

Los Osos Community Services District
Committee Report

Committee: Water Advisory Committee

Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2009

Committee Members Present:

Linde Owen	Dan Gilmore – CSD General Manager
Chuck Snead	Mitch Cooney, CSD Interim General Manager
Lynette Tornatzky	Maria M. Kelly, CSD Director
Dominic Roques	

Agenda Items:

Call to Order – 5:38 p.m.

A – Review Current Plan/Policy Regarding Water Conservation

Main Points:

- Pages 14 & 15 of 2005-2009 Strategic Planning Document
- Review Chapter 2.06 of the Title 2 pages 21-28 (District Codes)

Discussion:

The committee and community discussed the role and responsibility of the district to its customer base and the service of water delivery. There was some clarification requested that this conservation discussion and program is specific to the LOCS D's water customers and that when and where possible, develop and maintain current shared costs and consistency with the other purveyors. Regardless of what the county or other purveyors are doing in regards to water conservation, it was agreed that some sort of conservation program should be implemented. There was also some discussion that having a program in place could potentially open up opportunities for funding as we would be more likely to find support for projects once there was a framework for the program. In addition, the new water rate structure, if approved by the public, is a tiered structure and also provides a funding mechanism for a conservation program. It seemed reasonable that if the public is being asked to support a water rate increase that is being partially driven by conservation, a program ought to be developed.

The ad-hoc committee is tasked with developing an additional document list for reference in the development of a program.

B-Discuss the Possibility of Expanding Conservation Plan with the following in mind:

C-Additional Scoping Issues for Water Conservation Plan Development:

Main Points:

- Costs: little financial impact – less than \$10,000 to implement, more than \$10,000 to implement
- Timeline of implementation
- What we have vs. what we would like to have

Discussion:

The committee and community would like to change how conservation is approached in the Strategic Plan. The title is "Encourage Water Conservation" and then goes on to list things to work towards. We discussed that we really should have something more specific such as: Indoor/Outdoor Conservation Program or break it out into stages and list Stage 1, Stage 2 and so on. Regardless, the committee is to submit comments, suggestions and potential programs for implementation prior to the next meeting. Some initial suggestions were as follows:

- Offer credits to rate payers for conservation – retrofits, turf to drought tolerant
- Have current staff trained to do exterior water audits – possibilities are through the irrigation program at CalPoly where they teach water auditing
- Continue outreach in the schools
- LOCS D to continue to use and develop outreach via AGP

The committee will identify 5 projects that they believe could be developed and implemented in 2-3 months and provide the information to the General Manager for feasibility.

D-ISJ Report – Dan Gilmore

Main Points:

- Peer Review on track with possible report out in mid to late February.

Public Comment received. Los Osos Sustainability Group will be at the next meeting to discuss district conservation planning. The district is not responsible for developing a basin wide plan but the committee would like to have ongoing discussions regarding cost feasibility and individual property owner conservation opportunities.

Adjourned by 7:15 – Next meeting: January 13, 2010 @ 5:30 p.m.