPI462811	10/09/2024	1,911.98
Brenntag Pacific, Inc.	Sodium hypochlorite	BPI461371	10/09/2024	568.24
Brenntag Pacific, Inc.	Sodium hypochlorite	BPI463480	10/09/2024	477.66
				Payment 12793 Total: 2,957.88
Payment: 12794				
California Electric Supply	Fuses	7826-1148682	10/09/2024	163.13
California Electric Supply	Relays, timers	7826-1148438	10/09/2024	339.30
				Payment 12794 Total: 502.43
Payment: 12795				
CalPortland Construction	Class 2 base	96495920	10/09/2024	565.40
CalPortland Construction	Truck rental for Class 2 base	96495921	10/09/2024	234.30
				Payment 12795 Total: 799.70
Payment: 12796				
Camacho, Miguel	T2 certification renewal	SEPT2024	10/09/2024	60.00
				Payment 12796 Total: 60.00
Payment: 12797				
Cannon Corporation	TO#23-004 Water Distribution	89619	10/09/2024	8,666.00
				Payment 12797 Total: 8,666.00
Payment: 12798				
Center For Hearing Health, Inc.	Annual audiometric testing	20971	10/09/2024	720.00
				Payment 12798 Total: 720.00
Payment: 12799				
CivicPlus LLC	Online District Code hosting	312171	10/09/2024	900.00
				Payment 12799 Total: 900.00
Payment: 12800				
Clever Ducks	Monthly billing - September	36829	10/09/2024	4,965.48
				Payment 12800 Total: 4,965.48
Payment: 12801				
Electricraft, Inc.	Installation of 10 control signal	20869	10/09/2024	7,887.00
				Payment 12801 Total: 7,887.00

Item D-1(A) Warrants OCTOBER 9, 2024

Payment Dates: 10/09/2024 - 10/09/2024

Vendor Name	Description (Payable)	Payable Number	Payment Date	Amount
Payment: 12802				
EMCOR Services Mesa Energy	HVAC service - SWWTF	960104959	10/09/2024	1,353.52
Payment 12802 Total:				1,353.52
Payment: 12803				
Everywhere Right Now, Inc	Annual invoice for monthly	4068	10/09/2024	1,920.00
Payment 12803 Total:				1,920.00
Payment: 12804				
Executive Janitorial	Janitorial services	90038	10/09/2024	780.00
Payment 12804 Total:				780.00
Payment: 12805				
Famcon Pipe and Supply Inc.	4" flanges, spool, bolt and nut	S100137776.001	10/09/2024	728.63
Famcon Pipe and Supply Inc.	Water service brass U-branch	S100120802.001	10/09/2024	183.40
Famcon Pipe and Supply Inc.	6" brass saddles with straps	S100137179.001	10/09/2024	761.25
Famcon Pipe and Supply Inc.	Armorcast meter box lids	S100109380.001	10/09/2024	1,769.63
Famcon Pipe and Supply Inc.	G5 valve boxes and lids	S100137774.001	10/09/2024	1,240.54
Payment 12805 Total:				4,683.45
Payment: 12806				
FedEx	Package handling	8-633-57417	10/09/2024	63.59
Payment 12806 Total:				63.59
Payment: 12807				
Fence Factory	Installation of chain link fence at 546028		10/09/2024	985.00
Payment 12807 Total:				985.00
Payment: 12808				
FGL Environmental	Lab tests	483265A	10/09/2024	1,741.00
FGL Environmental	Lab tests	483225A	10/09/2024	890.00
Payment 12808 Total:				2,631.00
Payment: 12809				
Frontier Communications	BL Telephone	SEPT2024	10/09/2024	79.00
Payment 12809 Total:				79.00
Payment: 12810				
GLM Landscape Management	Landscape maintenance	CI-4234	10/09/2024	935.00
Payment 12810 Total:				935.00
Payment: 12811				
Great Western Alarm and	Alarm monitoring service	240902107101	10/09/2024	80.00
Great Western Alarm and	Alarm monitoring service	240902062101	10/09/2024	80.00
Payment 12811 Total:				160.00
Payment: 12812				
Hach Company	Nitrate analyzer for Knollwood	14171216	10/09/2024	21,199.80
Payment 12812 Total:				21,199.80
Payment: 12813				
Home Depot Credit Services	Tools and supplies	SEPT2024	10/09/2024	189.64
Payment 12813 Total:				189.64
Payment: 12814				
Iconix Waterworks (US) Inc.	Meter adapters, couplings, ball	U2416040725	10/09/2024	1,094.04
Payment 12814 Total:				1,094.04
Payment: 12815				
Maldonado, Francisco	CSM3 certificate renewal	SEPT2024	10/09/2024	116.00
Payment 12815 Total:				116.00
Payment: 12816				
Miner's Ace Hardware	Supplies	SPET2024	10/09/2024	565.75
Payment 12816 Total:				565.75
Payment: 12817				
Mission Uniform Service	Uniforms	522451073	10/09/2024	449.47
Mission Uniform Service	Uniforms	522405635	10/09/2024	398.32
Payment 12817 Total:				847.79

