

California Special Districts Association San Diego Chapter News

Volume 2 - 2018

May • June

SPECIAL DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT

Olivenhain Municipal Water District's 4S Ranch Water Reclamation Facility

How it all Began

In the late 1980s San Diego County was experiencing exceptional population growth, and it was during this time that the first portion of 4S Ranch was developed. The county built a small wastewater plant to serve the sanitation needs of the new development. In 1998, Olivenhain Municipal Water District annexed the 4S Ranch and Rancho Cielo Sanitation Districts from the county. It was at that time that OMWD took ownership of the 4S Ranch Wastewater Treatment Facility. In its original capacity, this treatment facility had the capability to treat a small amount of wastewater from the surrounding commercial center and condominium complex. The wastewater was treated and disposed by spraying on the surrounding unimproved pastureland.

However, future development plans for that area included the addition of thousands of new homes. The existing small wastewater plant would not be able to treat the increased flows from a growing population. OMWD undertook an expansion project to increase the original capacity of the facility to 2 million gallons per day. Also recognizing the need for increased local water supply, OMWD incorporated sand filtration and UV disinfection to meet recycled water quality standards. OMWD required developers to install recycled water support infrastructure as part of the residential and commercial development within the region, and in August of 2003, the final approval was granted to produce and sell recycled water from the 4S Ranch Water Reclamation Facility.

Treatment Process

Wastewater entering 4S WRF undergoes a



tertiary, or three-stage, treatment process. The primary stage involves straining out debris such as dirt, rocks, and plastics from the incoming wastewater. During this stage, an odor scrubber is employed to allow the remaining treatment process to take place odor-free. Secondary treatment utilizes biological microorganisms that break down organic material within the wastewater, followed by the settling and separating of solids for further processing. Finally, the tertiary stage further purifies and disinfects the water using both sand filtration and UV disinfection before the treated water is released into the recycled water distribution system.

Economical and Environmentally Sound

The use of recycled water is both economically and environmentally responsible. The San Diego region is largely dependent on water from faraway sources to meet its water use demands. With a growing population and climate uncertainty, developing a drought-resilient supply is essential. While much of the wastewater within the County is treated and

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* Meet Our Affiliates *

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A Professional Law Corporation



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**San Diego
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Local Agency Formation Commission

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Utility Service Group is now
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Treasurer's Report

January 1, 2018 through March 31, 2018

Income for the period was from the November 2017 dinner meeting \$720.00 and February 2018 dinner meeting \$2,020.00 (67 attendees) for a total of **\$2,740.00**.

Expenditures for the period included Butcher Shop Restaurant for February 2018 dinner meeting \$2,577.79 and Weebly for video contest website hosting \$152.38 for a total of **\$2,730.17**.

The fund balances as of March 31, 2018 were as follows: the Grant Scholarship Fund balance remain unchanged with a balance of \$16,209.94; the Speaker Program fund remained unchanged with a balance of \$4,000.00; and the General Fund balance after adjustments for income and expenses was \$13,468.29 for a total **Fund balance of \$33,678.23**. The bank balance as of March 31, 2018, was \$33,678.23.



Respectfully Submitted,

Rich Stevenson
CSDA Treasurer



San Diego Chapter Quarterly Dinner Meeting

Thursday – May 17, 2018

6:00 pm to 9:00 pm
Dinner served at 6:45 pm

Location

The Butcher Shop Steakhouse
Kearny Mesa

5255 Kearny Villa Road
San Diego, CA (858) 565-2272

<http://butchershopsd.signonsandiego.com>

Join us for a dynamic, interactive, and educational evening as CSDASD welcomes its guest speaker **District Attorney Summer Stephan**. She will be sharing with you the key public safety challenges that face San Diego County and the ethical responsibilities of public agencies.



District attorney Stephan leads the second largest DA's Office in California, managing a professional staff of over 1,000 employees, serving as the People's Prosecutor for all of San Diego County and its over three million residents, which are spread throughout cities and communities from the U.S. - Mexico border to

the Riverside County line. The DA uses her nearly three decades of experience to set public safety priorities and to leverage, partner and collaborate with law enforcement and the community, to maintain San Diego County as on of the safest urban regions in the United States.

DA Stephan is an instructor and trainer for the National District Attorneys Association Executive Management Course: "How to go from Boss to Leader." She received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California at Davis and her Juris Doctor from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law. She completed the "Driving Government Performance" Executive Education Course at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

Please send in your RSVP form to our CSDA Treasurer, [Rich Stevenson at Sweetwater Authority](#)
RSVP Deadline: Thursday, May 10, 2018.

