

MEMO

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: District Manager

DATE: November 30, 2007

SUBJECT: PERSONNEL SYSTEM RULES AND REGULATIONS, 2008

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Directors review this memo, attached Personnel System Rules and Regulations for 2008, and by Motion of the Board ratify the San Lorenzo Valley Water District Personnel System Rules and Regulations.

BACKGROUND:

On November 16, 2000 your Board adopted Ordinance No. 99 which established a personnel system for the District. See Attachment 1. Ordinance No. 99, Section 5 provides for the adoption and amendment of personnel rules and regulations by resolution of the Board of Directors. On January 18, 2001 your Board adopted Resolution No. 24 (00-01) which established Personnel System Rules and Regulations for the San Lorenzo Valley Water District. See Attachment 2.

The District is a member agency of the Special District Risk Management Authority (SDRMA). SDRMA is a Joint Powers Agency consisting of approximately 750 member agencies throughout California formed to provide risk management services and insurance coverage. SDRMA has an Incentive Credit Program which provides incentive credits to reduce an agency's general, auto liability and worker's compensation premium contributions. The Incentive Credit Program provides credits for development and adoption of the Personnel System Rules and Regulations. Credit is provided upon initial adoption of the Personnel System Rules and Regulations by the Board of Directors and thereafter credits are maintained upon annual review. District Legal Counsel has reviewed the San Lorenzo Valley Water District Personnel System Rules and Regulations. There are no recommended revisions to the existing Personnel System Rules and Regulations for calendar year 2008.

It is recommended that the Board of Directors review this memo, attached Personnel System Rules and Regulations, and by Motion of the Board ratify the San Lorenzo Valley Water District Personnel System Rules and Regulations for 2008. Further, said motion shall direct that the Personnel System Rules and Regulations shall be submitted annually to the District Counsel for review and the Board of Directors for review and adoption at the first meeting in December for subsequent years.

James Mueller
District Manager

JAM/bsb

SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
PERSONNEL SYSTEM
RULES AND REGULATIONS

ADOPTED
JANUARY 18, 2007
RESOLUTION NO. 24 (00-01)

RATIFICATION FOR 2007
SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
DECEMBER 7, 2006

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**SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
PERSONNEL SYSTEM RULES AND REGULATIONS**

SECTION 1 - GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1 General Provisions.

These Personnel System Rules and Regulations of the San Lorenzo Valley Water District are adopted pursuant to District Ordinance No. 99 dated November 16, 2000 and shall be known as the "Personnel System Policy" (hereinafter referred to as "Policy"), and may be cited and referred to herein as such.

1.2 Statement of Purpose.

The purpose of this Policy is to provide orderly, equitable and uniform procedures for administration of the personnel system.

1.3 Effect of Policy on Past Actions and Obligations.

This Policy which establishes rules and regulations for the administration of the personnel system completely supercedes and cancels all prior practices, policies and agreements whether written or oral, howsoever the same may be expressed, which are contrary to or in conflict with this Policy, including resolutions and ordinances of the Board of Directors, unless expressly stated to the contrary herein or expressly stated within a duly authorized and fully executed collective bargaining agreement by and between the District and a duly recognized employee organization prepared pursuant to the Government Code of the State of California (Section 3500 et. seq.). Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section, this Policy constitutes the complete and entire rules and regulations relative to this subject matter.

1.4 Severability.

If any provision, sentence, clause or phrase of this policy or the application of said provision, sentence, clause or phrase to any person or circumstance is for any reason held to be invalid or not in accordance with applicable provisions of Federal, State or local laws or regulation, the remainder of this policy, or the application thereof to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby.

1.5 Effect of Memorandum of Understanding.

Whenever the provisions of this Policy conflict with the provision of a duly authorized and fully executed collective bargaining agreement by and between the District and a duly recognized employee organization pursuant to the Government Code of the State of California (Section 3500 et. seq.), the provisions of the agreement shall prevail.