Item D-1(A) Warrants OCTOBER 9, 2024

Payment Dates: 10/09/2024 - 10/09/2024

Vendor Name	Description (Payable)	Payable Number	Payment Date	(None)	Amount	
Payment: 12818						
NexTraq	GPS subscription	USCI_04032	10/09/2024		603.05	
					Payment 12818 Total:	603.05
Payment: 12819						
Nunley & Associates, Inc.	TO#23-008 Southland WWTF LS	001050000496	10/09/2024		2,081.12	
					Payment 12819 Total:	2,081.12
Payment: 12820						
Nu-Tech Pest Management	Pest/Rodent Control	0183520	10/09/2024		75.00	
Nu-Tech Pest Management	Pest/Rodent Control	0183516	10/09/2024		265.00	
					Payment 12820 Total:	340.00
Payment: 12821						
Office Depot	Office supplies	386990765001	10/09/2024		126.84	
Office Depot	Office supplies	386988363001	10/09/2024		174.57	
Office Depot	Office supplies	386949367001	10/09/2024		20.03	
Office Depot	Office supplies	385185831001	10/09/2024		105.08	
Office Depot	Office supplies	386985811001	10/09/2024		166.43	
Office Depot	Office supplies	386985406001	10/09/2024		197.32	
					Payment 12821 Total:	790.27
Payment: 12822						
PG&E	Electricity	SEPT2024	10/09/2024		83,842.31	
					Payment 12822 Total:	83,842.31
Payment: 12823						
Polydyne, Inc.	Clarifloc	1867207	10/09/2024		3,296.91	
					Payment 12823 Total:	3,296.91
Payment: 12824						
ReadyRefresh by Nestle	Distilled water	1400900023136	10/09/2024		71.94	
					Payment 12824 Total:	71.94
Payment: 12825						
Richards, Watson & Gershon	Legal services - Nipomo Action	249500	10/09/2024		6,498.50	
Richards, Watson & Gershon	Water rights adjudication	249498	10/09/2024		219.10	
Richards, Watson & Gershon	Legal services through 8-31-24	249497	10/09/2024		6,496.02	
Richards, Watson & Gershon	Dana Reserve Specific Plan	249499	10/09/2024		28,663.12	
					Payment 12825 Total:	41,876.74
Payment: 12826						
Simplot Grower Solutions	CAN 17	780172550	10/09/2024		692.99	
					Payment 12826 Total:	692.99
Payment: 12827						
SoCalGas	Heat - shop/office	SEPT2024B	10/09/2024		24.68	
					Payment 12827 Total:	24.68
Payment: 12828						
Statewide Traffic Safety & Signs	Green and black marking paint	03024496	10/09/2024		156.48	
					Payment 12828 Total:	156.48
Payment: 12829						
Sterling Communications	New radio for Vactor, spare	0012130-IN	10/09/2024		1,633.75	
					Payment 12829 Total:	1,633.75
Payment: 12830						
Tuckfield & Associates	Rate consultant	0747	10/09/2024		1,050.00	
					Payment 12830 Total:	1,050.00
Payment: 12831						
ULINE	Traffic signs	24770771	10/09/2024		987.88	
					Payment 12831 Total:	987.88
Payment: 12832						
UPS Store #6031	Package handling	52 - 2024	10/09/2024		59.58	
					Payment 12832 Total:	59.58

Item D-1(A) Warrants OCTOBER 9, 2024

Payment Dates: 10/09/2024 - 10/09/2024

Vendor Name	Description (Payable)	Payable Number	Payment Date	(None)	Amount
Payment: 12833					
US Bank National Association	Software subscriptions	SEPT2024C	10/09/2024		131.99
US Bank National Association	Operating supplies	SEPT2024E	10/09/2024		321.37
US Bank National Association	Recording fees	SEPT2024G	10/09/2024		258.47
US Bank National Association	Storage unit	SEPT2024D	10/09/2024		257.00
US Bank National Association	Board meeting supplies	SEPT2024	10/09/2024		41.00
US Bank National Association	Travel and meals	SEPT2024B	10/09/2024		193.96
US Bank National Association	Training seminars and materials	SEPT2024H	10/09/2024		900.00
US Bank National Association	Office supplies	SEPT2024F	10/09/2024		83.52
Payment 12833 Total:					2,187.31
Payment: 12834					
USA Bluebook	Male elbow tube	INV00489580	10/09/2024		77.17
USA Bluebook	Hach couplings	INV00487120	10/09/2024		75.49
USA Bluebook	Microscope slides, air	INV00489538	10/09/2024		647.73
Payment 12834 Total:					800.39
Payment: 12835					
Wallace Group	FOG program	63119	10/09/2024		652.70
Payment 12835 Total:					652.70
Payment: 12836					
Waste Connections	Waste collection - Southland	8677665U120	10/09/2024		313.45
Waste Connections	Waste collection - Office	8676588U120	10/09/2024		66.87
Waste Connections	Waste collection - Old Town	8677370U120	10/09/2024		354.60
Payment 12836 Total:					734.92
Payment: 12837					
Westamerica Bank	Installment payment for Vactor	OCT2024	10/09/2024		71,964.56
Payment 12837 Total:					71,964.56

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

REVIEWED: RAY DIENZO, P.E. *R.D.*
GENERAL MANAGER

FROM: JANA ETTEDDGUE *J*
FINANCE DIRECTOR

DATE: OCTOBER 4, 2024

AGENDA ITEM
D-1(B)
OCTOBER 9, 2024

WARRANTS – BLACKLAKE ASSESSMENT DISTRICT 2020-1

COMPUTER CHECKS GENERATED – SEE ATTACHED	\$14,351.52
VOIDED CHECKS	NONE

Item D-1(B) Warrants OCTOBER 9, 2024

Nipomo Community Services District

By Payment Number

Payment Dates 10/09/2024 - 10/09/2024

Vendor Name	Description (Payable)	Payable Number	Payment Date	Amount
Payment: 161				
Cannon Corporation	Blacklake Sewer Consolidation	89718	10/09/2024	7,941.49
			Payment 161 Total:	7,941.49
Payment: 162				
R. Baker, Inc.	Blacklake Sewer Consolidation	817	10/09/2024	6,410.03
			Payment 162 Total:	6,410.03
Payment: 163				
Special District Financing &	Annual BL A/D administration FY 16488		10/09/2024	2,000.00
			Payment 163 Total:	2,000.00

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: RAY DIENZO, P.E. R.D.
GENERAL MANAGER
DATE: OCTOBER 3, 2024



**APPROVE SEPTEMBER 25, 2024
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

ITEM

Approve action minutes from previous Board meeting. [RECOMMEND APPROVE MINUTES]

BACKGROUND

The draft minutes are a written record of the previous Board meeting action.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve Minutes

ATTACHMENT

- A. September 25, 2024 draft Board Meeting Minutes

OCTOBER 9, 2024

ITEM D-2

ATTACHMENT A

NIPOMO COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Serving the Community since 1965

DRAFT REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 25, 2024 AT 9:00 A.M.

