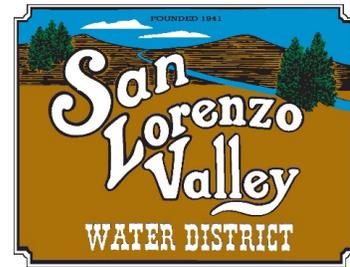


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

Jen Michelsen, 831.430.4627
jmichelsen@slvwd.com



SLVWD BOARD TO CONSIDER SUPPORT FOR PARIS CLIMATE ACCORD AND NEW POLICIES TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE

PROPOSED POLICIES BUILD ON HISTORY OF ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE AND FOCUS ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND ADAPTATION

BOULDER CREEK, CA – The San Lorenzo Valley Water District (SLVWD) will consider at its September 21 board meeting a staff recommendation to approve a resolution that confirms the district's commitment to the Paris Climate Agreement, including specific applicable portions of the historic accord. In addition the board will consider possible policy changes that focus on energy efficiency and procurement, as well as community engagement, transparency and climate change adaptation. The board meeting starts at 6 p.m. at Highlands Senior Center, 8500 Hwy 9 in Ben Lomond.

Proposed actions to be taken by SLVWD include:

- 1) Commit to the elements of the Paris Agreement that are applicable to the Water District.
- 2) Prepare a Climate Action Plan and District Energy/Climate Policy, elements of which could include:
 - Inventory existing energy uses and identify cost savings/energy efficiency priorities.
 - Reduce and eventually eliminate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions resulting from activities related to serving water for the San Lorenzo Valley Community.
 - Identify and ensure energy and water reliability/resiliency with regard to climate impacts experienced locally.
 - Emphasize communication, transparency and education by affirming the importance of education, training, public awareness, public participation and public access to information and cooperation.
 - Expand focus on water conservation because it results in conserving electricity, reduces greenhouse gas emissions and promotes sustainable use of water resources.
 - Explore development of renewable energy sources, which could include solar, wind, micro hydro, anaerobic digestion or purchasing power through Monterey Bay Community Power.
 - Produce an annual report on energy use, conservation and cost.
 - Identify strategies for identifying, assessing and adapting to climate change impacts likely to occur in the District's service area.
- 3) Implement the approved plan and policies.

BACKGROUND

In September 2008, SLVWD adopted resolution No. 2 (08-09) Climate Change and Water Resource Management through which the district committed to implementing the goal of the California Global

Warming Solutions Act (AB 32) to reduce GHG emissions to 1990 levels by 2020; and to further reduce GHG emissions to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.

Several additional pieces of legislation related to climate change and energy efficiency have come into force since AB 32. These seek to improve energy efficiency, building energy performance, and increase renewable energy generation in California. The district's actions regarding climate action are both aligned with the state's goals, and may be able to take advantage of programs and funding sources supporting climate action.

The district has continued to exercise leadership in initiatives, programs and policies that address climate change while furthering the district's mission. The district has applied understanding of climate change and its impacts as appropriate in water supply plans, asset management and infrastructure plans, California Environmental Quality Act assessments and habitat conservation plans, energy management plans, business plans and strategic plans. It has also strived to minimize its greenhouse gas emissions, worked with the community to reduce its greenhouse gas emissions related to utilization and management of water resources, and enhanced community understanding of climate change and how climate change impacts the district's mission.

In August 2017 the SLVWD Environmental Committee met and discussed a three-step outline to reduce and eventually eliminate greenhouse gas emissions resulting from district activities. The committee requested that the outline and a resolution be agendized for consideration and possible action.

ABOUT THE SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

The San Lorenzo Valley Water District is located in the mountains of northern Santa Cruz County. The district serves more than 7,800 metered connections across approximately 160 miles of pipeline, supported by dozens of water tanks, pumps and wells. Established in 1941 and supplied by a mix of surface water and underground water sources, the district provides water to the communities of Boulder Creek, Brookdale, Ben Lomond, Zayante, Scotts Valley, Mañana Woods, Felton and Lompico. For more information, visit www.slvwd.com or www.facebook.com/slvwaterdistrict.

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