

**SIX HUNDRED TWENTY FIFTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE  
EL DORADO HILLS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**

The six hundred twenty fifth meeting of the Board of Directors of the El Dorado Hills County Water District was held on Wednesday, August 20, 2008, at 7:30 p.m., at the regular meeting place of the District, the District Office, 1050 Wilson Blvd., El Dorado Hills, California. Present were Directors Hartley, Knight and Thomsen with Vice President Knight presiding. (Director Hidahl was in attendance via telephone from Walla Walla, Washington. Director Durante was absent.) Counsel Mike Cook was in attendance. Chief Veerkamp and Chief Financial Officer Bair were also in attendance.

Vice President Knight called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director Hartley moved to approve the Consent Calendar which included the minutes of the 624th meeting held July 16, 2008, and the expenditures for July 2008, seconded by Director Thomsen and unanimously carried.

Matt Beckett, the Captain of the Honor Guard, gave a quarterly report to the Board. He thanked the Board for the fully supported budget, which included new Honor Guard uniforms and new equipment. He stated that they are hosting an Honor Guard Training Camp in El Dorado Hills. He stated that they would like to do a presentation at the next Board Meeting to honor the late Director Moni Gilmore. Director Knight stated that the seniors were dedicating a plaque for Moni at a Dedication Ceremony on September 15th and that it may be a better place for them to honor her.

On behalf of the seniors, Fred St. Jean, a citizen, thanked the District staff and the Honor Guard for their support.

Chief Veerkamp wrote a letter to all the local representatives for the State of California opposing SB1617.

Director Hidahl had some questions for Counsel Cook regarding the recent Ethics Training the Board and Staff attended. Counsel Cook stated that he would answer the questions and give an update at Strategic Planning.

Director Hidahl asked him to describe gifts and perks. Counsel Cook stated that gifts of \$50 or more should be disclosed and that this applies to anyone who is covered under the Conflict of Interest Code.

Director Hidahl requested clarification on public funds, specifically that include office equipment, supplies and facilities? Counsel Cook stated that as long as things were being used within the policies set, there shouldn't be an issue. When it came to facility use, it would be appropriate if the benefit was for the District and community, and not beneficial to the person.

Director Hidahl questioned the Public Records Act. Counsel Cook stated that anything the District has, or any correspondence conducted by District Board and employees pertinent to the District, would be considered public. This also includes emails and photos. Photos are not clearly public records if they would impinge on someone's privacy rights. He stated that if you can look at it, read it, or if it relates to the business of this District, it is public record. When he was asked about W-2s, he stated that the actual W-2 may have private information on it but that there was also public information on the W-2s.

Counsel Cook summarized that public records are prepared and owned by the public agency. There could also be public information Board members have on their own personal computers. He stated that there are a slew of exceptions to what are public records which usually relate to privacy, health, or personal. He stated that any request for public records should come through their office.

Vice President Knight announced that the Closed Session, Item VI-A.1 would be moved to the end of the agenda.

Chief Veerkamp spoke with Dennis Dong, the architect, regarding the submittals for the Training Facility. He stated that Chief Russell had received a report from the Army Corps of Engineers which was written to allow the District to avoid getting a 404 Permit from the Army Corps of Engineers. This may allow the District to submit for a grading permit. The Committee will review these documents prior to any submittals.

Final revenue projections were received from the County. It appeared that there is a 4% increase in Assessed Valuation and just less than 4% for Property Tax.

There was discussion about the cost of recording the meetings. This was referred back to the Committee for further discussion.

Chief Veerkamp met with Chief Cooper of Latrobe. The Board Committee will meet again and possibly with the Latrobe Board.

Stipends for out of county incidents were discussed. The Committee had met. Director Hidahl stated that it appeared that there was a Board adopted policy in the Operations Manual. The line personnel have a clearly defined overtime agreement for strike team assignments. Chief Veerkamp clarified that this policy was instituted in 1995 for exempt personnel. The methodology for determining the stipend for exempt personnel was not as defined for fear of impairing the exempt status. The policy has been to come back to the Board with the calculations made and the Board has the ability to award the additional compensation. Counsel Cook stated that the Board has the ability to award additional compensation based on 1) personnel getting exposure to large incidents, 2) to assist a system that responds to everyone's needs, 3) to encourage going above and beyond. The intent of the Board is not to gain financial benefit from Strike Team Pay.

After much discussion Counsel Cook stated that additional information in this situation would be beneficial, understanding, however, that the policy itself is straightforward and allows for Board discretion.

Director Hidahl stated that the policy needs some clean up language and more definition. Director Thomsen stated that he would like the contracts with OES and Cal Fire. Director Thomsen also requested to meet with the Chief to better understand the calculations. Director Hidahl stated that this should go back to the stipend committee for review and to continue this item to the September meeting. Counsel Cook reminded the Board that the Committee could meet with Chief Veerkamp and Director Thomsen could meet with Chief Veerkamp separately, but they should not share information outside of the Board Meeting.

The Volunteer Stipend was also discussed. Chief Veerkamp will continue to work on this policy with legal counsel and bring it back to the September meeting.

It was also requested by Mark Ackerman, a volunteer, to have information on Volunteer Workers Compensation benefits.

Vice President Knight stated that items VI-C.3 and 4 should be moved to the September meeting along with item VII-E.

Director Thomsen moved to continue Items VI-C.3 and 4 and VII-E to the September Meeting, seconded by Director Hartley and unanimously carried.

Chief Veerkamp gave the Operations Report. It was reported that the JPA's new move-up policy was helping the response time and keeping Medic 85 in the District. Medic 86 went online August 1 and had a major impact to the system. Staff will continue to work on response times with the JPA. The Chiefs' Association is also discussing funding ALS Engines with the Board of Supervisors.

The Board discussed the JPA Budget for fiscal year 2008-09. The total proposed budget is \$10,670,869 and includes four additional ambulances. The Redhawk Casino has

signed a contract with the County and will be paying to the El Dorado County CSA7 \$455,000 and one-half of the cost to purchase an ambulance. The Board of Supervisors approved an increase in billable revenue.

Director Knight moved to approve the JPA Budget for fiscal year 2008-09, seconded by Director Thomsen and carried. (Hartley voted no.)

The Board reviewed the amended list of vacant lots that needed to be abated per the vacant lot ordinance.

Director Hartley moved to adopt Resolution 2008-07, approving the cost of weed abatement and imposing the costs upon the properties which abatement has occurred. The motion was seconded by Director Knight and unanimously carried. (Roll Call: Ayes, all. Absent, Durante.)

The report and budget regarding the Pandemic Flu was discussed. The Board questioned if this should be a County or JPA driven program. The Board decided that this item should be put into the Final Budget as a placeholder, and will continue researching this issue. Mark Ackerman stated that there may be grants available for this project. Captain Bresnahan is in charge of this program in the District.

Director Hartley moved to set \$160,000 as a placeholder in the budget, with more research and information to follow. The motion was seconded by Director Knight and unanimously carried.

The 2nd Quarter Goal Reports were in the packets.

The Board announced that the three Board Member terms that were open for election were filled by the incumbents with no opposition. Since there would be no election, this saved the District about \$30,000.

Chief Veerkamp reminded the Board that September 6th is the 36th Annual Wine and Cheese Event. He also noted that over the past few months a great deal of work had been accomplished and he thanked the staff for stepping up.

Vice President Knight suggested that in an effort to have better participation that the Closed Session be postponed until the September Meeting.

Director Hartley moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Director Knight and unanimously carried.

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

Approved:

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John Hidahl, President

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Connie Bair, Board Secretary