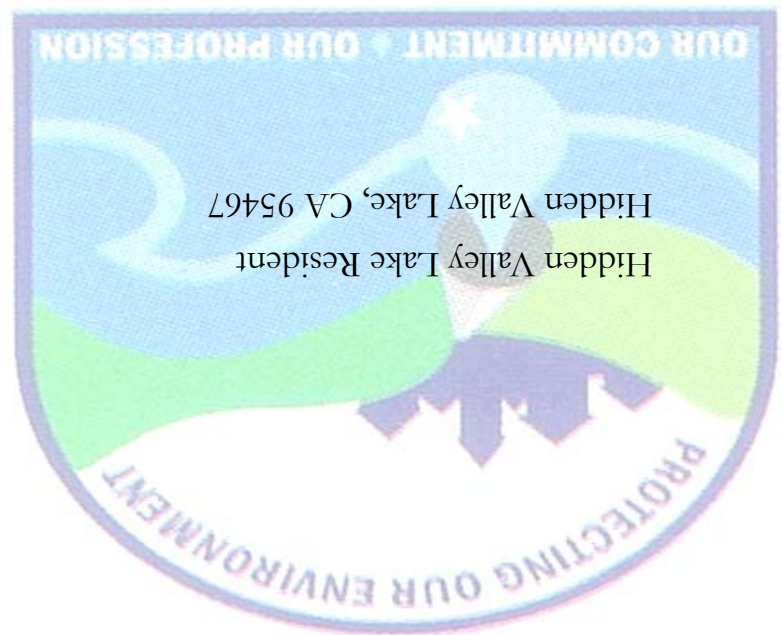


Community Services District
Hidden Valley Lake



Hidden Valley Lake Resident
Hidden Valley Lake, CA 95467

Hidden Valley Lake CSD
19400 Hartmann Road
Hidden Valley Lake, CA 95467

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Board meetings - third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com

All agendas and public hearing notices are published on our website under the "Recent Agenda" tab.

Best Holiday Wishes to All!

From all of us at Hidden Valley Lake CSD!

Board of Directors:

Linda Herndon
Judy Mirbegian
Lyle LaFaver
Bob Barton
Frances Bunce

General Manager:

Mel Aust

Office Staff:

Tami Ipsen
Tasha Klewe
Karen Jensen
Trish Wilkinson

Field Operations:

Dave Burns
Dennis White
Barry Silva
Paul Silva
Sam Garcia
Nick Robertson
Kathy Burns

December 1, 2011
Winter Quarterly Newsletter

VOLUME IX,
40th EDITION



Hidden Valley Lake
Community Services District



Inside this issue:

- Congratulations Hidden Valley Lake Community!* 1
- District Honors Outgoing Directors* 2
- Coyote Valley Jog - a -Tbon Brings Water Conservation and School Spirit Together!* 2
- Community Services District Law* 3
- District Welcomes New Directors* 3
- Toys for Kids on the Hunt for Wrappers!* 3
- Best Holiday Wishes to All!* 4



**Hidden Valley Lake CSD
Board of Directors**

Linda Herndon - President
Judy Mirbegian - Vice President
Bob Barton - Director
Lyle LaFaver - Director
Frances Bunce - Director

A public service to the HVL community

Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District



Congratulations Hidden Valley Lake Community!

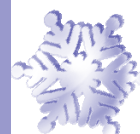


By the time this article finds your mailbox, installation will be 95% complete on the Photovoltaic Project at the Water Reclamation Plant. The substantial completion milestone is scheduled for December 5, 2011, and system commissioning is set to occur on December 9.

This innovative project is supported by the United States Department of Agriculture's Rural Development and has been funded with a combination grant/loan package. As the trend of power prices continues to rise, the cost of electricity will remain constant for the District, and the substantial offset to the District's PG&E bill will cover the full loan payment.

To meet power demands at the District's Water Reclamation Plant, Real Goods Solar, San Rafael, has installed 1176 Sharp 240W solar panels, covering 35,000 square feet at the District's Grange Road facility. The panels are expected to produce 420,000 kWh per year (enough power to run approximately 75 normal houses.)

Included with the construction cost is a monitoring system that will allow customers to review power production and demand online through the District's website, www.hiddenvalleylakecsd.com. The District is gearing up for field trips from local schools where students can view and understand the expanse of silicone used to harvest the sun's power. We're excited to see the many years worth of effort from the District's Board of Directors, staff and engineers coming together to bring the solar project into fruition. CONGRATULATIONS!!!



District Honors Outgoing Directors



At the November 15, 2011 board meeting, Directors Lyle LaFaver, Bob Barton and Frances Bunce were honored for their years of dedicated service to the District. Mr. LaFaver has been a strong advocate for security enhancements for the District and served as the chairman of the Security and Disaster Preparedness Program committee for several years. He was the District's liaison to the Office of Emergency Services Area of Operations for Lake County and has served on the Local Agencies Formation Commission Board representing the HVLCSO and other Special Districts throughout the county. Mr. Barton has served on the Finance, Personnel and Security Disaster Preparedness Program committees. Along with Mr. LaFaver, Mr. Barton also attended many of the Office of Emergency Services Area of Operations meetings. The two

assisted in establishing an annual Hazmat Drill program with Lake County emergency agencies at the District's Water Reclamation Plant. Mrs. Bunce has served on the Finance Committee throughout her time with the District. She has overseen many budgets and audits and has provided key insight into the housing market that have kept the District's losses on foreclosed homes to a minimum.

