

## M E M O

To: Board of Directors

From: Environmental Analyst

Subject: RECOMMENDATIONS OF EDUCATION PROGRAM ADVISORY  
COMMISSION REGARDING PROPOSED EDUCATION PROGRAM  
GRANTS

Date: MAY 10, 2007

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Board receive and consider the recommendations of the Education Program Advisory Commission regarding the current proposed Education Program Grants and provide direction to staff regarding the Board's award of said proposed grants.

### **BACKGROUND:**

On June 5, 2003 your Board approved District Ordinance No. 100, which established the San Lorenzo Valley Water District Education Program Advisory Commission. The purpose of the Education Program Advisory Commission is to advise the Board of Directors regarding the selection and allocation of education program grants.

At the April 5, 2006 Education Program Advisory Commission meeting, the Commission directed staff to notice the availability of grant funds for the current funding cycle. In addition, the Commission also directed staff to develop and notice a separate application process for Science Fair Projects. The Science Fair Project Education Grant Program encouraged grant applications with funding levels at or less than \$200.00 for Science Fair Projects that enhanced the understanding of the San Lorenzo River Watershed or improved the watershed's environmental health. Staff developed a simplified application process for the Science Fair Project Education Grant Program.

For Fiscal Year 2006/2007 (July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007), the District's budget provides for the availability of \$17,500.00 in total Education Grant Program Funds. To date, no Fiscal Year 2006/2007 Education Grant Program Funds have been allocated by your Board.

### **Noticing for the 2007 funding cycle:**

On November 8, 2006 staff noticed the availability of Science Fair Project Education Grant funding to local schools and on the District website. The deadline for submittal of Science Fair grant proposals was December 8, 2006.

On February 16, 2007 staff noticed the availability of Educational Grant Program Proposal funding by direct mail to interested citizens, community groups and local

schools, and on the District website. The deadline for submittal of Education Grant Program proposals was March 16, 2007.

**SCIENCE FAIR GRANT APPLICATIONS AND AWARDS:**

In response to the Notice of Availability for Science Fair Projects Funding, the District received three (3) Science Fair Project Grant Proposal Applications. The aggregate dollar amount of the Science Fair Grant Applications for the December 8, 2006 funding cycle was \$354.00. The projects are described in Attachment 1.

After reviewing the Science Fair Grant Applications, staff decided to fully fund all three of the grant applications directly, without calling an additional meeting of the Educational Advisory Commission. Staff funded the following Science Fair Grant Applications:

- |    |   |          |
|----|---|----------|
| 1. | Are Our Beaches & Riverfront Clean? Bacterial Pollution at the San Lorenzo River and Pacific Ocean Conflux; Zack Seftel |          |
|    | Grant amount requested:   | \$80.00  |
|    | Grant award:  | \$80.00  |
| 2. | Herbicidal: The Effect of Residential Herbicides on Freshwater Invertebrates of the San Lorenzo River; Cameron Kirby    |          |
|    | Grant amount requested:   | \$85.00  |
|    | Grant award:  | \$85.00  |
| 3. | The Pollutant Levels in the San Lorenzo River; Emma Stokes & Ruth Talbot.   |          |
|    | Grant amount requested:   | \$189.00 |
|    | Grant award:  | \$189.00 |
|    | SCIENCE FAIR GRANT PROGRAM SUBTOTAL   | \$354.00 |

**EDUCATION GRANT APPLICATIONS, EVALUATION, AND RECOMMENDED FUNDING:**

In response to the Notice of Availability for Education Grant Program Funding, the District received six (6) Grant Proposals, summarized in Attachment 2. The aggregate dollar amount of education grant proposals received for the March 16, 2007 funding cycle was \$13,496.80.

**Evaluation Procedure**

To evaluate and score the Education Grant Proposals, the Commission used the procedure it established in 2006. According to this procedure, each Commissioner independently evaluates and scores each Grant Proposal, using an established scoring matrix. Each Commissioner returns, anonymously, the scored Grant Proposal Applications to District staff. Staff then compiles the aggregate scores, and lists each Grant Proposal in order of their scores.

