Agenda: 07/21/2005 Item: 8-d

## **MEMO**

To: Board of Directors

From: District Manager

Subject: Education Program Grant Final Project Report for "O'Neill Sea Odyssey

Watershed Model"

Date: July 13, 2005

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that your Board receive and accept the Education Program Grant Final Project Report for "O'Neill Sea Odyssey Watershed Model".

## **BACKGROUND:**

On March 3, 2005 your Board awarded Education Program Grant Funds in the sum of \$788.00 to O'Neill Sea Odyssey for a project entitled "O'Neill Sea Odyssey Watershed Model". Said proposal provided a hands-on learning tool to demonstrate to youth how daily activities impact the San Lorenzo River watershed. The watershed model is used in the on-shore ecology lesson in O'Neill Sea Odyssey's (OSO) ocean-based, free hands-on education program. The project was initiated by Project Applicant Dan Haifley, Executive Director of O'Neill Sea Odyssey.

On June 27, 2005 the District received O'Neill Sea Odyssey's Final Project Report. See Attachment 1

It is recommended that your Board receive and accept the Education Program Grant Final Project Report for "O'Neill Sea Odyssey Watershed Model".

James Mueller	
District Manager	

JAM/kas



2222 East Cliff Drive #222

Santa Cruz, CA 95062

831.475.1561

831 462.9188 FAX

oneillseaodyssey.org

June 24, 2005

Mr. James Mueller, District Manager San Lorenzo Valley Water District 13060 Highway Nine Boulder Creek, CA 95006-9119

RE:

Final Report - San Lorenzo Valley Water District Education Grant

Program - O'Neill Sea Odyssey Watershed Model.

Dear Mr. Muldler:

Again I would like to thank the Board and Directors and Staff of the San Lorenzo Valley Water District for their support of our purchase of a new watershed model. As you recall, the District contributed for the purchase of our first watershed model in 2000. We expect the model just purchased with District funds to also last five years, due to use by 4,500 to 5,000 kids per year.

The new model has been in use since it arrived in April. Attached is: (1) a brief report on the impact the model will have on our program, (2) a brief finance report and invoices (we requested and received \$788, we spent \$790.50) (3) a list of classes performed during the 2004-2005 school year, including classes that have used the new model, and (3) a copy of our program evaluation for the previous year, which includes evaluation data for the ecology portion of our program, which used the previous watershed model.

Thank you again! If there are any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (831) 465-9390 or at dhaifley@oneillseaodyssey.org.

**Board of Directors** 

Jack O'Neill, Chair

Bridget O'Neill, Co-Chair

US Representative

Sam Farr

Jack McLaughlin

Carl Keehn

Tim O'Neill

Nick Petredis Donna Blitzer

Mike McCabe

Shannon Brady

Rob Bremner

Sincerely,

Dan Haifley

Executive Director

Thank you,

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JUN 2 7 2005

SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

# REPORT - O'NEILL SEA ODYSSEY WATERSHED MODEL

The watershed model is a hands-on learning tool to demonstrate to youth how daily activities impact their watershed. It is used in the on-shore ecology lesson in *O'Neill Sea Odyssey's (OSO)* ocean-based, free hands-on education program. Our original watershed model – which is now cracked - was purchased thanks to a grant from the San Lorenzo Valley Water District. In the 2003-2004 school year, 168 San Lorenzo Valley youth from 6 classes were served by *OSO*.

Why this project is needed and/or what specific problems it addresses: The watershed model demonstrates in a vivid, hands-on way which daily activities harm the watershed and the ocean which it feeds, and how those activities can be mitigated. We believe that youth have the capacity for environmental stewardship, but not many opportunities to learn it as a behavior in a structured setting. OSO fill a need to create an opportunity to create stewardship where the capacity exists. Joint Venture/Silicon Valley in 1999, and the Community Assessment Project for Santa Cruz County in 2000, both found that youth are less likely to be encouraged to become involved in their communities: to volunteer, vote, or to engage in environmental practices such as recycling, and appropriate disposal of motor oil. The City of San Jose recently found that only 30% of youth said they experience a caring neighborhood; only 24% have access to positive role models, and only 15% felt valued by their community. Yet, 69% act on their convictions and stand up for their beliefs. Therefore, over two-thirds of these youth could become effective watershed stewards, if they were given the opportunity.

Describe your proposed project monitoring program: We have engaged Applied Survey Research, who will measure progress towards our project objectives using numeric standards. Previously, our evaluations focused on the quality of instruction, but not the measurement of progress towards our objectives (2003-2004 evaluation is attached). The measurement tool will involve pre and post program surveys of youth, specifically focused on behavior change and the proclivity towards advocacy among peers and adults.

How your project relates to and supports the Education Program Mission Statement: This proposal will improve the watershed's environmental health by engaging approximately 170 San Lorenzo Valley youth per year in an educational program to enhance their stewardship of the watershed. An incentive for watershed protection is the prospect of protecting the ocean environment, a popular issue among the general public who in turn know very little about the vital role that watersheds play in terrestrial and marine ecosystems. In 1999, the Watershed Management Council noted that more than 300 ocean and estuary scientists endorsed a statement to Congress recommending stricter controls and broader education about non-point source pollution. The Council's website states: "These specialists have observed the impacts of excess nutrient loading at the downstream end of the system. Even oceanographers are supporting watershed approaches."

### FINANCE REPORT

Item	Proposed	Actual
Watershed model purchase	\$679	\$679
Shipping	\$ 29	\$ 29
Staff time (2 hours)	\$ 80	\$ 82.50
TOTAL	\$788	\$790.50

Invoices are attached. The OSO program budget for 2004-2005 was \$547,000.

# JT&A, inc.

14524-F Lee Road Chantilly, VA 20151 (703) 631-8810

Fax: (703) 631-6558

Email: info@enviroscapes.com Web: www.enviroscapes.com

### SOLD TO

O'Neill Sea Odyssey Laura Barnes 2222 Eastcliff Drive, Ste 222 Santa Cruz, CA 95062

# INVOICE

INVOICE NUMBER

03050041

CUSTOMER NUMBER

5649

#### SHIPPED TO

Laura Barnes O'Neill Sea Odyssey 2222 Eastcliff Drive, Ste 222 Santa Cruz, CA 95062 1-331-465-9390

lbarnes@oneillseaodyssey.org

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2222 East Cliff Drive, Suite 222 Santa Cruz, CA 95062 (831) 465-9390

# Work performed by Education Coordinator

Hours	Description	Rate	Total
1	Research & order watershed model	\$30.00	\$30.00
1.75	Crew training on watershed model	\$30.00	\$52.50
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TOTA	L		\$82.50