

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 21, 2022
To: Board of Directors
From: Tom Hennig, General Manager
Subject: General Manager's Report

COVID-19 RESPONSE

The Sacramento County Health Officer has rescinded the two health orders requiring masks and restricting public meetings to on-line. In accordance with this change, the District offices remain open for business. At this time Board meetings will be scheduled for the District Office. Committee Meetings will continue to be conducted via Zoom until further notice.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Senate Bill 1157, Hertzberg, as currently proposed, this bill would change the standards for indoor residential water use for urban water suppliers, to reflect those recommended by Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). Specifically, it would change the indoor residential water use standards beginning January 1, 2025, to be:

- a) Beginning January 1, 2025, until January 1, 2030 – 47 gallons per capita daily (gpcd).
- b) Beginning January 1, 2030 – 42 gpcd.

Please note that Rancho Murieta would not be required to comply with these new standards until we exceed 3,000 water connections. At this time, it is not clear when the District will reach this milestone. We continue to monitor the progress of this bill and will remain active in the discussion through our membership with the Regional Water Authority.

1. [California Supreme Court Case Franchise Fee/Tax](https://www.bwslaw.com/news/city-left-holding-the-trash-bag-waste-hauler-franchise-fees-may-be-challenged-as-illegal-taxes/): This case may take years to decide but may impact jurisdictions. If decided this is a tax, it would have to be specific to the service provided. Recommended that jurisdictions start tracking expenses for the work being done for franchises. Potential for different departments to want compensation (roads, etc.,). CSAC may be have additional information on this.
<https://www.bwslaw.com/news/city-left-holding-the-trash-bag-waste-hauler-franchise-fees-may-be-challenged-as-illegal-taxes/>

CAMERA PROGRAM UPDATE

We are working with our vendor to develop design and build plans for the potential expansion of our current camera inventory as part of the FY 2022-23 CIP plans. We will be meeting with our local partners during this process. We are working to schedule a meeting with the leadership from MGII to begin the process of improving our communications and to develop plans for placing surveillance cameras and other potential security measures.

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICES - The Pun Group and Municipal Resource Group have been working on getting our fiscal house in over the past few weeks. Their scope of work is organized into four core task orders/focus areas as follows:

Task 1 – 2021 Audit Readiness

Task 2 – Budget and Actuals for July 2022 and August 2022

Task 3 – 2022 Financial Analysis/Transaction and Audit Readiness

Task 4 – Budget and Actual for FY 2021-22

The current focus are tasks one and two. I anticipate task one to be completed by December and task two, FY 2022-23 Budget to Actuals to be presented at the next Board meeting. I will continue to provide the Board with regular updates on the progress of this work.

VIRTUAL BRIEFING FOR POLICYMAKERS AND DECISION MAKERS ON AMERICAN RIVER BASIN STUDY - There is a one-hour briefing today, September 21, 2022, on a recently published study related to findings in the newly-released American River Basin Study, which both paints a dire picture of climate change's projected impacts on water supply, water quality, ecological resilience, and critical habitat within the American River Basin, as well as identifies six strategies to help the Sacramento region adapt to the projected weather extremes and changes in precipitation patterns. I plan to attend this meeting and will provide information to the Board as appropriate.

INTEGRATED WATER MASTER PLAN RFP – We received one proposal in response to our RFP for an Integrated Water Master Plan. I've asked the Director of Operations to extend the deadline by four weeks and to expand our proposal announcement to a wider group. This includes CSDA and an advertisement in an industry monitored newspaper.

CAL-WASTE UPDATE

Food Waste Services Coming In 2023

- The State of California has implemented its new organic waste recycling requirements, in accordance with the statewide mandate, Senate Bill 1383.
- Residential organic waste recycling (food scraps and yard waste) is anticipated to begin at the beginning of 2023 for most Cal-Waste residential customers.
- Currently, there are no changes to residential collection and how you should sort your waste at your place of residence. When the district begins the collection of food waste and yard waste in a comingled container, Cal-Waste will provide complete information regarding the details of the new program. Residential customers of Cal-Waste can expect to change their waste sorting habits so that any and all food scraps no longer go into their Trash Cart. Instead, the food scraps will be placed in the Green Waste Cart.
- ***Please do NOT change your waste sorting habits until you have been contacted by Cal-Waste with an official program start date.***

CAL WASTE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

- Cal Waste has requested to update the franchise agreement for waste hauling with the District. We are currently negotiating the potential options for extending the current

agreement. As part of this negotiation we plan to investigate adding back at least one bulk waste pickup for every customer as part of these negotiations. The new agreement would include estimates for proposed rate increases that include a three-year phase-in for organic material handling.

