SWEETWATER SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT

TO: Board of Directors **AGENDA NO. V-D**

FROM: Steve Mack, General Manager

Meeting Date: June 7, 2012

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION/ACTION RE BOARD MEMBER COMPENSATION

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive a presentation on Board Member compensation.

FISCAL IMPACT: none

DISCUSSION:

At the May meeting staff was asked to bring forward information on Board member compensation. Below is Table 1. Board Member Compensation, which is information provided by legal counsel regarding this issue. In short, the District may compensate Board members up to $100 per meeting with a limitation of 6 compensable meetings per month. Table 2 is a summary of an informal survey that staff did with local special districts, only one of which is a county water district (Valley of the Moon Water District which does compensate board members).

We believe the Board last addressed this issue in 2001. Information was developed, the Board apparently asked to develop a proposal for compensation of $50 per meeting up to a maximum of $100 per month. A survey was sent out to District customers with the results of 38% supporting, 41% opposed and 21% no opinion (total responses were 916). The Board took no further action on this proposal.

If the Board wishes to proceed with this proposal, issues that need to be addressed are amount of compensation and when the compensation would start. Apparently there is no firm direction on this for county water districts. Government Code §53232.1, which applies to city councils, gives some guidance on this matter.

The effect on District finances would depend, of course, on the amount of compensation per meeting. The 2001 proposal expected to be a maximum of $6,000 per year.

Table 1. Board Member Compensation

Cal. Water Code §30507.

Each director shall receive compensation in an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars ($100) per day for each day's attendance at meetings of the board or for each day's service rendered as a director by request of the board, not exceeding a total of six days in any calendar month, together with any expenses incurred in the performance of his or her duties required or authorized by the board. For purposes of this section, the determination of whether a director's activities on any specific day are compensable shall be made pursuant to Article 2.3 (commencing with Section 53232) of Chapter 2 of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the Government **Code**.
Reimbursement for these expenses is subject to Sections 53232.2 and 53232.3 of the Government **Code**.

Cal. Govt. Code §53232.1.

(a) When compensation is otherwise authorized by statute, a local agency may pay compensation to members of a legislative body for attendance at the following occurrences:
(1) A meeting of the legislative body.
(2) A meeting of an advisory body.
(3) A conference or organized educational activity conducted in compliance with subdivision (c) of Section 54952.2, including, but not limited to, ethics training required by Article 2.4 (commencing with Section 53234).

(b) A local agency may pay compensation for attendance at occurrences not specified in subdivision (a) only if the governing body has adopted, in a public meeting, a written policy specifying other types of occasions that constitute the performance of official duties for which a member of the legislative body may receive payment.

Cal. Govt. Code §36516.5. (applicable to City Councils)

A change in compensation does not apply to a councilman during his term of office; however, the prohibition herein expressed shall not prevent the adjustment of the compensation of all members of a council serving staggered terms whenever one or more members of such council becomes eligible for a salary increase by virtue of his beginning a new term of office.

Table 2. Survey of Local District Compensation

Agency	Compensation?	Amount
Russian River Fire Protection District	No	
Monte Rio Fire Protection District	Yes	$50/meeting
Monte Rio Recreation and Park District	No	
Russian River Recreation and Park District	No	
Valley of the Moon Water District	Yes	$100/meeting

Camp Meeker Recreation and Park District	No	
Occidental Community Services District	No	
Forestville Water District	No	
Forestville Fire Protection District	Yes	$50/meeting, donated back