

**AGENDA**

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING  
LEUCADIA WASTEWATER DISTRICT**

September 19, 2014 – 9:30 a.m.  
1960 La Costa Avenue, Carlsbad, CA 92009

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1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Public Comment**
4. **New Business**
  - A. Review the 2014 Fall Newsletter draft text. (Pages 2-6)
5. **Information Items**

None.
6. **Director's Comments**
7. **General Manager's Comments**
8. **Adjournment**

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** September 15, 2014  
**TO:** Community Affairs Committee  
**FROM:** Paul J. Bushee, General Manager   
**SUBJECT:** Fall 2014 Newsletter Draft Text Review

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff requests that the Community Affairs Committee (CAC):

1. Review the draft text for the Fall 2014 Newsletter; and
2. Discuss and provide direction, as appropriate.

**DISCUSSION:**

During August 2014, TRG and Associates (TRG) presented a list of story ideas for the fall 2014 newsletter to the CAC and staff for comments. TRG and staff have completed the draft newsletter text. TRG and staff will present the proposed newsletter text at the CAC meeting.

Attached please find the draft text for the fall 2014 Newsletter for your review. Staff requests that the committee review the proposed newsletter and provide comments as appropriate.

Attachment

cal:PJB

## **COVER STORY**

### **LWD and Encina Wastewater Authority – Partnering to Protect North County’s Environment (include photo of Encina)**

Leucadia Wastewater District began service in 1959 to meet the wastewater needs of a largely unincorporated agricultural community that now includes parts of Encinitas and Carlsbad. Each community at that time had its own wastewater treatment plant. It wasn’t long, however, until this redundancy of resources proved to be expensive and area leaders looked for a more cost-effective way to manage the wastewater needs of the growing population. The solution was a joint regional facility, called the Encina Wastewater Authority.

The Encina Wastewater Authority (EWA) was initially established in 1961 by the Cities of Carlsbad and Vista as a regional wastewater treatment facility. Since that time, four additional agencies have joined the partnership, including LWD in 1971. By partnering in a larger regional facility, the member agencies are able take advantage of economies of scale, gaining cost effectiveness that translates into lower wastewater rates for the region. The six member agencies are: Leucadia Wastewater District, Cities of Carlsbad, Encinitas and Vista, Vallecitos Water District and the Buena Sanitation District. This award-winning facility, located in Carlsbad, treats wastewater from the six agencies and either discharges it to the ocean or reuses it.

LWD transports four million gallons of wastewater per day through a series of pipelines and pump stations to Encina Wastewater Authority’s regional facility for treatment and disposal. Our job at LWD is to ensure that the pipelines and pump stations are operating in tip-top shape. Our stringent maintenance schedule recently helped LWD earn recognition as the top wastewater agency in the County, with a track record of zero sewage spills for the past eighteen months.

The Encina treatment facility is located in coastal Carlsbad south of Palomar Airport Road between Avenida Encinas and Interstate 5. EWA treats about 22 million gallons per day (MGD) of wastewater with a capacity to expand up to 40.5 MGD if necessary. The wastewater is processed to what is known as the secondary level of treatment, which is suitable for safe discharge to the Pacific Ocean. Encina’s process is very efficient and removes over 96% of the solids from the water that first enters the plant.

In addition to its highly efficient treatment process, Encina has a long-term commitment to “Going Green”. Encina’s treatment operation employs programs that are on the cutting edge of resource recovery, rivaling any industry in the country. Key resource recovery programs are:

#### **Energy Recovery (include a photo with caption)**

Encina operates an electrical generation plant that uses the methane generated from the wastewater treatment process to power large engine generators, producing enough electricity to power nearly 80% of Encina’s needs. Encina has been recognized by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for its energy recovery program and ranked in the top 20 of EPA’s Green Power Leadership Program for Onsite Generators since 2011.

**Biosolids Reuse (include photo with caption)**

During the wastewater treatment process, solids (known as biosolids) are separated from the water. In the past, the biosolids were disposed of in a landfill. Encina now proudly recycles 100% of its biosolids at its state-of-the-art heat drying facility. A high heat process essentially pasteurizes the biosolids, killing any harmful bacteria, and leaving behind a highly valuable organic fertilizer which is sold under the “Pure Green” label to nurseries and landscape companies. Encina’s highly successful heat drying facility is one of only a very few of these type facilities in the western United States.

**Water Recycling (include photo with caption)**

It is well known that California is in the midst of a major water crisis. In order to preserve North County’s precious drinking water supplies, some wastewater supplies are processed further, to “tertiary-treated recycled water”. Encina currently recycles over 5 million gallons of day for plant use including irrigation, wash-down water and cooling water for its engine generators. In the future, Encina is currently evaluating ways to recycle 100% of its water with the potential of implementing advanced treatment facilities that would convert the wastewater into drinking water.