Jurassic Parliament

Quick Tip

"Friendly amendments" are horrid!

Encourage your board or local government to refrain from the unfortunate practice of using "friendly amendments." Many people think that if they offer a "friendly amendment," the maker of the motion and the seconder can accept it. This is wrong. Once a motion is made, seconded, and stated by the chair, it belongs to the whole group. Any proposed amendment, whatever its intent, must be considered by the group as a whole. It is the group that will either accept or reject it.

Read about friendly amendment in **Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, 11th edition, the most widely accepted authority on parliamentary procedure, offers a clear discussion of this issue on page 162, lines 9-19. The section is entitled "Friendly Amendments."**

Visit <http://www.jurassicparliament.com/> for more.

President Tom Kennedy's Message

Greetings CSDA members!



As we move toward the halfway mark of 2018 – yes, we are almost there – we are going to be adding a new feature to our Quarterly Dinner Meetings. At each meeting we will be having Keene Simonds, the new Executive Officer at San Diego LAFCO speak for a few minutes about LAFCO issues and how we can participate in

LAFCO decision making. Special Districts are a big part of LAFCO so Mr. Simonds wants to use this as an opportunity to ensure regular communications with our membership. He is also a pretty funny guy so it should be fun as well!

As I reminded you all at our last meeting, we will be having elections this fall for our San Diego Chapter Board of Directors. This is an even numbered year so we will be electing a new President, First Vice President, and Treasurer. Board members are elected to two-year terms. If you are wondering, the First Vice President position has several responsibilities according to

our bylaws, but the primary role is signing up speakers for our quarterly meetings. This is a great role as you get to have a hand in the topics that come before the group. We look forward to seeing several nominations for each position up for re-election this year. More information will come out later in the summer.

This month we will have a very busy meeting. Our primary speaker will be Summer Stephan, San Diego County District Attorney. She is a long time public servant having served in the DA's office for 27 years. Her focus is wide ranging but one of her specialties is the fight against human trafficking, especially of minors. She was recently recognized as "District Attorney of the Year" by the crime victim support group **Crime Victims United of California**. Ms. Stephan has a tight schedule, so we may get her started on her remarks before everyone is finished with dessert to accommodate her schedule.

We will also have comments from Mr. Simonds from LAFCO as described above as well as a visit by Dillon Gibbons, CSDA's Senior Legislative Representative. Mr. Gibbons will get us up to date on what is going on in Sacramento and how we can all help fight some of the crazy legislation that gets introduced each year. As members of CSDA, sometimes it is our local contacts with legislators that can make the difference in whether a bill gets through or not.

Finally, and as a highlight of our evening, we will present awards for the high school video contest that just wrapped up. Several of the winners and their families will be present to see these remarkable students get their recognition. There were some very creative entries this year – you will be amazed at what these young people can do with a cell phone and some creativity.

We look forward to seeing everyone there!

Tom

DISTRICTS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

Special districts are formed by communities when it's something:
The community wants
The community wants done well
The community wants done with local control

District Types

- Airport
- Community Services
- Library
- Harbor and Port
- Reclamation and Levee
- Healthcare
- Fire Protection
- Mosquito and Pest Abatement
- Irrigation
- Cemetery
- Recreation and Park
- Resource Conservation
- Sanitation
- Utility
- Veterans Memorial
- Water
- Transit

LOCAL SPECIALIZED SERVICES

DistrictsMakeTheDifference.org



4S Ranch Water Reclamation Facility (continued)

discharged to the ocean for disposal, OMWD sees the benefit of reclaiming wastewater and providing it for beneficial reuse, rather than disposing of it.

4S WRF is a zero liquid discharge facility, meaning that every drop of water treated at the facility is reused, and every drop of water that is reused, conserves precious drinking water. An added benefit to using recycled water is that the recycled water is produced locally allowing it to be sold at a cost that is about 15% less than the cost of potable water. This can add up to big savings for irrigation and commercial customers.

Who it Serves

4S WRF collects wastewater from the 4S Ranch community in San Diego as well as neighboring Rancho Cielo. The water generated at the facility is delivered to irrigation customers throughout 4S Ranch including homeowner associations, schools, parks, and golf courses. In addition, OMWD operates an innovative recycled water fill station providing free recycled water for residential customers to use for their own landscape irrigation.