1.6 Fair Employment Practices.

All techniques or procedures used in recruitment and selection of employees shall be designed to measure only the job-related qualifications of applicants. No recruitment or selection technique shall be used which is not justifiably linked to successful job performance. The District Manager shall have the sole authority to make the final determination regarding which recruitment and/or selection techniques will be utilized for any given position or class.

1.7 District Manager Authority.

The District Manager shall have the authority to administer this Policy and may delegate any or all of the authorized powers and duties to his/her duly authorized representative(s) or designee(s), or may recommend that such powers and duties be performed under contract. The authority to appoint all officers and employees except those specifically excluded by Ordinance, to remove same and have general control and supervision over same is vested in the District Manger.

1.8 Definitions.

As used in this Policy, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

- a. "Advancement" means a salary increase within the limits of a pay range established for a class.
- b. "Allocation" means the assignment of a single position to its proper class in accordance with the duties performed, and the authority and responsibilities exercised.
- c. "Class" means all positions sufficiently similar in duties, authority, and responsibility, to permit grouping under a common title in the application with equity of common standards of selection, transfer, demotion and salary.

- d. "Competitive Service" means all positions of employment in the service of the District except those excluded by the personnel system ordinance.
- e. "Continuous Service" means an employee's length of continuous regular full-time or regular part-time service since their last date of hire, less any adjustments due to lay off, approved leaves of absence without pay or other breaks in service
- f. "Days" means calendar days unless otherwise stated.
- g. "Demotion" means the movement of an employee from one class to another class having a lower maximum base rate of pay.
- h. "Disciplinary Action" means the demotion, discharge, reduction in pay and/or written suspension or reprimand of a regular employee for just cause(s).
- i. "District" means the San Lorenzo Valley Water District, and, where appropriate herein, refers to any duly authorized representative(s) as herein defined.
- j. "District Manager" means the District Manager or his/her duly authorized representative or agent.
- k. "Eligible" means a person whose name is on an employment list.
- l. Eligible List:
 - (1) "Open Eligible List" means a list of names of persons who have taken an open competitive examination for a class in the competitive service and have qualified.
 - (2) "Promotional Eligible List" means a list of names of persons who have taken a promotional examination for a class in the competitive service and have qualified.
- m. Examination:

- (1) "Open Competitive Examination" means an examination for a particular class which is open to all persons meeting the qualifications for the class.
 - (2) "Promotional Examination" means an examination for a particular class which is open only to employees of the District meeting the qualifications for the class.
 - (3) "Continuous Examination" means an open competitive examination which is administered periodically and as a result of which names of qualified candidates are placed on an employment list, in order of final scores, for a period of not more than one (1) calendar year.
- n. "Lay-Off" means the separation of employees from the active work force due to lack of work or funds, or to the abolition of positions by the Board of Directors for the above reasons or due to organization changes.
- o. "Personnel Ordinance" means District Ordinance No. 99 which created a personnel system for the District.
- p. "Position" means a group of duties and responsibilities in the competitive service requiring the full-time or part-time employment of one person.
- q. "Probationary Period" means a period to be considered an integral part of the examination, recruiting, testing and selection process during which an employee is required to demonstrate fitness for the position to which the employee is appointed by actual performance of the duties of the position.
- r. "Promotion" means the movement of an employee from one class to another class having a higher maximum base rate of pay.
- s. "Provisional Appointment" means an appointment of a person who possesses the minimum qualifications established for a particular class and who has been appointed to a position in that class in the absence of available eligibles. In no instance shall a

provisional appointment exceed one (1) calendar year unless otherwise approved by the District Manager.

t. "Regular Employee" means an employee in the competitive service who has successfully completed the probationary period and has been retained as hereafter provided in these rules and regulations.

u. "Re-employment" means the restoration without examination of a former regular employee or probationary employee to a classification in which the employee formerly served and resigned with good standing.

v. "Reinstatement" means the restoration without examination of a former regular employee or probationary employee to a classification in which the employee formerly served and was laid off or demoted in accordance with the provisions of Section 11.

w. "Relief of Duty" means the temporary assignment of an employee to a status of leave with pay.

x. "Separation of Service" means the termination of employment by means of layoff, resignation or discharge.

y. "Suspension" means the temporary separation from service of an employee without pay for disciplinary purposes.

z. "Temporary Employee" means an employee who is appointed to a non-regular position for a limited period of time and/or fixed by the duration of a specific project or an employee appointed to fill a position in the competitive service for a limited period of duration not to exceed one (1) calendar year unless otherwise approved by the District Manager.

aa. "Transfer" means the reassignment of an employee from one position to another position in the same class or in a comparable class.

