

LAKE ARROWHEAD COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: AUGUST 23, 2016

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Lake Arrowhead Community Services District

FROM: 
CATHERINE CERRI, Interim General Manager

SUBJECT: INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

A. RECOMMENDATION

This is an information item only.

B. REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION

This is an information item only.

C. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- The **Pilot Fire** came within less than half a mile from the Grass Valley Wastewater Treatment Plant. Fire personnel were stationed at the plant 24 hours a day. Staff would like to recognize fire crews for the importance they placed on protecting this valuable asset for our community. Part of the efforts included gelling the methane tank, cutting large fire breaks and surrounding the plant with phos-chek. District staff manned the facility 24 hours to maintain full operations and to be prepared to put a contingency plan in place that would avoid overflow. At the same time, the Field Operations department prepared Deer Lodge Park for increased water flow if it became necessary. An inspection of the outfall line indicated some damage to air vents but repair costs will be minimal. All the staff at LACSD are willing to put forth extra effort to protect public health and safety. A few of the staff who were called to extra duty during the fire are recognized below.
 - Matt Brooks put together multiple contingency plans for the GVWWTP to be implemented if necessary. He also worked long hours and made sure that Deer Lodge Park had as much water as possible.
 - Mike Blackwood and Steve Papp created contingency plans for fire flow in Deer Lodge Park and physically connected different zones in preparation for the worst case scenario. They also worked long hours monitoring the situation.

- Justin Luck and John Sanchez worked the long overnight shifts at GVWWTP, helping to direct firefighters unfamiliar with the area and provided a connection to recycled water to be used for firefighting.
 - Trevor Cory and Kyle Rose also worked extended shifts at the plant.
 - Bobby Martinez and Corwin Mossman stayed out in the field for an extended shift to monitor the situation. They were on site ready to activate an intertie between the water systems to be sure that DLP had additional fire flow.
 - Matt Brooks, Trevor Cory, John Sanchez, Kyle Rose and Justin Luck all had their cars covered in phos-chek without complaint.
- The **Blue Cut Fire** started on Tuesday, August 17. Fire crews that were working the Pilot Fire contacted the District for permission to use the Hesperia property as a heliport which was granted. We were pleased to be able to help in any way possible.
 - The **SWRCB** issued the results of their “stress test” which measured water suppliers’ ability to meet short term water supply demands. Most agencies reported they had enough supply, including LACSD. Agencies that can demonstrate sufficient supplies may be released from mandatory conservation targets.

District Update

CDO reporting requirements were fulfilled on time. Recruitment for open field operations positions has been completed. The annual financial audit is underway. An agreement with the United States Bureau of Reclamation is being drafted to study the feasibility of the Hillside Ponds for a possible Indirect Potable Reuse project. A proposal is being formulated for an analysis of District wastewater treatment processes. Polar Pump Station upgrades have begun. Several key employees attended a workshop related to unmetered water which prompted some new ideas on this issue.

Legislative Update

- The Little Hoover Commission is holding a public hearing on August 25, 2016. One of the topics is “Defining Prudent: What’s a Fair Share of Property Taxes and Reserves?”
- Senate Bill 885 (Wolk) was pulled from consideration and will not move forward this year. This is the proposed legislation that would have required public agencies to defend the actions of contracted design professionals.
- The California Water Board is still considering charging a Drinking Water Fee to all public water systems and wholesalers. The latest revision to the fee is expected to cost the District approximately \$29,000 per year.

- Recent rulings *Spokeo, Inc. v. Robins* and *Nanni v. Aberdeen Marketplace*, as well as CA SB269 are examples of an attempt to address the surge in the number of lawsuits. Spokeo specifically increases the burden on the plaintiff to prove sufficient concrete injury. SB269 gives small businesses the opportunity to remedy a deficiency related to the Americans With Disabilities Act.
- The Department of Justice is considering a new law related to the “Accessibility of Web Information and Services of State and Local Government Agencies”. This law would require the District disability accommodations for its web content. There is currently some discussion about exempting smaller agencies.

D. FISCAL INFORMATION

This is an information item only.

E. ATTACHMENTS

None