



WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
17140 S. Avalon Blvd., Suite 210
Carson, CA 90746

AGENDA NO. 29

JUNE 12, 2009 – Communications

Gray (Chair), Kwan

JUNE 22, 2009 – Board Meeting

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Approved by: Rich Nagel

INFORMATION CALENDAR

SOLAR CUP 2010

SUMMARY:

Solar Cup is an annual solar-power boat building and racing competition held for high school students in Southern California. The goal of the seven-month project is to encourage students to learn about science, mathematics, water quality issues, and alternative energy and fuel sources. This educational event will be entering its eighth year, sponsored by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) and its member water agencies.

To prepare for next year's program and recruit potential West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) high schools for Solar Cup 2010, a program notice and sponsorship application form was distributed electronically and by standard mail on April 13, 2009 to all 31 West Basin private and public high schools. Four new high schools submitted applications by the May 1, 2009 deadline:

- California Math & Science Academy, Carson
- Hawthorne Math & Science Academy
- Environmental Charter High School, Lawndale
- West High School, Torrance

All four schools also sent a representative to observe this year's boat racing event at Lake Skinner.

Palos Verdes Peninsula High School, a two-year participant in the program, also submitted a 2010 Solar Cup application for West Basin sponsorship consideration. City Honors High School, also a two-year participant in the program, has expressed interest in next year's program, but has failed to submit a sponsorship application.

In September, MWD will ask member agencies about the number of teams they would like to sponsor. After responses have been received, MWD will calculate the number of boats that can be accommodated on the lake, and then tell each member agency the number of teams they will be allowed to sponsor for 2010. Member agencies will then select schools to sponsor in October. In past years, West Basin has been allowed to sponsor up to three teams.

For the 2009 program, sponsorship for a veteran team was \$2,500 and for a rookie team, \$4,000. The Fiscal Year (FY) 2009-10 Solar Cup Budget is \$8,000. Taking these costs in consideration, West Basin would be able to sponsor a total of two teams for Solar Cup 2010; either two rookie Solar Cup teams, two veteran Solar Cup teams, or one rookie and one veteran Solar Cup team.

STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN IMPLEMENTATION:

Goal 6, Communications - Engage in effective two-way communications of West Basin's programs and policies with the customer agencies and communities we serve.

COMMITMENT STATEMENT:

Customer Service – West Basin is committed to providing value by understanding and meeting the needs of our customers and the communities we serve.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Funds for Solar Cup 2010 sponsorship have been included in the Fiscal Year 2009-10 Public & Governmental Affairs Budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

Not applicable.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item was reviewed by the Communications Committee on June 12, 2009 and agendaized to the June 22, 2009 Board meeting as information for discussion.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

This item is for information only.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

None.