SECTION 2 - CLASSIFICATION

2.1 Preparation of Plan.

The District Manager or a person or agency employed for that purpose, shall ascertain and record the duties and responsibilities of all positions in the competitive service and shall recommend a classification plan for such positions. The classification plan shall consist of classes of positions in the competitive service defined by class specifications, including the title. The classification plan shall be so developed and maintained that all positions substantially similar with respect to duties, responsibilities, authority, and character of work are included within the same class, and that the same schedules of compensation may be made to apply with equity under similar working conditions to all positions in the same class.

2.2 Adoption, Amendment and Revision of Plan.

The classification plan shall be adopted by the District Manager and may be amended from time to time. During the process of adoption and consideration of amendment and revision of the classification plan all recognized employee organizations affected shall be advised. Amendments and revisions of the plan may be suggested by any interested party, including any recognized employee organization, and shall be submitted in writing to the District Manager.

2.3 Allocation of Positions.

Following adoption of the classification plan and consultation with any recognized employee organization affected, the District Manager shall allocate every position in the competitive service to one of the classes established by the classification plan.

2.4 New Positions.

A new position in the competitive service shall not be created until the classification plan has been amended to provide therefore and shall not be filled until an appropriate employment list has been established for such position.

2.5 Reclassification.

The District Manager may make periodic studies of the classification plan and make any changes deemed desirable. When the assigned duties and responsibilities of a position have changed

significantly so as to necessitate reclassification, whether new or already created, the position may be reclassified by the District Manager to a more appropriate class. Reclassifications shall not be used for the purpose of avoiding restrictions concerning demotions and promotions, nor to effect a change in salary in the absence of a significant change in assigned duties and responsibilities.

2.6 Status of Reclassified Employees.

When occupied position(s) are reclassified pursuant to this Section the incumbent(s) shall be affected as follows:

a. When the incumbent's status is regular employee, the incumbent(s) shall assume regular employee status in the new classification on such effective date without qualifying tests or probationary period.

b. When the incumbent's status is probationary employee, the incumbent(s) must successfully serve the remainder of the probationary period to attain regular employee status.

SECTION 3 - APPLICATIONS AND APPLICANTS

3.1 Announcement.

All examinations for classes in the competitive service shall be publicly advertised either by posting, by publication, or such other methods as the District Manager deems appropriate. Special recruiting shall be conducted, if necessary, to insure that all segments of the community are aware of the forthcoming examinations. The announcements shall specify the title and pay of the class for which the examination is announced; the nature of the work to be performed; preparation desirable for the performance of the work of the class; the manner of making application; and other pertinent information.

3.2 Application Forms.

Applications shall be made in the manner as prescribed on the examination announcements and on such application forms designated by the District. Application forms may require information covering education, training, experience, references and other pertinent information. All applications must be signed by the person applying.

3.3 Qualification of Applicants.

All applicants for examination must meet the qualification standards set forth in the announcement.

3.4 Disqualification.

The District Manager shall have the authority to disqualify applicants, candidates, or eligibles consistent with the provisions of these rules. The following shall constitute grounds for disqualification of an applicant, candidate or eligible:

- a. Failure to meet any of the requirements or qualifications, as published in the announcement
- b. Fraudulent conduct or false statements by an applicant, or by others with his/her concurrence, on any application or any selection procedure.
- c. Conviction (including pleas of guilty or nolo contendere) of a felony if the District Manager determines that the conviction has a rational relationship to the position for which applicant is made. In making the determination, the District Manager shall consider the duties and responsibilities of the position, the nature of the conviction, and the circumstances surrounding the crime, and the candidate's record since the conviction. Any applicant who is disqualified for employment under this subsection may appeal the determination of disqualification. Such appeal shall be in writing and filed with the District Manager within fourteen (14) calendar days of the date of the notice of disqualification. The District Manager shall hear and determine the appeal within thirty (30) calendar days after it is filed. The determination of the District Manager on the appeal is final.

