



**EAST
ORANGE
COUNTY
WATER
DISTRICT**

DIRECTORS

Richard E. Barrett
Richard B. Bell
Douglas M. Chapman
John Dulebohn
William Vanderwerff

Lisa Ohlund
General Manager

RECEIVED
SEP 8 2011

August 18, 2011

The Honorable Thomas J. Borris
Presiding Judge of the Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

**SUBJECT: EOCWD RESPONSE TO 2010-2011 GRAND JURY REPORT,
"COMPENSATION SURVEY OF WATER AND SANITATION
DISTRICTS"**

Dear Judge Borris:

East Orange County Water District (EOCWD) wishes to thank the Orange County Grand Jury for the opportunity to respond to their report titled "Compensation Survey of Water and Sanitation Districts."

The Board of Directors would also like to express their appreciation for the Grand Jury's recognition of the fiscally conservative and frugal nature of the District's compensation practices – this concern for the careful use of public resources can be seen throughout all of the District's operations.

It is especially gratifying for our small district to receive this acknowledgement as there has recently been a trend towards "bigger is better" thinking – particularly in government. We believe that we demonstrate every day that, "small is frugal," and that there is a place for any governmental entity that exercises self-control and prudence, regardless of its size.

The Grand Jury has requested that the District to respond to Findings F-1 and F-2 and Recommendations R-1 and R-2 in accordance with Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05. The following are the District's responses.

Responses to Findings F-1 and F-2

F-1 District websites often do not provide easy public access to compensation and financial data of the district, if available at all.

Response: While we can't speak for or about other agencies' websites, with respect to the District, we partially agree with the statement. We agree that the District has not posted its compensation data on the website; however access to financial data of the District has been posted on the website for at least six years, and is clearly marked as "Budget" and "Audit" (separate tabs) on the left side of our Home Page. A click on each tab will take you to a PDF of each respective document.

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F-2 District websites were sometimes not updated to reflect public meeting changes or cancellations.

Response: Again, without speaking for other agencies, the District partially agrees with the finding. We agree that we did not update our website to reflect a public meeting change on one occasion in the past six years; this was due to the absence of the staff member who typically performs that task. As a matter of policy, however, notifications are routinely posted immediately upon receipt from the Board Secretary.

Responses to Recommendations R-1 and R-2

R.1: Provide, in an easily accessible format on the district's website, data on compensation for the board of directors and general manager, as well as current budget and financial reports.

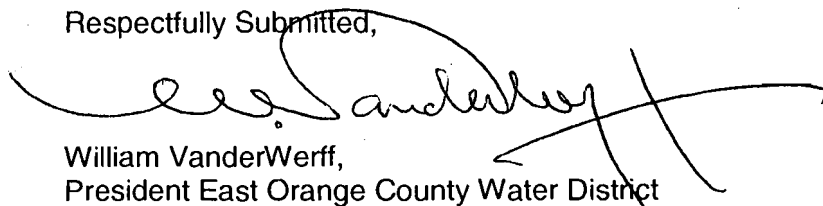
Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented within a month of the date of this response.

R.2: Maintain and update agendas, minutes, meeting schedules and location on the district's website.

Response: The recommendation has not yet been implemented, but will be implemented within six months of the date of this response. The District will use this time to redesign the website to incorporate this information.

Please contact me or our General Manager, Lisa Ohlund at 714-538-5815 should you have any questions or concerns.

Respectfully Submitted,



William VanderWerff,
President East Orange County Water District

Copies to: **Orange County Grand Jury**
Joan Arneson, EOCWD Board Secretary
Lisa Ohlund, General Manager