JON S. SEITZ BOARD ROOM 148 SOUTH WILSON STREET, NIPOMO, CA

BOARD of DIRECTORS

ED EBY, **PRESIDENT**
DAN ALLEN GADDIS, **VICE PRESIDENT**
GARY HANSEN, **DIRECTOR**
PHIL HENRY, **DIRECTOR**
MARIO IGLESIAS, **DIRECTOR**

PRINCIPAL STAFF

RAY DIENZO, **GENERAL MANAGER**
JANA ETTEDDGUE, **FINANCE DIR/ASST GM**
PETER SEVCIK, **DIRECTOR OF ENG. & OPS.**
CRAIG STEELE, **GENERAL COUNSEL**

Mission Statement:

Provide our customers with reliable, quality, and cost-effective services now and in the future.

A. CALL TO ORDER AND FLAG SALUTE

President Eby called the Regular Meeting of September 25, 2024, to order at 9:00 a.m. and led the flag salute.

B. ROLL CALL AND PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA

At roll call all directors were present.

There were no public comments.

C. PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS

- C-1) DIRECTORS' ANNOUNCEMENTS OF DISTRICT AND COMMUNITY INTEREST AND REPORTS ON ATTENDANCE AT PUBLIC MEETINGS, TRAINING PROGRAMS, CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS. [RECOMMEND RECEIVE AND FILE REPORTS FROM DIRECTORS].

Director Henry

- *September 19, attended LAFCO meeting*

Director Gaddis

- *September 17, attended Board Officers' meeting*

Director Eby

- *September 19, attended LAFCO meeting*

- C-2) RECEIVE PUBLIC COMMENT ON PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS PRESENTED UNDER ITEM C AND BY MOTION RECEIVE AND FILE PRESENTATIONS AND REPORTS.

There were no public comments.

Upon the motion of Director Iglesias, and seconded, the Board approved receiving and filing presentations.

Vote 5-0

YES VOTES	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
<i>Directors Iglesias, Henry, Hansen, Gaddis, and Eby</i>	<i>None</i>	<i>None</i>

D. CONSENT AGENDA *The following items are considered routine and non-controversial by staff and may be approved by one motion if no member of the Board wishes an item removed. If discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda by a Board member and will be considered separately at the conclusion of the Consent Items. Questions or clarification may be made by the Board members without removal from the Consent Agenda. Individual items on the Consent Agenda are approved by the same vote that approves the Consent Agenda, unless an item is pulled for separate consideration. The recommendations for each item are noted in bracket. Members of the public may comment on the Consent Agenda items.*

D-1) WARRANTS [RECOMMEND APPROVAL]

D-2) APPROVE SEPTEMBER 11, 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES
[RECOMMEND APPROVE MINUTES]

D-3) AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF FORKLIFT IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPROVED FY 2024-2025 BUDGET [RECOMMEND AUTHORIZE STAFF TO PURCHASE MANITOU FORKLIFT FROM QUINN LIFT AT A COST OF \$91,109]

Director Iglesias requested item D-4 be pulled for discussion.

Jana Eteddgue, Finance Director, answered questions from the Board

There were no public comments.

Upon the motion of Director Gaddis, and seconded, the Board approved Consent Agenda Items D-1, D-2, and D-3.

Director Hansen abstained from item D-2 due to his absence at the last Board meeting.

Vote 4-1-0

ITEMS	YES VOTES	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
D-1, D-3	Directors Gaddis, Iglesias, Henry, Hansen, and Eby	None	None
D-2	Directors Gaddis, Iglesias, Henry, and Eby	Hansen	None

D-4) AUTHORIZE STAFF TO BID 2024 WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT PROJECT [BY MOTION AND ROLL CALL VOTE, AUTHORIZE STAFF TO BID PROJECT]

Peter Sevcik, Director of Engineering and Operations, presented the item and answered questions from the Board

There were no public comments

Upon the motion of Director Henry, and seconded, the Board approved Consent Agenda item D-4.

Vote 5-0

ITEMS	YES VOTES	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
D-4	Directors Henry, Iglesias, Hansen, Gaddis, and Eby	None	None

E. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

E-1) CONSIDER CHANGES TO THE AGENDA AND MINUTES [BY MOTION AND ROLL CALL VOTE, AUTHORIZE STAFF TO MAKE SUGGESTED CHANGES]

Ray Dienzo, General Manager, introduced and presented the item.

Craig Steele, District Legal Counsel, answered questions from the Board.

There were no public comments.

Upon the motion of Director Iglesias, and seconded, the Board authorized staff to make suggested changes.

Vote 5-0

YES VOTES	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Directors Iglesias, Hansen, Henry, Gaddis, and Eby	None	None

F. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

Ray Dienzo, General Manager, presented the item and answered questions from the Board.

There were no public comments.

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

There were no committee reports.

H. DIRECTORS' REQUESTS TO STAFF AND SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS

Director Eby requested staff place on a future agenda a District letter directed to the NSWSP water purveyors outlining issues the District had with transitioning to chloramine-treated water.

I. CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Craig Steele, General Counsel, announced that there would be closed session on items 2, and 3.

Nipomo Community Services District
REGULAR MEETING
AGENDA

- 1) CONFERENCE WITH DISTRICT LEGAL COUNSEL RE: PENDING LITIGATION PURSUANT TO GC §54956.9
 - a. SMVWCD V. NCSD (SANTA CLARA COUNTY CASE NO. CV 770214, SIXTH APPELLATE COURT CASE NO. H032750, AND ALL CONSOLIDATED CASES)
- 2) CONFERENCE WITH DISTRICT LEGAL COUNSEL RE: PENDING LITIGATION PURSUANT TO GC §54956.9(d)(1)
 - a. NIPOMO ACTION COMMITTEE, ET AL. V. COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO, ET. AL. (SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT CASE NO. 24CV-0351)
- 3) ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REVIEW PROCESS OF DISTRICT GENERAL MANAGER PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION §54957 (Step 1 of 2)

J. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION ITEMS

There were no public comments on closed session.

