

August 12, 2010

Judge Robin Appel
Presiding Judge of San Joaquin County Superior Court
222 E. Weber Ave.
Stockton, CA 95202

Re: North San Joaquin Water Conservation District – Grand Jury Report, 2009-2010
San Joaquin County Civil Grand Jury Case No. 0809

Dear Judge Appel:

In accordance with California Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05, this letter constitutes the comments of the governing board North San Joaquin Water Conservation District (“North San Joaquin”) to the findings and recommendations of the San Joaquin County Civil Grand Jury in Case No. 0809.

The Board of Directors of North San Joaquin agrees with each of the findings (F1-F11) made by the Grand Jury.

With regard to the recommendations made by the Grand Jury, the Board of Directors of North San Joaquin reports as follows:

R1. Due to the importance of Measure C, the Board make a concerted effort to educate their constituents of its content.

North San Joaquin Response: **This recommendation was implemented. The District held 3 town hall meetings (11/17/2009, 4/6/2010, and 5/12/2010) to discuss the measure. The District also sent out 2 newsletters (3/11/2010 and 5/10/2010) that provided information on the measure.**

R2. The Board establish a minimum dollar value above which all projects will be bid. In the pursuit of transparency, and to restore confidence in the Board, it would be appropriate to seek sealed bids for all major projects.

North San Joaquin Response: **The Board plans to consider implementation of this recommendation before the end of 2010.**

R3. For an orderly transfer of duties the District establish a policy manual, operations manual, and job descriptions.

North San Joaquin Response: **The Board plans to implement this recommendation. A sub-committee was formed by Directors Beck and Pilkington to develop the necessary documents. The sub-committee is to report back to the Board with their recommendations.**

R4. The entire Board receive training in the Brown Act and the fiduciary responsibilities of a Board member.


North San Joaquin Response: **The Board plans to implement this recommendation. District Counsel is sending a publication from the California Attorney General on the Brown Act to each Board member for their review. Further, Board members will continue to comply with the ethics training requirements of AB 1234.**

R5. The Board continue town hall meetings to inform constituents of the District's needs and priorities.

North San Joaquin Response: **The Board plans to continue to implement this recommendation. As stated above, town hall meetings and newsletters were used by the Board to inform its constituents about Measure C. The Board will continue to hold town hall meetings and distribute literature as needed to educate constituents on important issues facing the District.**

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Tom Hoffman
President
North San Joaquin Water Conservation District
Board of Directors