Attachment 3 contains a list of the Grant Proposals for the current funding cycle, listed in order of their aggregate scores. At the April 26, 2007 Education Program Advisory Commission meeting, the Commission reviewed and discussed the Grant Proposal Applications in the context of their aggregate scores.

### **Recommended Funding**

The Commission recommended the funding and allocation of Education Program Grants to five (5) applications in the aggregate amount of \$11,718.00. The sixth proposal was not recommended for funding, because the Commission found that it did not meet the grant proposal guidelines specified in the grant application. The Commission recommended funding for the following grant proposals, as follows:

1. Water Quality Testing for Watershed Studies; Allison Birkhead, SLV high school; Watershed Academy.

Grant amount requested:	\$1,718.00
Recommended Grant Funding Level:	\$1,718.00

2. Exploring Watersheds; Erin Mongiello & Tina Andes, SLV middle school.

Grant amount requested:	\$2,097.00
Additional funding recommended	403.00
Recommended Grant Funding Level:	\$2,500.00

The Commission recommended increasing the award by \$403.00 for the above proposal to \$2,500. This additional \$403.00 will be used to fund two class sets of topographic maps in the amount of \$357.00, and classroom supplies in the amount of \$46.00.

3. Smart Gardening Faire; Sheryl McEwan, Monterey Bay Master Gardeners, Inc..

Grant amount requested:	\$2,500.00
Recommended Grant Funding Level:	\$2,500.00

4. Wireless Weather Station for Watershed Studies; Jane Orbuch, SLV high school; Watershed Academy.

Grant amount requested:	\$2,181.80
Additional funding recommended	318.20
Recommended Grant Funding Level:	\$2,500.00

For the above proposal, the Commission recommended increasing the award by \$318.20 to a total of \$2,500. This additional funding will be used to purchase the equipment necessary to post the weather data directly to the Internet.

5. Runoff to the River; Nancy Macy, Valley Women's Club.

Grant amount requested:	\$2,500.00
Recommended Grant Funding Level:	\$2,500.00

EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM SUBTOTAL	\$11,718.00
SCIENCE FAIR GRANT PROGRAM SUBTOTAL	<u>354.00</u>
GRAND TOTAL	\$12,072.00

**RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Board receive and consider the recommendations of the Education Program Advisory Commission regarding the current proposed Education Program Grants and provide direction to staff regarding the Board's award of said proposed grants.

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Betsy Herbert  
Environmental Analyst

BH/

Attachment

Attachment 1

SCIENCE FAIR GRANT APPLICATIONS  
DECEMBER 8, 2006

Grant recipient	Project	Amount requested	Amount awarded	Funding for	Award agreement sent date	Award agreement rec'd date	Check date
Emma Stokes & Ruth Talbot	The Pollutant Levels in the San Lorenzo River	189.00	189.00	Water test kit	12/20/06	12/27/06	1/12/07
Cameron Kirby	Herbicidal: The Effect of Residential Herbicides on Freshwater Invertebrates of the San Lorenzo River	85.00	85.00	Lab supplies	2/7/06	2/19/07	2/27/06
Zack Seftel	Are Our Beaches & Riverfront Clean? Bacterial Pollution at the San Lorenzo River and Pacific Ocean Conflux	80.00	80.00	Lab supplies	12/20/06	12/22/06	1/12/07
<b>Total</b>		<b>354.00</b>	<b>354.00</b>				

**EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATIONS**  
**MARCH 16, 2007**

<b>Project title</b>	<b>Project description</b>	<b>Funds to be used for:</b>	<b>Grant applicant</b>	<b>Insitution</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>	<b>Grant amount recommended</b>
Water Quality Testing for Watershed Studies	Teaching concepts of chemistry, lab techniques, through water quality testing	Water quality kits & supplies	Allison Birkhead	SLV high school; Watershed Academy	\$1,718.00	\$1,718.00
Exploring Watersheds	6th grade educational program to promote watershed knowledge; classroom & field research	Field equipment & classroom supplies	Erin Mongiello & Tina Andes	SLV middle school	\$2,097.00	\$2,500.00
Water Conservation and Education for San Lorenzo Valley Preschoolers	To teach water conservation by conserving water; watershed wildlife care	New faucets, spigot, field trip supplies, water curriculum	Ingrid Stevison	Glen Arbor School	\$2,500.00	\$0.00
Smart Gardening Faire	Sponsor educational booth for District at public educational event; focus on landscaping to conserve water, native plants, reduced pesticide/herbicide use	Sponsor educational booth	Sheryl McEwan	Monterey Bay Master Gardeners, Inc.	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
Wireless Weather Station for Watershed Studies	Monitor real-time weather data collection from the classroom to teach natural science & environmental concepts	Wireless weather station equipment	Jane Orbuch	SLV high school; Watershed Academy	\$2,181.80	\$2,500.00
Runoff to the River	Create & distribute 5,000 copies of informational brochure on non-point source pollution	Writing, design & printing of 5,000 copies	Nancy Macy	Valley Women's Club	\$2,500.00	\$2,500.00
<b>Totals</b>					<b>\$13,496.80</b>	<b>\$11,718.00</b>

**SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT  
EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM  
GRANT PROPOSAL APPLICATION SCORING FORM  
APRIL 2007**

**WATER QUALITY TESTING FOR WATERSHED STUDIES**

	<u>Responsive</u>	<u>Non-Responsive</u>	<u>Educational Outreach</u>	<u>Viability of Project</u>	<u>Creativity of Project</u>	<u>Total Aggregate Score</u>
1	X		7	5	5	17
2	X		10	5	5	20
3	X		10	5	5	20
4	X		9	5	5	19
5	X		8	5	5	18
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>44</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>94</b>

**RUNOFF TO THE RIVER, AN INFORMATIONAL BROCHURE ON NON-POINT SOURCE POLLUTION**

	<u>Responsive</u>	<u>Non-Responsive</u>	<u>Educational Outreach</u>	<u>Viability of Project</u>	<u>Creativity of Project</u>	<u>Total Aggregate Score</u>
1	X		9	4	5	18
2	X		10	5	5	20
3	X		10	5	5	20
4	X		8	5	4	17
5		Recused Commissioner	n/a	n/a	n/a	19
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>37</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>94</b>

**EXPLORING WATERSHEDS**

	<u>Responsive</u>	<u>Non-Responsive</u>	<u>Educational Outreach</u>	<u>Viability of Project</u>	<u>Creativity of Project</u>	<u>Total Aggregate Score</u>
1	X		9	5	5	19
2	X		10	5	5	20
3	X		10	5	5	20
4	X		8	4	4	16
5	X		8	5	5	18
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>45</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>93</b>

**WIRELESS WEATHER STATION FOR WATERSHED STUDIES**

	<u>Responsive</u>	<u>Non-Responsive</u>	<u>Educational Outreach</u>	<u>Viability of Project</u>	<u>Creativity of Project</u>	<u>Total Aggregate Score</u>
1	X		7	5	5	17
2	X		10	4	5	19
3	X		10	5	5	20
4	X		8	4	4	16
5	X		10	5	5	20
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>45</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>92</b>

**SMART GARDENING FAIRE**

	<u>Responsive</u>	<u>Non-Responsive</u>	<u>Educational Outreach</u>	<u>Viability of Project</u>	<u>Creativity of Project</u>	<u>Total Aggregate Score</u>
1	X		8	5	5	18
2	X		9	5	4	18
3	X		9	5	5	19
4	X		6	3	3	12
5	X		10	5	5	20
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>42</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>87</b>

**WATER CONSERVATION AND EDUCATION FOR SAN LORENZO VALLEY PRESCHOOLERS**

	<u>Responsive</u>	<u>Non-Responsive</u>	<u>Educational Outreach</u>	<u>Viability of Project</u>	<u>Creativity of Project</u>	<u>Total Aggregate Score</u>
1		X	5	3	2	10
2	X		8	3	3	14
3	X		7	5	4	16
4	X		9	5	4	18
5	X		3	2	1	6
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>32</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>64</b>