Director Eby called for a 10-minute recess before adjourning to closed session.

K. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION

Craig Steele, District Legal Counsel, announced there were no reportable actions taken in closed session.

President Eby adjourned the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

MEETING SUMMARY	HOURS & MINUTES	
Regular Meeting	0 hours	55 minutes
Closed Session	0 hours	40 minutes
TOTAL HOURS	1 hours	45 minutes

Respectfully submitted,

Ray Dienzo, General Manager and Secretary to the Board

Date

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: RAY DIENZO, P.E. *R.D.*
GENERAL MANAGER

AGENDA ITEM

E-1

OCTOBER 9, 2024

DATE: OCTOBER 3, 2024

**CONSIDER GRANT REQUEST FROM ONE COOL EARTH
IN THE AMOUNT OF \$15,000 TO SUPPORT THE
NIPOMO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL GARDEN PROGRAM**

ITEM

Consider grant request from One Cool Earth in the amount of \$15,000 to support the Nipomo Elementary School Garden Program [RECOMMEND AUTHORIZE GENERAL MANAGER TO EXECUTE GRANT AGREEMENT WITH ONE COOL EARTH].

BACKGROUND

One Cool Earth Inc. is a local non-profit organization, founded in 2001, that provides education and outreach programs for local schools that teach students about water conservation, solid waste management, and food production. Understanding composting of food waste, efficient use of water, and teaching children where food comes from through the organizations Garden Program, One Cool Earth creates and operates gardens as learning labs that grow healthy, happy and smart youth.

The attached proposal from One Cool Earth highlights the program outputs and outcomes. With California's increased focus on solid waste management, in particular food waste and composting, the program's outputs are timely and pertinent. The program's stated outcomes help build a youth community of environmentally conscience students who will grow into adulthood with the "skills, confidence and knowledge about environmental concepts involving waste and water..." Students will take these skills home, share them with family members, and expand the knowledge base within their communities.

FISCAL IMPACT

The District has funds dedicated in the current year budget to support community education and outreach for the services it provides; water, wastewater, and solid waste. The grant request is for \$15,000. Staff is recommending \$13,000 of the request to be funded from Fund #300 Solid Waste and \$2,000 from Fund #125 Water. Both funding sources have adequate funds available.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 7. COMMUNICATION. Use public outreach to communicate effectively with the public to obtain their input and build understanding and support for the District.

- B.1 Maintain productive communication and relationships with key stakeholders, such as city, County, State and Federal legislators, service clubs, etc. As appropriate, plan and assign for this role.

Goal 8. ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY SERVICES. Staff should focus on meeting the goals and objectives of existing services. Adding new services will be considered on a case-by-case basis and entered into only if funding can be found and existing services are not harmed.

- A.1 SOLID WASTE. Seek to maximize solid waste services for community and build understanding of services like hazardous waste, recycling, etc. and District's role.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that your Board review and consider the presentation from One Cool Earth and, if appropriate, authorize the General Manager to execute a one-year grant agreement for an amount not to exceed \$15,000.

ATTACHMENTS

- A. NCSD Grant Agreement
- B. NCSD Presentation

OCTOBER 9, 2024

ITEM E-1

ATTACHMENT A



1. Organization Background

One Cool Earth (OCE), a 501(c)3 nonprofit, operates in San Luis Obispo and Northern Santa Barbara County. OCE believes that every child deserves a place to grow--physically, personally, and intellectually. Our school garden program creates and operates gardens as learning labs that grow healthy, happy and smart youth.

Over the past twenty years OCE has steadily expanded, refining our mission and adding partners to support garden-based educational opportunities at public schools throughout the county. In the 2024-25 school year, we are working with 36 schools at 9 school districts across SLO County, serving 14,000 students. One Cool Earth has added a new early childhood program, the Play Grove, for 3 to 5 years located at One Cool Earth's headquarters garden in San Luis Obispo.

2. Program Summary

One Cool Earth requests funding to support our garden education programs at Nipomo Elementary School and Dorthea Lange Elementary in Nipomo. Our School Garden Program facilitates student-led projects that create real-world impacts (water savings, waste reduction, food production), building student wellbeing by encouraging responsibility, teamwork, environmental stewardship, and pride for their campus. In addition, our program makes water conservation and waste reduction relevant and personal by tying these concepts to growing food in school gardens. All our lessons are aligned with NGSS standards-based academics to support student learning in many subject areas, but especially science.

One Cool Earth provides a dedicated, weekly outdoor educator to each school who works directly with approximately 100 students each week (Standard Program) or 200 students each week (Premium Program), teaching a series of 18 project-based lessons to students outdoors on campus. Our program engages students with all five of their senses by completing garden improvement projects that reinforce science, technology, engineering, and math concepts. Example lessons include operating a school-wide vermicomposting and recycling program to reduce school waste hauling costs and provide fertilizer for garden beds, conducting home water audits, installing home water conservation fixtures, and building habitat gardens to reduce school water use, increase pollinators and beneficial predatory insects, and reduce pesticide use.

In addition, the lessons involve planting and harvesting vegetables, and our schedule produces a minimum of 3 harvests per year at a school site. Harvested vegetables are used in cooking lessons and tastings. Excess vegetables are provided to the Food Services department to be included in school lunches.

Besides teaching lessons directly to students, our program builds schools' capacity to incorporate outdoor education as a standard practice. Our educators work with teachers to model student management and age-appropriate, standards-based lessons. In addition, working



with students and volunteer community groups, we build and maintain outdoor education infrastructure, ensuring that compost systems, garden irrigation, soil, pathways, and other vital features are safe, attractive, and functional.

