

TO: BOARD  
FROM: Gunnar Ramstrum  
DATE: April 30, 2026  
SUBJECT: Proposed May 2026 Agenda Items

As the District's D1 Operator, I am writing to provide formal notice regarding transition of my duties. To ensure the District remains in full compliance with the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) requirements for a certified operator, it is necessary for the Board to begin the process of appointing a successor. To allow for grace period and an orderly transition, I am requesting the below items be added to the May 2026 Agenda.

My goal is to ensure there is no gap in the District's certified coverage. I am prepared to assist in this transition for the next **30 days**; however, a formal board decision to authorize a replacement is required by **June 1, 2026** to maintain regulatory standing.

Sincerely,  
Gunnar Ramstrum  
D1 Operator, Cert #54442

These changes bring vital funding and system stability by utilizing professionals with decades of experience in water distribution and plumbing.

### **May Board Agenda Items**

#### **Outsource D1 Operator for State-Required Water Sampling**

Gunnar has submitted a 30-day notice effective April 30, 2026, resigning as the District's D1 Water Sampler. To maintain state compliance, the Board must select a replacement service provider before June 1. The contracted duties involve performing quarterly water sampling and ensuring delivery to Clarkson Laboratory in San Diego. Two quotes have been obtained for these services, ranging from **\$2,800 to \$4,000 annually**.

#### **Financial Support for Audit and State Transactions**

To address the transition of audit assistance duties previously handled by Gunnar, it is proposed that the District engage Small Business Tax for specialized support. Owner George Beck has provided a quote for a \$600 annual increase to manage required audit documentation. This effort would be led by Debra Munsie, an experienced bookkeeper with extensive knowledge of the District's financial history and transactions.

#### **New Personnel Hire for Plumbing Infrastructure Upgrades**

The District seeks approval to hire Andres Fuentes to accelerate the Capital Improvement Plan and stabilize the water system at a rate of **\$35 per hour plus one hour of daily travel pay**. Mr. Fuentes' efforts would be requested when projects are needed to be performed. He is a highly qualified candidate who provides years of plumbing experience, lives one hour away, and has demonstrated the physical stamina and professional demeanor required for field work in high-temperature environments. He will work alongside Roberto to transition the District toward proactive maintenance and faster completion of vital system upgrades.

**Reserve Funding via Fixed Charge Special Assessments (FCSA)**

Based on research into augmenting District income, this item proposes utilizing Fixed Charge Special Assessments to fund necessary reserves. While the past four years of budgeting have successfully covered operating expenses, an FCSA provides a standard utility industry mechanism to fund future assets and emergencies. This funding will directly support the recently developed Capital Improvement Plan, ensuring the long-term viability of District infrastructure.