

**Occidental Community Services District
Meeting Minutes
October 20, 2015**

Call to order at 7:00pm. Director Brown absent.

Public Comment: Ellen Jori commented on water permits and smoke issues in regards to regulations being proposed and/or adopted. Her statement is attached to these minutes as part of the record.

Approval of minutes from September was approved by **Gonnella/McNeal, VOTE: 4-0-1 (absent)**

Warrants were approved with the exception of one invoice from RRU for electricity which will be looked into further, and motion was made by **Gonnella/McNeal, VOTE: 4-0-1 (absent)**

WATER

Nothing to report. Director McNeal stated he continues to wait on the state for a response.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Director McNeal introduced Tawny Tesconi director of SC General Services. Ms. Tesconi shared that it will be likely in the next year or so that her department will be taking over the handling of the community center property and that they will be putting out to bid by a third party to manage day to day activities of building rental and such. She stated they have had great success with third party management. She spoke about a future meeting to present various designs to the public as a potential update to the building and spoke of senior services, after school activities, athletics and adult education as possible uses of the property.

FIRE

Correspondence from LAFCO discussing reviewing the removal of an area northwest in the County from CSA 40.

Chief Lunardi reported that the Board of Supervisors recently recognized contribution to the Valley Fire and the District was presented with a certificate from them. He also reported the Granfondo turned out well with the exception of the fatality. The traffic issues were down. He further discussed the committee the county put together of about 70 people to discuss fire departments and rural areas and suggested we do need to look at future staffing needs for the District.

No board comment.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:59pm.

Ray Lunardi, President

Melissa Freeman, Clerk

Ellen S. Jori

Res: 11850 Occidental Rd.
Sebastopol, CA 95472

Mail: Box 1198
Occidental, CA 95465
Phone: (707) 823-7150
e-mail: ellnsearby@aol.com

OCS D Meeting, 10/20/2015

With regard to several recent major issues, including water permits and smoke from wood-burning stoves, the major issue has been proposed and/or adopted regulations set by urban bureaucrats. They refuse to see the difference between tightly packed houses and people versus larger land parcels with houses widely separated.

The concern re coho salmon is one such. While you have a small urban core, most of the district has widely separated houses. I've been to hearings and written statements on both the water and smoke issues. I was finally able to get the Sonoma County Farm Bureau to which I belong to get concerned about the smoke issue and the North Bay Air Quality Management District's prohibition of woodstoves and chimneys, requiring all existing ones to meet EPA standards and be remodeled at great expense.

Only a part of the OCS D south and east of Facendini Lane is in the North Bay District.

Whenever state or county fail to recognize the importance of rural housing density vs. urban, you should raise the issue if it could help this area.

PS—With regard to fire services and districts as discussed in today's Press Democrat, I realize this department's main concern is protecting its turf.

Mine is not paying **any more** for fire protection than I currently am, about \$400 per year between the special tax and the percentage of my property tax you get.