3. Program Needs

School gardens address several local needs of County residents. Overall, our program has developed at the invitation of local school administrators, teachers, parents, and students. School gardens are a resource requested by the community. The percentage of Nipomo Elementary students on free and reduced lunch assistance (75.0%) is slightly higher than the state average of 60.7%. The percentage of Dorthea Lange Elementary students on free and reduced lunch assistance (68%) is slightly higher than the state average of 60.7%. Our School Garden Program addresses several inter-related needs of students--environmental wellbeing, academics, and health--this holistic approach has proven more effective and engaging than addressing any one need in isolation from the others.

Environment

South San Luis Obispo county currently faces many environmental issues. Students represent key influencers in their family and community. By involving them in meaningful projects to improve their campuses, they gain knowledge, skills, attitudes and behaviors that they pass on to their families and communities.

One Cool Earth's School Garden Program encourages wise water-use. In an area of drought and groundwater overdraft, water conservation supports the stability of an area dependent on agricultural crops. Low-income residents are often hardest-hit by increasing utility prices, and water conservation provides direct financial savings. Overall, the current widespread community debate over water and land use presents an opportunity to inform decisions and promote both urban and agricultural watershed conservation behaviors through community education, using the schools as an entry point to discussion and action. Students versed in basic agricultural practices and urban water conservation techniques will be well-suited as watershed stewards now and in the future. One Cool Earth will incorporate stormwater and Low Impact Design (LID) education with the upcoming Nipomo Elementary and Lange Elementary capital improvement project and education funding yet to be determined from a Prop 1 grant awarded to Nipomo CSD.

Furthermore, OCE's School Garden Program addresses school waste costs as well as state mandates to reduce waste. Our garden programs are linked with school-wide recycling and composting programs. We process the compost in bins using worms to produce fertilizer for our gardens. By recycling, we reduce school waste hauling costs by up to \$3000 per year per school, helping to justify schools in partially funding garden programs. Increased student waste-disposal



awareness leads to reduced pollution from improper waste disposal.

School Garden Program takes place entirely outdoors, in school gardens, and encourages student familiarity and comfort in outdoor settings, encouraging outdoor activity and recreation on their own, which leads to appreciation for and stewardship of natural resources--if they connect with nature, they will protect nature.

Education

US students lag behind their international peers in Science (including Health), Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education, and the gap is greatest for low-income students. Science is a challenging subject for many students, even more so since elementary² schools lack dedicated lab space where hands-on science projects can take place. In addition, multi-subject elementary teachers often lack strong background training in scientific subjects and science education pedagogy. Elementary science achievement is important, as success forms a basis for continued student learning in STEM subjects through middle school and high school. Basic science education will also allow students to make more informed and reasoned decisions in their personal and civic lives.³

One Cool Earth's Program bridges textbook learning with the real world, and garden-based lessons aligned to classroom standards serve as effective, engaging, and low-cost⁴ laboratories as they model many of the basic concepts in earth science, life sciences, and physical sciences. Also, by providing teachers with training, coaching, and resources, and by maintaining gardens, increases the capacity of schools to teach science effectively.

Health

Our program includes best-practices in nutrition education by involving students in every step of the food system, from growing and harvesting, to cooking, eating, and sharing and operating the program over the duration of the school year. Nutrition makes outdoor education personal and relevant, and ties resource conservation and outdoor appreciation and recreation to health, a critical feature of our program at schools like Nipomo Elementary and Lange Elementary.

The body of research has found that garden-based nutrition education programs are a more effective method for increasing nutrition knowledge, fruit and vegetable identification.² National Math + Science Initiative, "The STEM Crisis."

skills, and fruit and vegetable consumption than in-classroom nutrition education programs.

Research also supports that garden-based interventions that involved consistent⁶⁷⁸ exposure to the garden over a longer period of time were more likely to increase consumption of fruits and vegetables¹². Three determinants lead to the most effective nutritional behavior change: 1)



One Cool Earth

Nipomo Education Proposal

Oct 3, 2024

decrease fear of trying new foods (neophobia); 2) increase perception that it is socially acceptable to eat fruits and vegetables; and 3) increase self-efficacy in abilities to eat fruits and vegetables. The hands-on nature of our school garden program is a key component for nutritional behavior change in children because it directly connects them to new foods in a supportive environment, offers many opportunities to taste and eat new foods, and provides skills that students can use to independently choose and prepare healthy foods.⁹

4. Collaboration

One Cool Earth closely partners with public schools to thoroughly integrate garden education with the curriculum. In addition, our program has formed partnerships with many local agencies.

We partner with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Creeklands Conservation, the Central Coast State Parks and the Resource Conservation Districts to enhance our science programming through the use of their facilities, funding, and technical expertise.

We have received funding and technical support from the County Public Health Department, the Food Bank Coalition, and the UC Cooperative Extension for the health components of our garden-education.

In addition, we have partnered deeply with the communities we serve, taking the time to understand our student's needs and meet them where they are: culturally and linguistically. We have built our organization's cultural competency through diversity trainings, Spanish language lessons, and by soliciting input and advice from our diverse community partners, including teachers, social workers, and parents as we design and implement our programs.

<https://www.nms.org/AboutNMSI/TheSTEMCrisis.aspx> Accessed: 29 November 2016.³

Marincola, Elizabeth. "Why Is Public Science Education Important?" *Journal of Translational Medicine* 4 (2006): 7. PMC. Web. 30 Jan. 2017.

⁴ Pigg, A., Waliczek, T., & Zajicek, J. (2006). Effects of a Gardening Program on the Academic Progress of Third, Fourth, and Fifth Grade Math and Science Students. *HortTechnology*, 16(2), 262-264. ⁵ Smith, L., & Motsenbocker, C. (2005). Impact of Hands-on Science through School Gardening in Louisiana Public Elementary Schools. *HortTechnology*, 15(3), 439-443.

⁶ Morgan, P., Warren, J., Lubans, D., Saunders, K., Quick, G., & Collins, C. (2010). The impact of nutrition education with and without a school garden on knowledge, vegetable intake and preferences and quality of school life among primary-school students. *Public Health Nutrition*, 13(11), 1931-1940. ⁷ McAleese, J. D., & Rankin, L. L. (2007). Garden-Based Nutrition Education Affects Fruit and Vegetable Consumption in Sixth-Grade Adolescents. *Journal of the*

American Dietetic Association [H.W. Wilson - GS], 107(4), 662.

