

Brian J. Lamb

8/14/2018

Presiding Judge of the Inyo County Grand Jury

Superior Court of California, County of Inyo

301 W. Line St.

Bishop, CA 93514

Judge Lamb,

This letter is in response to the Inyo County Grand Jury Report regarding Inyo County Special Districts. The Indian Creek Westridge Community Services District (ICWCSD) is one of the special Districts examined by the Grand Jury. The ICWCSD agrees with the findings of the Grand Jury. As to the findings and recommendations of the report our response is as follows:

Finding #3- We have clear distinctions drawn between employees and contractors. The ICWCSD employs three people. The District General Manager is Terry Tye. Chief of Operations and Maintenance is Don Buser. Assistant operator is Kim Derr. All three employees are certified as water operators by the State Water Resources Control Board. All three work part time. All major construction and maintenance projects are done by Class A independent contractors or licensed plumbers. We comply with all state and county requirements for public bidding on prevailing wage projects.

Finding#4-We recognize the difficulty of finding and retaining Board of Director members. Frequently, as the report points out, this is done by word of mouth. We are fortunate to have had a full complement of board members for many years but may have the need to replace a Board member in the near future. All of our Board members have served multiple terms graciously agreeing to reappointment in the absence of any other District residents coming forward to run for election. When the time comes to replace a retiring member we will solicit interested parties by direct mail, advertisement in the Inyo Register and public announcement on local radio stations.

Recommendation#3-The District Manager has reviewed the IRS website. More importantly the ICWCSD retains the services of Holland and Allred CPA's to handle all of the District's financial matters. Monthly billing, budgeting, taxes, audits, etc. are all done by the CPA. No District employee handles District money except for the District manager. His financial involvement consists of the following. Reconciling and signing monthly invoices for services and supplies from outside vendors, performing monthly bill collection on delinquent accounts, handling petty cash from sale of surplus materials, working with CPA to develop quarterly financial reports and annual budget for presentation to Board of Directors and cosigning checks when Board president is unavailable.

Recommendation#4-We have a vigorous outreach approach to keeping our constituents informed about District meetings, annual water quality reports, rate increases and upcoming projects in the District. We utilize direct mail to all customers, Community Calendar and Public Notice publications in the Inyo

**FILED**

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BY DEPUTY

Register and public service announcements on local radio (KBIS, KBOV and Sierra Wave). We do not currently operate a website.

We appreciate the time and energy expended by the Grand Jury in studying the operations of Inyo County's Special Districts and thank you for the opportunity to respond to the findings of the Grand Jury Report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Luis Elias". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Luis Elias, Chairman ICWCSD Board of Directors and members Ted Williams, Jeff Anderson, Dave Mappus and George Batchelder.