



Robert "Bob" Craig, President
Betty A. Anderson, Vice President
Jane F. Anderson, Director
Chad Blais, Director
Kenneth J. McLaughlin, Director

September 24, 2013

Honorable Mark Cope, Presiding Judge
Riverside County Superior Court
4050 Main Street
PO Box 431
Riverside, CA 92501

Re: Response to the 2012-2013 Riverside County Grand Jury Report: Riverside County Water and Sanitation Districts, Compensation and Transparency

Dear Honorable Judge Cope:

Jurupa Community Services District (JCSD) has received and reviewed the 2012-2013 Grand Jury Report: Riverside County Water and Sanitation Districts, Compensation and Transparency (Report). JCSD is respectfully responding to the applicable recommendations in accordance with the requirements of Penal Code Section 933.

JCSD's Board of Directors has reviewed the Report and appreciates the time spent by the Grand Jury looking at the operations of special districts in Riverside County. JCSD offers the responses below on the findings and two recommendations applicable to JCSD. JCSD already meets the criteria in Recommendation Three.

Recommendation One

"Before raising any water and/or sewer rates, water and sanitation districts providing insurance and/or retirement benefits to its directors shall reduce or eliminate these full-time benefit packages for part-time directors."

JCSD Response

JCSD compensates its Board of Directors consistent with applicable provisions of the Government Code. Community Services District Law and Board Policy limits JCSD's Board of Directors to compensation of one hundred dollars (\$100) for each day of service, up to a maximum of six (6) days of service monthly, which differs from County and California Water District law. JCSD's Board of Directors do not receive stipends exceeding \$600 in any given month.

As detailed on Page 19, Table C of the "Report", JCSD's Board of Directors stipends are in the low range in comparison with many surrounding agencies. The annual stipend does not exceed \$7,200. JCSD believes the Board of Directors compensation is fair and reasonable relative to JCSD's size and population served and wide range of services provided.

JCSD does not provide full-time benefits to its Board of Directors. JCSD Board of Directors have the option to participate in the District's group medical insurance plan for themselves or their immediate family members, which is not utilized by all members of the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors receive dental and vision insurance for themselves, not their families, due to mandatory participation restrictions placed upon JCSD by the insurance carrier, which is proposed to be changed this year and will make the benefit optional to the Board of Directors. Full-time employees receive CalPERS retirement, short-and-long term disability insurance, retiree benefits and other benefits that the Board of Directors would be legally authorized to receive but do not receive.

JCSD receives significant value for the services of its elected Board of Directors and believes the compensation and benefits provided to them are appropriate. JCSD Board of Directors are expected to participate in meetings and other District functions and events, devoting their time and energy well outside the six "paid" days of service per month. They are responsible for the approval and direction of an annual operating budget totaling \$47 million and for providing a wide variety of services to a population of 107,000 residents. The existing stipend has not been increased in over ten years. For these reasons, no change is recommended at this time.

Recommendation Two

"Each water and sanitary district shall provide a district website to provide access to public documents including financial, contractual, budgetary, and compensation information for board of directors and general managers. These documents shall include benefits paid by the district on behalf of board members and general managers, and include the general manager's contract. The districts shall maintain and update agendas, minutes, and financial reports as issued."

JCSD Response

JCSD provides a current and comprehensive website for its residents to access public meeting notices, Board agendas, packages, minutes, financial reports and budgets. JCSD strives to make as much information available on-line to our residents as possible.

JCSD is in the process of completing an update to its website and will complete that update by the end of the calendar year. At that time, an information tab displaying the General Manager's current contract and Board of Directors compensation will be placed on the website. The General Manager's salary information differs from the totals in the Report. Last year, JCSD had a retiring General Manager which impacted the calculation and does not reflect the current compensation of the General Manager. The current General Manager's base salary is \$209,500. Employee salary ranges are already available on the website.

Recommendation Three

This recommendation was not made to JCSD. No response is required.

Conclusion

The mission of Jurupa Community Services District is to provide water, sewer, wastewater, park and recreation, graffiti abatement and other essential services to our communities. JCSD is committed to providing services in a fiscally responsible manner and with full transparency to our community. JCSD's staff and Board of Directors appreciate the opportunity to respond to the Grand Jury's Report.

Sincerely,



Todd M. Corbin
General Manager

c.c. Riverside County Clerk
Riverside County Grand Jury