Katharine Rondthaler Krieg | Executive Director | (805) 242-6301 |
kathariner@onecoolearth.org Every child deserves a place to grow!

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8 Wright, W., & Rowell, L. (2010). Examining the effect of gardening on vegetable consumption among youth in kindergarten through fifth grade. *Wisconsin Medical Journal*. 3(109), 125-129. ⁹Roche, E., Conner, D., Kolodinsky, J. M., Buckwalter, E., Berlin, L., & Powers, A. (2012). Social Cognitive Theory as a Framework for Considering Farm to School Programming. *Childhood Obesity*, 8(4), 357-363.

5. Proposed Scope of Work for Fiscal Year 2024-25

Program/Project Summary:

<p>Standard Program OUTPUTS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Premium programming at Nipomo Elementary (2 days per week) and Standard programming at Dorthea Lange Elementary (1 day per week). ● 36 Solid Waste-focused Lessons taught over the course of the year as part of 108 class package reaching 367 students at Nipomo Elementary and 528 students at Lange Elementary. Lessons are offered every week. ● Campus Waste Audit at Nipomo Elementary ● Green Team with composting and lunchtime waste sorting; ● Waste Handling Manual for Schools and waste consultation for leadership and teachers;
<p>Program OUTCOMES:</p> <p>1) 90% of students will increase their skills, confidence and knowledge about environmental concepts involving waste and water, measured using pre- and post-tests</p> <p>2) 70% of students will improve nutrition behaviors as evidenced by vegetable identification and preference pre- and post- test evaluations.</p> <p>3) Schools will save an average of \$1500 per year, per school in waste hauling costs by reducing waste through student-run recycling and composting programs, measured using school waste-hauling bills and waste audits to calculate diversion rates.</p> <p>4) Students will save an average of 1000 gallons of water per year per student (230K gallons total) through the use of water savings measures in their homes and landscapes, and through water reduction projects at school, measured based on water conservation projects savings on school campus, through self-reported behavior changes in pre- and post-test, as well as through participation rate in pledges to implement water-savings behaviors and technologies at home and in school.</p>

Budget

Budget Item	Total Cost	Requested from NCS D
<u>Personnel</u>		



One Cool Earth
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Educators (two educators teaches lessons to students; 1280 hours @ \$25/hour includes wage + taxes/insurance)	\$36,000	\$15,000
Support Staff (Program Director provides regular training, reviews and lesson support; Garden Specialist provides outdoor classroom maintenance; 306 hours @ \$30/hour includes wage + taxes/insurance;)	\$18,400	\$0
Volunteer Outdoor Classroom Labor	\$2,000	\$0
<u>Materials</u>		
Outdoor Classroom Materials (soil, compost, plants, lesson materials)	\$2,000	\$0
<u>Travel</u>		
Field Trips (two trips to local watershed educational center, including bus costs and entrance fees for 50 students)	\$2,000	\$0
<u>Indirect Costs</u>		
Indirect Costs (insurance, office, accounting, etc. < 10% of direct costs)	\$5,600	\$0
Totals:	\$66,000	\$15,000

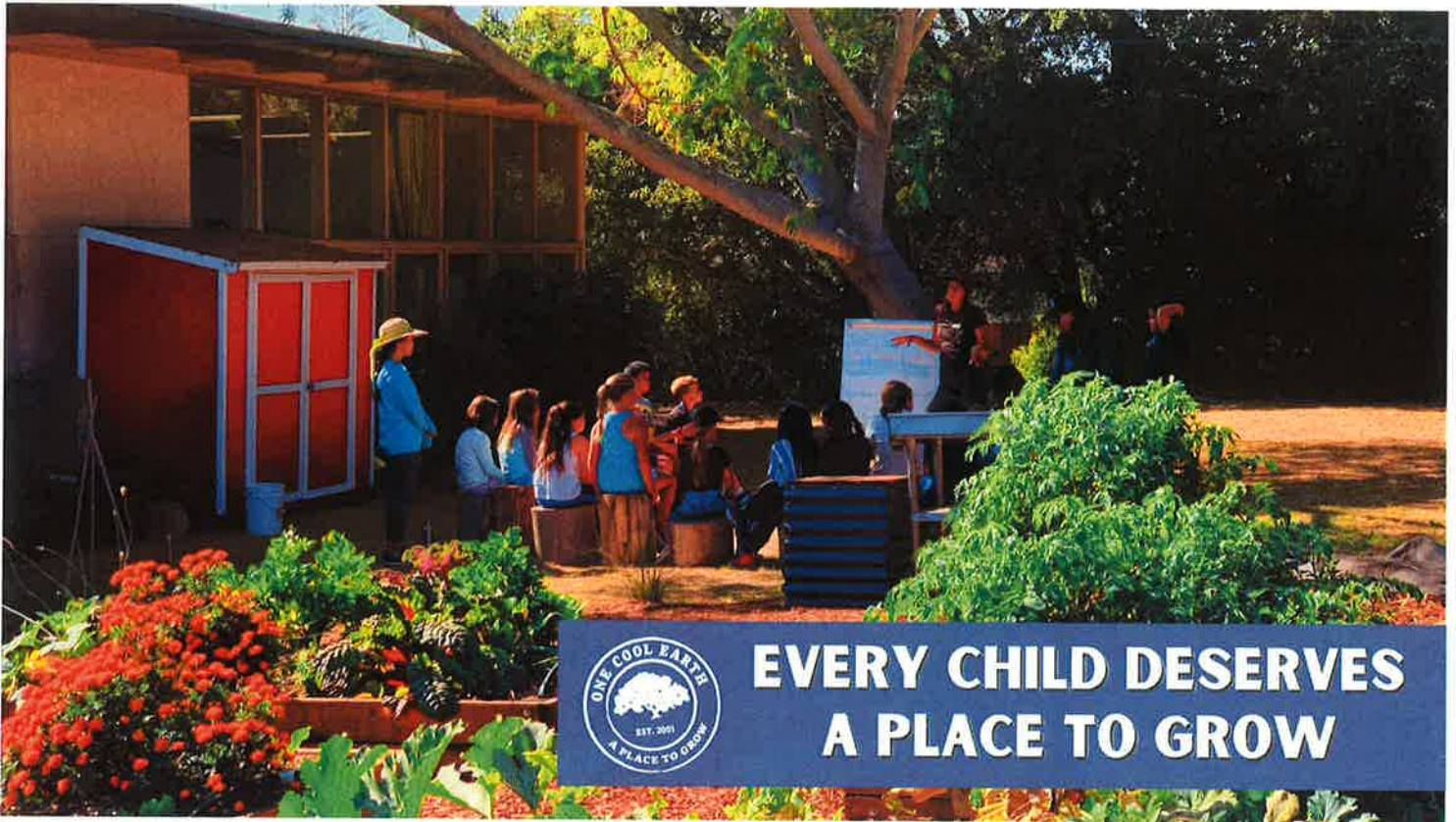
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OCTOBER 9, 2024

