SWEETWATER SPRINGS WATER DISTRICT

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

FROM: Steve Mack, General Manager

Meeting Date: November 3, 2011

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION/ACTION RE SURPLUS LANDS UPDATE

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive a report on the current status of District surplus lands.

FISCAL IMPACT: none.

DISCUSSION:
Over 2 years ago, interest in purchasing a certain District-owned parcel was expressed by an adjacent landowner. That event sparked an investigation into District-owned parcels and the development of a strategy for those parcels that are unneeded for District purposes. That strategy was presented and discussed at the community meeting on July 22, 2010. The District Surplus Lands Strategy and the meeting summary were made available on the District's website. At the October 7, 2011 meeeting Board members asked for this subject to be on the November 3, 2011 meeting agenda. This is a good time to revisit this issue to see where we are.

Current status:

- Surplus Lands Strategy and community meeting summary are not currently posted on the website. We took these items off the bulletin board because we felt they were no longer timely and have the intention of reposting them in a new section called something like "historical documents". We need to get this added to the website.

- We have had interest in 4 parcels: 2 related to the Monte Rio Recreation and Park District project and two smaller in-town parcels for transfer to individuals and/or the Russian River Recreation and Park District.

- I have received comments from people remarking on the District's desire to unload properties. I think this is a misunderstanding. The Surplus Lands Strategy was developed to give staff direction on how to respond to interest from the public. There may be some situations where staff would like to transfer properties to reduce District liability and maintenance costs, but there is not a push to transfer properties from District ownership.

The Strategy is a big help to District staff. We now know how to respond to interest in all District-owned parcels. We welcome the Board's perspective on how this process has worked out.