3.5 Notice of Qualification.

All applicants and candidates shall be sent written notice of acceptance or rejection of their application and the results of their examination. Said notice shall be mailed to the address of record on the application filed for the examination.

SECTION 4 - EXAMINATIONS

4.1 Examination Process.

The selection techniques used in the examination process shall be impartial and related solely to those subjects which will test fairly the qualifications of candidates and fairly measure the relative capacities of the persons examined to execute the duties and responsibilities of the class to which they seek to be appointed. Examinations shall be designed to provide equal opportunity to all candidates by being based on an analysis of the essential job requirements of the class, covering only factors related to such job requirements. The District Manager shall have the sole authority to make the final determination regarding which test or combination of tests will be utilized in the examination process for any given position or class. Examinations shall consist of job related selection techniques such as, but not necessarily limited to, achievement tests, written tests, performance tests, oral tests, physical agility tests, evaluation of daily work performance, work samples, or any combination of these or other tests. The probationary period shall be considered as a portion of the examination process.

4.2 Examination Administration.

The District Manager shall be responsible for the administration and scoring of all selection examinations. The District Manager shall have the sole authority to set minimum qualifying scores for each phase of the selection examination process. Applicants or candidates failing to achieve the qualifying score in any phase of the examination process shall be disqualified from further participation in the examination process. The final score of a candidate shall be based upon the compilation of all examinations in the selection examination process. Two or more candidates with the same final score shall be given the same rank on the eligibility list. The rank following the tie shall be left vacant.

4.3 Promotional Examinations.

Promotional examinations may be conducted whenever the needs of the service require. Promotional examinations may include any of the selection techniques mentioned in Section 4.1 of this Policy or any combination thereof. Only regular, probationary, provisional or temporary employees of the District who meet the requirements set forth in the promotional examination announcements may compete in promotional examinations. The District Manager shall have the sole

authority to make the final determination when the services of a promotional examination will be utilized for any given position or class.

4.4 Open Competitive Examinations.

Open competitive examinations may be administered for a single position or class, as the needs of the service require. Names of qualified candidates may be placed on an eligible list, and shall remain on said list, as prescribed in Section 5 of this policy.

4.5 Continuous Examinations.

At the discretion of the District Manager open or promotional continuous examinations may be administered periodically, as the needs of the service require. Names of qualified candidates may be placed on an eligible list in the order of final scores and shall remain on said lists for a period of not more than one (1) year.

4.6 Contract For Examinations.

The District may contract with any competent public or private agency or qualified individual(s) for the preparing and/or administering of examinations. In the absence of such a contract, the District Manager shall see that such duties are performed. The District Manager shall arrange for the use of public buildings and equipment for the conduct of examinations.

4.7 Review of Examinations.

All candidates and eligibles shall have the right to inspect their own test answer sheet within seven (7) calendar days after the notifications of examination results. Any error in computation, if called to the attention of the District Manager within this period, shall be corrected. Such corrections shall not, however, require invalidation of appointments previously made.

SECTION 5 - ELIGIBLE LISTS

5.1 Eligible Lists.

As soon as possible after the completion of an examination, the District Manager shall prepare and maintain an eligible list consisting of the names of candidates who qualified in the examination.

5.2 Duration of Lists.

Eligible lists shall become effective on the date certified by the District Manager and shall remain in effect for a period of one (1) calendar year from said date unless exhausted or abolished by the District Manager, which ever occurs first. The District Manager may establish a new eligible list pursuant to the provision of Section 6.3 of this Policy.

