



Report!

Board of Directors Summary for **October 3, 2001**

Report! is prepared by the Community Involvement Department for all interested individuals. This brief summary of selected items from Eastern Municipal Water District Board of Directors' meetings is distributed after each meeting. Please circulate it to others having an interest. For more information, call 909/928-3777, ext. 4226; or FAX: 909/928-6160.

WORK SESSION

The Board of Directors paid tribute to **Paul F. Reusch**, Management Analyst, who passed away Sept. 30th following an illness of several months. Paul's son, Joseph, a priesthood candidate who is spending the first year of his candidacy in the Central American nation of Belize, was present on behalf of the family as Board President **Rodger Siems** paid tribute to Paul, who had been a district employee since 1972. Two EMWD employees who are cousins of Paul, **John Ward** and **Paula Allen**, also attended. Paul's supervisor, **Chuck Rathbone**, also spoke after **Betty Gibbel** presented a biographical sketch of Paul.

...recognized **Raul "Rudy" Esparza, Jr.**, Engineering Technician II, who is celebrating 10 years of service.

...adopted a proclamation declaring October 1 - 5, 2001 as Customer Service Week. **Pat Elliott** and **Chris Thomsen** noted that the district's customer service representatives handled more than 80,000 calls from January through June of this year, while the district's main switchboard operators handled another 450 calls a day. The Billing department (which includes the main switchboard operators) consists of 21 customer service representatives. Cookies and punch are being provided for customers in the AC lobby the rest of this week in recognition of the observance.

...received a report from General Manager **Tony Pack**, who made a presentation yesterday to the Inland Empire Economic Partnership on behalf of the district. At the conference it was noted that, through the year 2020, the Inland Empire is expected to grow in population by about 3-1/2 million, which is more than 47 states! Only California (statewide), Texas and Florida are projected to increase more than our region. It is critical that EMWD, along with the other service agencies in the Inland Empire, be prepared for this huge growth.

...received and accepted recently-completed audit reports from the firm of Ernst & Young related to the district's financial condition for the fiscal years ended June 30, 2000 and June 30, 2001, as well as the district's federally assisted grant program for the year ended June 30, 2001. The reports note that the district fairly represents its financial position and complies with generally accepted accounting principles and with federal grant program requirements, and did not note any major discrepancies.

...appropriated \$54,400 for purchase and installation of equipment needed to improve the primary treatment process at the Temecula Valley RWRF. The project is financed from the S.A. 34 Replacement and System Betterment Construction Reserve fund.

...approved \$76,400 from the S.A. 41 Replacement and System Betterment Construction Reserve fund to replace 22 leaking valves in the Homeland area water system.

...allocated \$116,000 from the S.A. 34 Operating Budget and approved a lease with Ashbrook Corporation to lease biosolids pasteurization process equipment for a six-month (or longer) test to determine feasibility of land-applying Class A biosolids in Riverside County. Assistant General Manager of Operations and Maintenance **Mike Luker** told the Board that the district currently pays \$45 per ton to haul the material to Kern County for disposal.

...heard a report on Metropolitan Water District issues from Director **Marion Ashley**, who noted that the issue of boating on Diamond Valley Lake is of great interest at the moment. Numerous groups and individuals from our area plan to contact the MWD Board in opposition to the new Orange County-sponsored initiative to ban most or all powered boating from the lake.

...heard Conservation Program Representative **Bill Stephens** report on progress being made to keep large landscape accounts within their water budgets. A new format for data reporting developed by Bill has been embraced by customers and other districts, alike, as being especially useful in making the meaningful information understandable and useful.

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