PRA REQUEST UPDATE

There have been multiple PRA requests since last Board Meeting. The chart below shows the requests. These requests strain the overly taxed employee load, because they are typically broad and require hours of Staff time to locate and compile the requested data. I have asked Amelia to dedicate time each morning to collect information and prepare the responses.

9/20/2022	Richard Margarita	Any and all documents related to the discussion(s)/incident/ and/or interaction(s) between RMCS D General Manager Thomas Hennig, Anne Wheeler, and Crystal Matter on August 17, 2022, following the open session of the Rancho Murieta Community Service District Board Meeting, including, but not limited to, any and all emails, text messages, letters, and notes regarding the aforementioned incident/discussion/interaction, which shall include any such documents and communications from August 17, 2022 to Present.
9/2/2022	Richard Margarita	1. All contracts between RMCS D and Rob Brown, aka Robert Lee Brown, California BSIS License number 1299PRIN-54771, and/or Brown Professional Investigative Services;
		2. All invoices and payments issued to Rob Brown, aka Robert Lee Brown, California BSIS License number 1299PRIN-54771, and/or Brown Professional Investigative Services between January 1, 2020 to present;
		3. Any and all documents sufficient to identify the names of individuals CSD has requested that Rob Brown, aka Robert Lee Brown, California BSIS License number 1299PRIN-54771, and/or Brown Professional Investigative Services investigate, query, and/or research;
		4. Any and all documents sufficient to identify the RFP/RFQ process for contracting with Rob Brown, aka Robert Lee Brown, California BSIS License number 1299PRIN-54771, and/or Brown Professional Investigative Services;
		5. Any and all correspondence between RMCS D (staff and/or Board Members) and Rob Brown, aka Robert Lee Brown, California BSIS License number 1299PRIN-54771, and/or Brown Professional Investigative Services between January 1, 2020 to present;
8/17/2022	Richard Gehrs	Copy of the Management Letter to the Board from Bain to CSD that has to do with year-end 06/30/2020.

		All documents evidencing communications between Rancho Murieta Community Services District Board Members from November 1, 2018 through August 4, 2022.
		All documents evidencing communications involving Rancho Murieta Community Services District Board Member(s) and Thomas Hennig from November 2018 through August 4, 2022.
		All documents evidencing communications between Rancho Murieta Community Services District Board Member(s) and Rancho Murieta Association Board members concerning District business from March 1, 2020 through August 4, 2022.
		All documents evidencing communications between Rancho Murieta Community Services District Interim General Manager/General Manager, Thomas Hennig, and Rancho Murieta Association Board members concerning district business from March 1, 2020 through August 4, 2022.
		All recordings involving RMCSO business in the possession of the current General Manager. This request specifically excludes any recording from body worn cameras of RMCSO security officers that may be in the General Manager's possession.
		All documents sufficient to identify whether the Rancho Murieta Community Services District, to include employees and Board Members, have self-reported any Brown Act violations from 2018 through the present.

OUTREACH/ADVOCACY

CSD/MVA (Murieta Village) – Security Supervisor Benetiz and I attended the Murieta Village Board meeting on discuss a variety of local issues. Topics included methods to monitor for potential crimes and the recent efforts to occasionally patrol the Village on foot. This new plan has received positive comments from the residents. We will continue to meet with these Board members.

CSD/MGII (Murieta Gardens) – We are reviewing options for the placement of two sets of surveillance cameras which will cover the entry points into the housing development. A decision will be made shortly, and we anticipate installing the camera arrays within the next few weeks. We need to identify the electrical and communication options. Eventually there may be up to five different camera locations supporting the surveillance of vehicles and other forms of ingress and egress locations within the development.

CSD/RMA – Kelly and I met with RMA GM Kevin Hubred to review the rules related to issuance of bar codes to resident guests. We have also discussed the possibility for sharing radio channels to allow for better communications between the RMA Compliance Officers and CSD Gate and Patrol Officers.

CSD/Commercial Properties – I have requested to host a meeting to discuss the overall needs of the commercial properties within the District. There is currently no meeting time established.

Murieta Equestrian Center - Working with Kelly to schedule a meeting to meet with Equine Center manager to discuss Security.

Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District (SRCD) – I held a brief meeting with members of the District. We are still in a holding pattern for identifying any logistical or financial issues related to the SRCD Groundwater Authority.

GENERAL STAFFING UPDATE

We are currently recruiting three Accounting Technician vacancies.

CONFERENCE/EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES:

GSRMA Annual Training	October 20-21, 2022	Corning, CA
AWWA Annual Fall Conference	October 24-26, 2022	Sacramento, CA
CSDA Board Secretary/Clerk	November 7-9, 2022	Monterey, CA