5.3 Removal of Names from Lists.

The name of any person appearing on an eligible, re-employment or promotional list shall be removed by the District Manager if the eligible candidate requests in writing that the name be removed or if the eligible candidate fails to respond within seven (7) calendar days to a notice mailed to the last designated address. The person affected shall be notified of the removal of the name by a notice mailed to the last known address. The names of persons on promotional employment lists who resign from the service of the District shall automatically be dropped from such lists.

SECTION 6 - FILLING OF VACANCIES

6.1 Types of Appointment.

The District Manager may fill a vacancy in the competitive service by transfer, demotion, reinstatement, or re-employment, or from persons from an appropriate eligible list, if available. In the absence of persons eligible for appointment in these ways the District Manager may make a provisional appointment pursuant to Section 6.5 of this Policy. The District Manager may make a temporary appointment pursuant to Section 6.6 of this Policy. All vacancies shall be filled in accordance with the provisions of this Section.

6.2 Competitive Service Vacancy.

When a vacancy exists in the competitive service the District Manager shall fill the vacancy in the following order:

- 1) From eligibles on a reinstatement list, if available.
- 2) From eligibles on an existing promotional eligible list, if available.
- 3) From eligibles on an existing open employment list, if available.
- 4) Announcement and examination process.

6.3 Certification of Eligibles.

When a vacancy is to be filled by appointment from an open eligible list or from a promotional eligible list, the District Manager shall certify from the specified list the names of the three (3) most highly qualified candidates available for appointment. If there are fewer than three (3) names available for appointment the District Manager may make an appointment from among such certified eligibles or may establish a new list. When a new list is to be established the District Manager shall conduct a new announcement and examination process.

6.4 Appointment.

After interview and inquire, the District Manager shall make appointments from among those certified. The person accepting appointment shall report to the District Manager, or the District Manager's duly designated representative(s), for processing on or before the date of appointment. If the applicant accepts the appointment and reports for duty within the prescribed time the applicant shall be deemed to be appointed; otherwise, the applicant shall be deemed to have declined the appointment.

6.5 Provisional Appointment.

In the absence of there being names of individuals willing to accept appointment from appropriate eligible lists, the District Manager may make a provisional appointment of a person meeting the minimum training and experience qualifications for the position. Such an appointment may be made during the period of suspension of an employee or pending final action on proceedings to review suspension, demotion or discharge of an employee. A provisional employee may be removed at any time without cause and without the right of grievance, hearing, or appeal. No provisional appointment shall exceed a time period of one (1) calendar year, unless otherwise approved by the District Manager.

6.6 Temporary Appointment.

Temporary appointments may be made by the District Manager to fill a non-regular employment status position for a limited period of time and/or fixed by the duration of a specific project; or to fill a position in the competitive service for a limited period of duration not to exceed one (1) calendar year, unless otherwise approved by the District Manager.

SECTION 7 - PROBATIONARY PERIOD

7.1 Probationary Period.

All original and promotional appointments in the competitive service shall be tentative and subject to a probationary period of not less than six (6) calendar months of actual service. The probationary period shall be regarded as part of the examination process and shall be utilized for closely observing the employee's work, the employee's ability to work with other employees, and for securing the most effective adjustment of a new employee to their position. Time spent on leave without pay shall not count toward completion of the probationary period. The probationary period may be extended at the discretion of the District Manager. Extension of the probationary period shall be for appropriate circumstances and for a specific period of time up to and including six (6) months. No such extension shall exceed six (6) additional months, and no further extensions shall be granted. If the service of a probationary employee has been satisfactory said employee shall be certified in writing for regular employee status. Regular employee status shall begin with the day following the expiration date of the probationary period. During the probationary period an employee may be recommended for rejection at any time without cause and without right of grievance, hearing or appeal. The District Manager shall provide all probationary employees with written notification regarding the status of the probation period.

7.2 Rejection Following Promotion.

Any employee rejected during the probationary period following a promotional appointment shall be given the opportunity to be reinstated to a position in the class from which the employee was promoted. If there is no vacancy in such position, the employee may request to be placed on a reinstatement list. Such opportunity will not be given if the employee is discharged pursuant to disciplinary action under these rules and regulations.