ITEM E-1

ATTACHMENT B



**EVERY CHILD DESERVES
A PLACE TO GROW**



KATHARINE RONDTHALER KRIEG Executive Director

- Worked in the field of garden education and sustainable agriculture since 2010
- BA from UC Santa Cruz in Environmental Studies and Biology, MS from Green Mountain College in Sustainable Food Systems
- Joined OCE in May 2022 as Executive Director





MISSION

We create school garden programs that grow healthy, happy, and smart youth.



HISTORY

- One Cool Earth founded in 2001
- School Garden program started in 2012
- North County with partnerships throughout
- First Green School certification - 2015 in Atascadero, Monterey Road Elementary
- Everything we do is with our community in mind
- Currently have 6 lead team staff; 12 Garden Educators; 3 supporting staff



OUR PROGRAM

PREMIUM PROGRAM

A Garden Educator spends 2 days every week devoted to your school.

- Minimum of 6 classes taught weekly
- Garden maintenance, planning, and project implementation
- Monthly Garden newsletters for the school community
- Partnership with PTA/PTO to ensure that school needs are met
- Lesson extension activities to bridge garden education to in-classroom learning
- Facilitation of two community focused Garden workdays per year
- Virtual Family Cooking Night, Green Team Training, and School-Wide Waste Audit included (\$1,550 value)

STANDARD PROGRAM

A Garden Educator spends 1 day every week devoted to your school.

- Minimum of 3 classes taught weekly
- Garden maintenance, planning, and project implementation
- Monthly Garden newsletters for the school community
- Partnership with PTA/PTO to ensure that school needs are met
- Lesson extension activities to bridge garden education to in-classroom learning
- Facilitation of two community focused Garden workdays per year
- Student Green Team Coordination



HEALTHY

By the age of 20, 1/3 of elementary students will be overweight, and 4/10 will have type II diabetes. **We are changing that by growing food that makes nutrition fun and personal.**





HAPPY

In a time when more students than ever feel disconnected from their school and community, **gardens bring people together and give space for exploration and play.**



SMART

Outdoor, living laboratories and project-based learning bridge textbooks and the real world. **Gardens help youth who struggle with learning science to increase test scores by up to 17%.**





36 total partner schools in 9 school districts

San Luis Obispo & Coastal

- Baywood Elementary School
- Monarch Grove Elementary School
- Sinsheimer Elementary School
- C.J. Smith Elementary School
- Los Ranchos Elementary School
- Cal Poly Food Pantry Garden

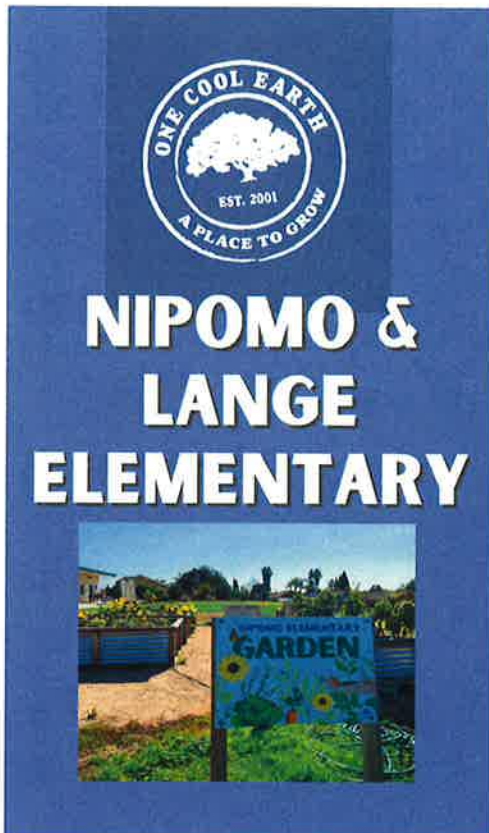
North County

- Cappy Culver Elementary School
- Lillian Larson Elementary School
- Monterey Road Elementary School
- Santa Rosa Academic Academy
- Paloma Creek High School
- Cambria Grammar School
- Shandon Elementary School
- Fine Arts Academy

- Santa Luica Middle School
- Atascadero Middle School
- Carissa Plains Elementary School
- Creston Elementary School
- Santa Margarita Elementary School
- Templeton Elementary School
- San Benito Elementary School
- San Gabriel Elementary School
- Vineyard Elementary School
- Flanson Middle School
- Georgia Brown Elementary School
- Virginia Peterson Elementary School
- Winifred Pifer Elementary School
- Glen Speck Elementary School
- Kermit King Elementary School
- Pat Butler Elementary School

South County

- Oceano Elementary School
- Nipomo Elementary School
- Mary Buren Elementary School
- Grover Beach Elementary School
- Mary Buren Elementary School
- Dorothea Lange



Standard Programming at Dorothea Lange & Premium Programming at Nipomo

- One day per week at Lange
- Two days per week at Nipomo
- Family Cooking Night
- Two Garden Workdays attended by students, family, and staff
- Campus-wide Waste Audit
- Green Team with composting and lunchtime waste sorting
- Garden revamp: new seating, fresh layer of wood chips, wine barrel garden beds around the perimeter, new lemon tree and native plantings

IN THE 2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR, WE HAVE...