These efforts to protect our local environment through extensive resource recovery programs have been recognized on numerous local, state, and federal fronts—Encina has been named as the best wastewater treatment plant in San Diego County for the past 12 years and the best in the State five times. Leucadia Wastewater District is a proud member of the EWA partnership.

(The front story will go into the second page)

**INSIDE STORIES**

**Complying with California’s Stringent Environmental Regulations – LWD’s Sewer System Management Plan**

As a public wastewater agency, LWD must comply with a number of regulations that are designed to protect the public health and the environment in which we live. The primary regulation that governs LWD is known as the Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements, which outlines the rules and procedures we must follow. Under this regulation, LWD is required to adopt a Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP), which is a very comprehensive plan that ensures wastewater agencies: 1) are properly operated; 2) have adequate programs to replace deficient infrastructure; and 3) provide sufficient funding for operations and infrastructure replacement. The goal of the SSMP is to reduce wastewater spills and it must be updated every 5 years. To ensure compliance, the Board of Directors adopted LWD’s SSMP Update in August. LWD is very proud of its environmental compliance record and recently went over 18 months without a spill. A copy of the SSMP Update can be found on LWD’s website at [www.lwwd.org](http://www.lwwd.org).



## **Homeowners Reminder: Lateral Grant Program Can Help**

LWD offers a Homeowners Lateral Grant Program to provide financial assistance to help defray the cost of lateral repairs. Laterals are the sewer pipelines that run from a home or other building to the main sewer pipeline in the street. LWD encourages homeowners to have their laterals video-inspected by a licensed plumber at least every 5 years to help ensure there are no spills or, worse, sewer backups into your house. Over time, tree roots or other obstructions can block the lateral and cause these problems. If it is found that your lateral needs repair, LWD's Lateral Grant Program will reimburse 50% of the repair cost, up to a maximum of \$3,000. For more information on this program, please review the application on LWD's website at [www.lwwd.org](http://www.lwwd.org). And please call us at (760) 753-0155 *before* your plumber cleans out your pipeline so that we can dispatch personnel and equipment to your home or business to catch any debris before it can block the main pipeline. Roots and other debris can be pushed into LWD's main pipeline and cause blockages or spills downstream.

**Add caption and photo of the giant root found in the pipeline.**

## **Easy Tips for Helping Us Protect the Local Environment**

### **Wipes don't belong in the toilet!**

Even though toilet or cleaning wipes disappear down the drain, and may claim they are safe to flush, they don't break down like toilet paper. Instead, they can clog your household pipes, the pipes in the street or potentially cause a major spill at one of our pump stations. Please dispose of all wipes in the trash.

### **Free Local Paint Disposal**

Did you know that you shouldn't dispose of paint down the drain? Paint has chemicals that can upset the biological process of wastewater treatment, and can be harmful to our ocean environment. These local stores will take your leftover paint for free (call before you go to make sure they can accommodate your paint that day):

Sherwin Williams Paint  
208 N. El Camino Real  
Encinitas  
(760) 944-7976  
Limit 5 gallons

Vista Paint  
133 N. El Camino Real  
Encinitas  
(760) 634-2088  
Limit 100 gallons

## **BACK COVER**

### **Employee News**

#### **Frank Reynaga, Field Services Specialist, Retires after 35 Years of Outstanding Service (include photo)**

In 1978, Frank Reynaga started his career at LWD as a Field Services trainee, which he considered a pleasant change after working in his father's concrete business. It was no piece of cake, he will tell you, but he remembers his time with pride because of the people he worked with and what he accomplished.

Since those early days, times have changed and the tasks are different. Eventually, Frank moved from the field to the office where once again he was challenged to learn new tasks and accomplish new goals.

Today, he is the "go to" guy, the "face" of the district, the one with the technical experience and the knowledge of how it was "back then". As the District's Field Services Specialist, Frank is often the first contact for developers and customers alike, who contact LWD looking for guidance or information.

It isn't often that an employee will stay at their job for 35 years...Frank has been the exception. Maybe even more exceptional is that he works as if he just started - always supportive and encouraging to everyone.

"I've enjoyed all aspects of my work but helping residents and developers has been the most satisfying. While I'll miss the LWD staff, I'm looking forward to having more free time, enjoying my grandkids, traveling and getting to those home projects that have been on the back burner for a while," says Frank. "There's a strong camaraderie amongst everyone here - they're a great bunch of folks."

Everyone at LWD will miss Frank - he will always be remembered. From LWD, farewell and best of luck in all your endeavors.

#### **James Hoyett Celebrates 25 Years of Service (include photo)**

James is a Field Services Technician III and one of the workers you might see operating the large sewer cleaning truck or the Television truck - equipment that can show up in your neighborhood to clean out sewer pipes and identify potential clogs. After 25 years, James literally knows the District's pipes inside and out. This milestone marks James' dedication to LWD and those we serve. Congratulations, James!

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