SECTION 8 - COMPENSATION

8.1 Preparation of Compensation Schedule.

The District Manager, or a person or agency employed for that purpose, shall prepare a compensation schedule consisting of a schedule of salary ranges allocated to each class in the position classification plan.

The compensation schedule shall also include a schedule of hourly wage rates applicable to positions which are not in the competitive service.

8.2 Adoption, Amendment and Revision of Compensation Schedule.

The compensation schedule shall be adopted and may be amended or revised from time to time by resolution of the Board of Directors. Amendments or revisions to the compensation schedule may be suggested by any interested party and shall be submitted in writing to the District Manager.

8.3 Schedule of Salary Ranges.

The compensation schedule shall be an integrated schedule consisting of seven (7) step salary ranges with a five percent (5%) differential between steps in each range.

SECTION 9 - TRANSFER, PROMOTION, DEMOTION, SUSPENSION AND REINSTATEMENT

9.1 Transfer.

Transfer is defined as the reassignment of an employee from one position to another position in the same or in a comparable class. The District Manager may transfer an employee from one position to another position in the same class or in a comparable class. For transfer purposes, a comparable class is one with the same maximum salary, involves the performance of similar duties, and requires substantially the same basic qualifications. Transfer shall not be used to effectuate a promotion, demotion, advancement, or reduction, each of which may be accomplished only as provided in the personnel ordinance or these rules and regulations. No person shall be transferred to a position for which that person does not possess the minimum qualifications.

9.2 Promotion.

Promotion is defined as the movement of an employee from one class to another class having a higher maximum base rate of pay. Insofar as consistent with the best interests of the District all vacancies in the competitive service may be filled by promotion from within the competitive service, after a promotional examination has been given and a promotional list established.

The District Manger may fill a vacancy in the competitive service by an open competitive examination instead of promotional examination, in which event the District Manger shall arrange for an open competitive examination and for the preparation and certification of an open competitive eligible list.

9.3 Demotion.

Demotion is defined as the movement of an employee from one class to another class having a lower maximum base rate of pay. The District Manager may demote an employee for disciplinary purposes in accordance with Section 10 of this Policy. In addition, upon written request of an employee, and with written approval of the District Manager a voluntary non-disciplinary demotion may be made to a vacant position. No employee shall be demoted to a position who does not possess the minimum qualifications.

9.4 Suspension.

The District Manager may suspend an employee from a position for a disciplinary purpose in accordance with Section 10 of this Policy. Suspension without pay shall not exceed thirty (30) calendar days.

9.5 Re-employment.

With approval of the District Manager, a regular employee who has resigned with good standing may be re-employed within one (1) year of the effective date of resignation, to a vacant position in the same or comparable class. Upon re-employment, the employee may be subject to the probationary period prescribed for the class. No credit for former employment shall be granted in computing salary, annual leave, or other benefits except on the specific recommendation of the District Manager at time of re-employment.

SECTION 10 - DISCIPLINARY ACTION

10.1 Policy.

Prior to demotion, discharge, reduction in pay, reprimand or suspension of a regular employment status employee for disciplinary purposes, the District Manager shall comply with the procedures set forth in this Policy.

10.2 Notification of Disciplinary Action.

The District Manager may take disciplinary action for just cause against any employee who has completed their probationary period by notifying the employee of the action in writing. Employees who have not completed their probationary period pursuant to Section 7 of this Policy may be terminated at any time for any cause, without prior notice and without right of grievance, hearing or appeal. Notification of intended disciplinary action must be in writing and served on the employee in person or by registered mail at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the effective date of the intended disciplinary action, except in an emergency situation. The notice must be included in the employee's personnel file, and shall include:

- a. Nature of Action. A statement of the nature of the disciplinary action. Disciplinary action is defined as demotion, discharge, reduction in pay, letters of reprimand and/or suspension.
- b. Effective Date. The effective date of action, which shall be at least seventy-two (72) hours after notice of intended discipline is served on the employee, except in an emergency situation.
- c. Basis for Action. A statement in ordinary and concise language of the act or the omissions upon which the disciplinary action is based.
- d. Representation. A statement that any employee may be represented by any representative of the employee's choosing relative to disciplinary action. The employee shall provide written notice to the District Manager relative to designated representation.
- e. Entitlement to Meet with District Manager. A statement that the employee has the right to respond orally or in writing to the charges prior to said disciplinary action being taken. The employee shall advise the District Manager of the request for a meeting within seventy-two (72) hours after receiving the notice. If, at the employee's option, there is no meeting, the District Manager shall advise the employee in writing within five (5) calendar days after the seventy-two (72) hour period expires, of his/her decision regarding the intended disciplinary action.