The foresight offered by these three outstanding directors is obvious throughout the Hidden Valley Lake subdivision in the projects that they have supported. The most recent project, the installation of photovoltaic panels at the Water Reclamation Plant, is the culmination of efforts from these Directors throughout their time at the District. In addition to receiving a plaque for their years of service as Directors, Mr. LaFaver, Mr. Barton and Mrs. Bunce will receive a Congressional Certificate from Congressman Thompson. The District is forever grateful for the efforts of these three directors. Thank you for your service!

Coyote Valley Jog-a-Thon Brings Water Conservation and School Spirit Together!



This year the Hidden Valley Lake CSD teamed up with Coyote Valley Elementary School (CVES) to promote water awareness at their annual Jog-a-Thon fundraiser held on October 14, 2011. Students were encouraged to find sponsors to

contribute per lap or in flat amounts, and all of the funds raised went directly toward the purchase of classroom supplies.

At the Jog-a-Thon kick-off rally on August 19th, Hidden Valley Lake CSD staff introduced a new theme for the Jog-a-Thon, "Water Up! Coyote Valley Elementary is Smart About Water." During the presentation, students viewed two short videos relating to global water awareness. District staff guided students in discussing t-shirt design ideas that tied water awareness to the school mascot, the coyote.

Annually, CVES hosts a contest in which students design t-shirts that are used to promote the Jog-a-Thon. In keeping with this year's theme, designs for the 2011

event were required to include the school mascot and water awareness, and students could only use three colors in their design.

On September 20th the top four designs were chosen and presented to the Hidden Valley Lake CSD Board of Directors to vote for 1st - 4th place. The sealed votes were delivered to CVES Parent Teachers Organization (PTO), and the winner, sixth grade student Hailey Wright, was named.

On October 14, 2011 the Jog-a-Thon began on the CVES field with 500 students participating. There were four legs of the race, segregated by grade, and each leg lasted 30 minutes (with exception for the kindergartners who only jogged for 20 minutes.) It was a warm sunny fall day, and the event was a great success thanks to the CVES PTO!



Community Services District Law

Community Services Districts (CSDs) are often misunderstood the most significant differences lie in the governance and by-laws of a CSD versus that of a private business. Private businesses establish their own by-laws in house and are typically governed by the owner or designee. Alternately, CSDs are governed by a Board of Directors and must comply with a series of government codes. The Board of Directors sets forth ordinances, resolutions and policies to guide the agency in complying with applicable government codes.

The District's General Manager, Mel Aust, sat on the steering committee that re-wrote the CSD law that was originally enacted in 1955. The new bill, Senate Bill 135, took effect on January 1, 2006 and combined Proposition 13, 4, 218, 1A, Public Reform Act, Public Records Act and the Brown Act.

Special districts have four distinguishing characteristics:

- Form of local government
- Governed by a Board of Directors
- Provide services and facilities
- Serve defined boundaries

SB 135 promoted the CSDs' public accountability and responsiveness by:

- Distinguishing the roles of directors and general managers (§61040 & §61051)
- Staggering directors' four-year terms (§61042)
- Clarifying the use of the initiative, referendum, and recall (§61046)
- Restating the requirement to retain and destroy records (§61061)
- Requiring formal budgets and fiscal transparency (§61110+)
- Requiring regular audits and annual financial reports (§61118)

The law regulating the operations of a CSD is distinct and often difficult to understand. Much of the law can be found in Government Codes 61000 - 61226.5, but these codes are not all-inclusive. There are several other areas of the government code that apply to public agencies and the services they provide that need to be taken into account in order to understand the full picture.

District Welcomes New Directors

At the December 20, 2011 board meeting Jim Freeman, Carolyn Graham, and Jim Lieberman will take the Oath of Office as new Directors of Hidden Valley Lake CSD.

Mr. Freeman has a communications background and is currently working for the Hidden Valley Lake Association as their Communications Specialist.

Ms. Graham has a keen interest in water issues, has been involved in community service and has experience as a manager in utility auditing and management consulting. She is committed to maintaining safe, clean drinking water and reliable sewer services

in an affordable and sustainable manner.

Mr. Lieberman's background includes service in the United States Military as well as professional experience in finance and sales. In addition, Mr. Lieberman has prior experience as a director for another water company.

The new Directors bring their own uniqueness and freshness to the District's Board of Directors.

Mr. Freeman, Ms. Graham and Mr. Lieberman, we welcome you and look forward to working with you!

Toys for Kids on The Hunt for Wrappers!

Calling all "Wrappers", your moment has arrived! Hidden Valley Lake Community Services District, in partnership with the Toys for Kids drive, will host the annual toy wrapping event December 12th - 14th, 2011 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the District

Office at 19400 Hartmann Road. Each year hundreds of presents are wrapped to be given to families in need in Lake County.

If you are a wrapper and wish to assist us in our wrapping needs, please contact Tami Ipsen at 987-9201 to sign up for a wrap time .