The reclamation facility is but one component of OMWD's larger recycled water system. OMWD serves recycled water to additional regions within its service area by procuring recycled water from its partners including San Elijo Joint Powers Authority, Vallecitos Water District, City of San Diego, and Rancho Santa Fe Community Services District. Overall, about 12 percent of OMWD's water demands are met with recycled water.

Awards and Community Involvement

Since its expansion, the facility has won several awards for its design, recycled water advocacy, and superior

operations practices. Recently 4S WRF received two awards for its exemplary safety record: the Water Environment Federation's George W. Burke Award and the "Safety Small Plant of the Year" award from the California Water Environment Association.

OMWD staff takes great pride in their facility and regularly educates visitors on the benefits of recycled water during public tours, field trips, and its annual open house event in August.

About Olivenhain Municipal Water District

Incorporated in 1959, OMWD is a special district that provides water, wastewater services, recycled water, hydroelectricity, and the operation of Elfin Forest Recreational Reserve. With a service area of over 48 square miles, OMWD serves approximately 86,000 customers in Encinitas, Carlsbad, San Diego, San Marcos, Solana Beach, and neighboring communities.



Mark Your Calendar!

SDCSDA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING

April 16, 2018
July 16, 2018
October 15, 2018

SDCSDA QUARTERLY DINNER MEETING

May 17, 2018
August 16, 2018
November 15, 2018



Contact Elaine Sullivan at esullivan@lwwd.org

Unanimous Consent Will Slash

--- -- Your Meeting Time --- --



Unanimous consent is one of the most useful tools in Robert's Rules of order. Yet this method of voting is little known. Use it well, and your meetings will be much more efficient. Your members will also be grateful!

Unanimous consent is a kind of "fast track" for voting. The chair proposes a given action, and then says, "Is there any objection?" If a member agrees, she REMAINS SILENT. In this instance, silence means consent. If all members are silent, they have agreed to the action proposed.

If a member disagrees, he simply says, "OBJECTION" or "I OBJECT." The chair then knows that everyone is not in agreement, and proceeds to take a vote in the usual way. Note that there is no need to explain WHY you object. All you have to do is alert the chair that you don't agree.

Read more about how to use this correctly, and pitfalls to avoid, in [Jurassic Parliament's blog post here](#).

CSDA San Diego Chapter 2018 Board of Directors

President	Tom Kennedy , Rainbow MWD tkennedy@rainbowmwd.com
1st VP	Jim Peasley , Padre Dam MWD, jfpeasley@cox.net
2nd VP	Elaine Sullivan , Leucadia Wastewater District, esullivan@lwwd.org
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Treasurer	Rich Stevenson , Sweetwater Authority rstevenson@sweetwater.org
Past President	Mike Bardin , Santa Fe Irrigation District mbardin@sfidwater.org
State CSDA Representative	Jo MacKenzie , Vista Irrigation District CSDA Rep mackgroup@cox.net

CSDA San Diego chapter newsletter is printed quarterly. If you have any comments or suggestions, please direct them to Diana Towne, SDCSDA Board Secretary at: dtowne@rinconwater.org.

2018 Scholarship / Grant Committee News



In an effort to continue our educational outreach and awareness of special districts, the San Diego Chapter 2018 Scholarship/Grant Committee continued the annual **Video Contest**, targeting junior high and high school students, and reintroduced the Essay Contest.

The third Chapter video contest, invited techno-savvy students to use their creativity to incorporate the theme, "What's so Special about Special Districts" into a one-minute informational video aimed to educate people about special districts.

It was a close competition, but the judges were able to select three winners from the seven entries. The video winners receive \$1000 for first place, \$750 second place, and \$500 third place, with an additional \$250 awarded to each school.

The video winners are:

- 1st place - Andrew Simon (Helix Charter, La Mesa)**
- 2nd place - Heath Dunbar (Oak Crest Middle School, Encinitas)**
- 3rd place - Carson Saflar (The Bishop's School, La Jolla)**

Returning to the 2018 program was an **Essay Contest**, administered by Rincon MWD.

The winning essay was:

Mrs. McCann's 4th grade class at Reidy Creek Elementary

This elementary school in Escondido received a field trip to one of six CSDASD facilities of their choice. They selected the Olivenhain Recycled Water Facility in 4S Ranch for their tour.

Congratulations to all the winners. The video winners will be recognized at the May dinner meeting and the winning videos will be shown.



Click the button to go to the California Special District Association's website.