10.3 Employee Review.

The employee shall be given an opportunity to review the documents or materials upon which the proposed disciplinary action is based, and, if practicable, the employee shall be supplied with a copy of the documents.

10.4 Relief of Duty.

Notwithstanding the provisions of this Section, the District Manager may approve the temporary assignment of an employee to a status of leave with pay pending conduct or completion of such investigations or opportunity to respond as may be required to determine if disciplinary action is to be taken.

SECTION 11 - LAYOFF POLICY AND PROCEDURE

11.1 Statement of Intent.

The District shall have the sole right and authority to determine when it is necessary to abolish any position(s) or employment in the interest of economy or efficiency, changes in duties or organization or any other reasons determined to be in the best interest of governmental operations. The Board of Directors may abolish any position(s) or employment for the purposes stated herein and the District Manager shall have the authority to layoff, demote or transfer the employee(s) holding such position(s) or employment pursuant to this Section without disciplinary action and without right of grievance, hearing or appeal.

11.2 Notification.

Employees to be laid off or displaced pursuant to this Section shall be given, whenever possible, at least thirty (30) calendar days prior written notice.

11.3 Order of Separation.

Layoffs and/or reductions in employment shall be made by classification. A classification is defined as a position or number of positions having the same title, job description and salary. Whenever in the judgement of the District layoffs and/or a reduction in employment is deemed necessary, the order of layoff within the affected layoff classification(s) shall be as follows:

- (a) Temporary employees;
- (b) Provisional employees;
- (c) Part time employees;
- (d) Probationary employees; and

- (e) In the event of further layoff(s) or reduction in employment, employees will be laid off from the affected classification(s) in accordance with seniority pursuant to this Section.

11.4 Demotion Procedures Due to Reduction in Force.

Except as otherwise provided pursuant to this Section, whenever there are layoffs or reductions in employment, the District Manger shall first demote to a vacancy if any, in the same or lower classification in the same class series which the employee(s) who are scheduled for layoff meet the minimum employment standards. Employees with the least seniority pursuant to Section 11.7 shall be demoted first. All employees demoted pursuant to this Section shall have their names placed on the classification reinstatement eligible list.

11.5 Displacement Due to Reduction in Force.

Displacement is defined as the movement in layoff(s) or reduction(s) in employment of an employee to an equal or lower classification (as determined by maximum base rate of pay) on the basis of seniority. An employee cannot displace to a higher classification. Any employee in the competitive service affected by layoff(s) or reduction(s) in employment shall have the right to displace an employee who has less seniority in the same classification or in a lower classification in the same class series. Any employee displaced pursuant to the Section if applicable may in the same manner displace another employee within the same classification or in a lower classification in the same class series.

11.6 Displacement Procedures.

In order to exercise displacement rights, an employee must have more seniority than at least one of the incumbent employees in the retreat classification(s) and request displacement action in writing to the District Manager within seven (7) calendar days of receipt of notice of layoff or reduction of employment. Employees who exercise displacement rights and retreat to an equal or lower classification shall be placed at the salary step representing the least loss of pay. In no case shall the salary be increased above that received in the classification from which the employee was laid off. Employees who retreat to a lower classification in the same class series shall serve a probationary period pursuant to Section 7.1 of this Policy unless they have previously successfully completed a probationary period for said classification.

11.7 Seniority for Purpose of Reduction in Force.

For the purpose of this Section seniority shall be defined as an employee's length of continuous regular full time service and/or part time service (pro-rated) at or above the classification level where layoff is to occur. If the above factor is equal, the date regular employment status with the District is achieved shall be determinative. If the foregoing factor is equal, the employee's position on the eligible list shall be determinative.