- DISTRIBUTED 49 POUNDS OF PRODUCE**
- TAUGHT 186 HANDS-ON LESSONS**
- SERVED 1075 TASTE TESTS**



WASTE WEEK



Waste Week

- Waste handling manual for schools and waste consultation for leadership and teachers
- 18 solid waste-focused lessons taught over the course of the year as part of a 104-class package
- One entire week of lessons dedicated to teaching students how to properly sort waste on campus and at home.
 - Zero-Waste Challenge sheets distributed for students to bring what they learned home to their families



GREEN TEAM



Lunch Room waste diversion & Composting in the school garden

Green team is a group of 4th grade students that gather lunchtime food waste every week to feed worms within the vermicompost system. These dedicated students didn't just stop there; they assumed roles of leadership, guiding their peers on the dos and don'ts of composting in the lunch room.





EVERY CHILD DESERVES A PLACE TO GROW



TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
 FROM: RAY DIENZO, P.E. R.D.
 GENERAL MANAGER
 DATE: OCTOBER 3, 2024

**AGENDA ITEM
 F
 OCTOBER 9, 2024**

GENERAL MANAGER’S REPORT

ITEM

Standing report to your Honorable Board -- *Period covered by this report is 9/22/2024-10/5/2024.*

DISTRICT BUSINESS

Administrative

The District encourages residents to provide reports of any observed water waste. The District also keeps an accounting of leak adjustments as a measure of non-revenue water lost to leaks and tracks late fee waivers. The table below provides September 2024 data, which is the most recent monthly data available.

OFFICE ACTIVITIES	Sep 24	Jan 24- Sep 24
Leak Adjustments	3	17
Leak Adjustment Amount	\$488.40	\$3553.19
Late Fee Waivers	6	48
Late Fee Waiver Adjustment Amount	\$200.22	\$2960.73

Water Resources

For the three (3) months of the 2024-2025 Fiscal Year, the District’s total combined production, including groundwater production wells and supplemental water imported through the Joshua Road Pump Station, registered **185.7 AF**.

The District imported more water through the Joshua Road Pump Station than it produced from groundwater sources. This trend will continue through the year as the District strives to maintain the 50% groundwater reduction goal while also reaching the District’s contract import water take amount of 1,000 AFY minimum.

	Sep 24	Jul 24- Sep 24
Groundwater Production	73.0	242.8
Supplemental Water Imported	<u>112.7</u>	<u>345.8</u>
Total Production	185.7	588.6

NCSD GW Reduction

The District’s purveyor customers, Golden State Water Company and Woodlands Mutual Water Company, each are responsible for 16.66% (cumulatively 33.33%) of the imported water NCSD brings onto the basin through the NSWP. Of the 1,000 AF minimum imported water from the City of Santa Maria, 333 AF or 33.33% of the total imported water – whichever is greater – will be credited to these two purveyor customers. The credited amount must be added to the District’s groundwater pumping total every month to reflect the groundwater pumped by these customers in-lieu of taking imported water from the District. Table 2, below, captures this data.

Table 2. NCSD GW Production (NCSD GW Well Production plus Purveyor Credit)

	Sep-24	Jul 24 – Sep 24
NCSD GW Well Production	73.0	242.8
Purveyor Customer Credit (33.3% of Import Water)	37.5	115.2
NCSD Total Calculated GW Production	110.5	358.0
Average GW Production for 2009-2013	264.7	575.9
NCSD Percentage of GW Reduction	58%	57%

2024-2025 Fiscal Year Groundwater Pumping Forecast

This information will be updated in the first quarter of the Fiscal Year 2024-2025

Other Items

- District maintains Standard and Poor’s (S&P) Credit Rating of AA-.
 Maintaining this AA- was crucial for us to get a favorable interest rate for the bond refinancing and funding of the Foothill Tank project.
 This is a testament to our good history of financial planning and maintaining good fiscal practices moving forward. Congratulations to our District!
- Construction projects in progress
 - o Blacklake Sewer Consolidation
 - o Supplemental Water Project Interconnections with Golden State Water Company and Woodlands Mutual Water Company
- Dana Reserve Annexation Progress
 - o LAFCO Hearing – 11/14/2024
- Sewer Rate Study – in progress - target effective date July 2025
- Solid Waste Rate Review – in progress
 - o Pre-Prop 218 Notices - November 13, 2024
 - o Rate Hearing – January 22, 2025
 - o Target effective date Feb 2025

Upcoming Water Resource and Other Meetings

10/9/2024	- NCSD Board Meeting	9:00 AM	District Board Room
10/9/2024	- County Water Action Team	3:00 PM	County of SLO
10/10/2024	- NMMA - TG	10:00 AM	Teams
10/10/2024	- Ray Volunteer - 13th Annual Empty Bowls	12 noon	Arroyo Grande
10/14/2024	- IWMA Local Task Force	1:00 PM	Teams
10/23/2024	- NCSD Board Meeting	9:00 AM	District Board Room
10/24/2024	- SLO County Planning Commission	9:00 AM	SLOCo Board Room
10/24/2024	- SLO CSDA Chapter Meeting	11:30 AM	SLO - Olive Garden

11/4/2024	- South County Multi-Jurisdictional Coordination Meeting	1:00 PM	District Board Room
11/13/2024	- NCSD Board Meeting	9:00 AM	District Board Room
11/14/2024	- LAFCO - Dana Reserve Hearing	9:00 AM	SLOCo Board Room

SAFETY PROGRAM

No reportable issues

RECOMMENDATION

Staff seeks direction for format changes or future information your Board would desire to be included in future general manager reports.