11.8 Reinstatement List.

The names of persons laid off or demoted in accordance with provisions of this Section shall be entered upon a reinstatement list. Lists from different departments or at different times for the same class of position shall be combined into a single list. The District Manager shall use such list when a vacancy arises in the same or lower classification in the same series before certification is made from an eligible list. Names shall be placed on reinstatement lists in order of their seniority in the classification with the highest seniority in the class being at the top of the reinstatement list.

11.9 Duration of Reinstatement List.

Names of persons laid off or demoted shall be carried on a reinstatement list for a period of one (1) calendar year, except that persons appointed to permanent positions of the same level as that which laid off, shall, upon such appointment, be dropped from the list. Persons who refuse reinstatement shall be dropped from the list. Persons reinstated in a lower class, or on a temporary basis, shall be continued on the reinstatement list for the higher position for the one (1) year period.

SECTION 12 - SEPARATION FROM SERVICE

12.1 Discharge.

An employee in the competitive service may be discharged at any time by the District Manager. Disciplinary discharge action shall be in accordance with Section 10 of this policy.

12.2 Resignation.

An employee wishing to leave the competitive service in good standing shall file with the District Manager a written resignation stating the effective date and reasons for leaving at least fourteen (14) calendar

days before leaving the service, unless such time limit is waived by the District Manager.

SECTION 13 - ADMINISTRATIVE LEAVES, REPORTS AND RECORDS

13.1 Attendance.

Employees shall be in attendance at their work in accordance with the rules regarding hours of work, holidays, and leaves. All departments shall keep daily attendance records of employees which shall be reported to the District Manager in the form and on the dates so specified.

13.2 Military Leave.

Military leave and regulations for payment pertaining thereto shall be in accordance with the provisions of the Military and Veterans Code of the State of California.

13.3 Leave of Absence Without Pay.

The District Manager, at his/her sole discretion, may grant a regular or probationary employee a leave of absence without pay for a period of time not to exceed six (6) months. No such leave of absence without pay shall be granted except upon written request of the employee setting forth the reason for the request, and the written approval of the District Manager. Upon expiration of an approved leave of absence without pay, the employee shall be reinstated in the position held at the time leave was granted.

13.4 Failure to Return.

Any employee who fails to return to duty at the time specified on application of authorized annual, sick, maternity, or other leaves of absence shall be considered to have resigned from service with the District in the absence of evidence of extenuating circumstances.

13.5 Jury Duty.

Every employee in the competitive service of the District who is called or required to serve as a trial juror, upon notification and appropriate verification submitted to his/her supervisor, shall be entitled to be absent from his/her duties with the District during the period of such service or while necessarily being present in court as a result of such call.

The employee's normal pay shall be lowered by the amount of pay received for jury duty.

13.6 Personnel Records.

The District Manager shall maintain a service or personnel record for each employee in the service of the District showing the name, title of position held, the department to which assigned, salary, changes in employment status and such other information as maybe considered pertinent by the District Manager.

13.7 Change of Status Report.

Every appointment, transfer, promotion, demotion, change of salary rate, or any other temporary or permanent change in status of an employee shall be reported in writing to the employee by the District Manager in such manner as he/she may prescribe.

SECTION 14 - MISCELLANEOUS

14.1 Safety.

All employees of the District shall be responsible for following the general safety guidelines of the District, as well as any additional safety regulations which are defined by the employees' work area or position. Any variance or refusal to comply with these guidelines shall result in disciplinary action up to, and including, discharge, in accordance with these rules and regulations.

14.2 Identification Cards, Badges, or Insignia.

No employee in the service of the District who uses an identification card, badge, or insignia as either evidence of the employee's position or authority shall allow it to be used by any other individual nor shall the employee use it in any way to advance a private interest. All identification cards, badges, or insignia issued by the District shall be turned in to the District Manger upon change of status within the competitive service or termination of employment.

- END -