

**RANCHO MURIETA COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**  
**SPECIAL BOARD MEETING**  
**August 5, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.**

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Board President Roberta Belton called the special meeting of the Board of Directors of Rancho Murieta Community Services District to order at 7:00 p.m. in the District Board Room, 15160 Jackson Road, Rancho Murieta. Directors present were Roberta Belton, Robert Kjome, Betty Ferraro, Steven Mobley and Dick Taylor. Also, present were Ed Crouse, General Manager; Darlene Gillum, Director of Administration; Paul Siebensohn, Director of Field Operations; and Suzanne Lindenfeld, District Secretary.

**2. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

President Belton commented that the Board is considering a tiered pricing program and no action has been taken to approve the suggested tiered rates.

Director Taylor commented that tiered pricing is not intended to be used as a revenue increase. President Belton stated under Prop 218, tiered pricing needs to be revenue neutral unless the use of any excess revenue is identified and justified.

Joan Barnes, lot 1420, asked about the consumption for Rancho Murieta Country Club. Darlene Gillum stated their usage is included in the 43 commercial users. Ed Crouse stated the Government Code does not allow the District to provide customer information to anyone other than the person/entity on the account.

Carol Gustafson, lot 648MS, asked if the tiered pricing will be effecting any of the residences in Murieta South. President Belton stated yes if implemented, Murieta South is considered small estate lots.

Alan Klaus, lot 3163, commented on his feelings on the Board considering tiered pricing with the current economic conditions and the rate increase last year. There is no shortage of water for the community.

John Merchant, lot 723, commented on the District looking into other water conservation options before implementing tiered pricing. Mr. Merchant also asked the District to look at other Districts that have implemented tiered pricing to see the results they obtained through the tiered pricing.

Director Taylor commented on his feeling that conservation pricing is not the direction the District should be going but feels the District should be headed in the direction of water conservation.

Frank Pumilia, 6727 Terreno Drive, commented on the increase in his water bill if tiered pricing is adopted.

Mike Dragash, 15038 Reynosa Drive, asked the Board why they are looking at tiered pricing when the District has full reservoirs and is not in financial trouble. Mr. Dragash commented on a conversation with an employee of the City of Sacramento, which has conservation pricing and found no benefit in it, other than to increase the revenue.

President Belton stated this is not the first time the Board has looked at tiered pricing. There were four conservation pricing workshops held back in 2007-2008, which only a handful of people attended. The July statement had a "what if" statement on it that showed what your bill could be if tiered pricing were to be implemented.

Alan Klaus commented that he is not against conservation but feels other things should be tried before implementing tiered pricing. Mr. Klaus stated that he feels this is the wrong time to implement tiered pricing.

Director Kjome commented that the Board is looking at tiered pricing and other conservation measures that may be needed in the future.

Candice Koropp, 7305 Respeto Court, commented that tiered pricing may force residents to go to fake lawns decorated with pink flamingos. Ms. Koropp commented that she already conserves water and feels tiered pricing is penalizing to consumers.

Andy Keyes, 6310 Rio Oso Drive, commented the District does not have a revenue problem or a supply problem. Mr. Keyes asked how much the District is projecting to raise and what will be done with the money. Mr. Keyes stated this is the wrong time for an increase in rates. Director Kjome stated that information is in the presentation. The price structure does account for a revenue excess, based on an estimate of revenue, which could be received from tier 3.

Darlene Gillum stated that based on the current tiered pricing rates used and assumptions used to build that scenario, the revenues raised would be \$400,000.

### **3. TIERED PRICING**

Ed Crouse and Darlene Gillum gave a presentation regarding tiered pricing. The areas covered included: tiered pricing basics, overview of the process, pricing and conservation, rate alternatives and structures, rate design goals and objectives, usage characteristics, suggested rates, commercial/metered irrigation, drought and the Governor's 2020 plan. A question and answer period followed.

### **4. COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS – BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF**

Director Kjome commented on his feeling that the Board will not adopt the tiered pricing program. The workshop was held to provide information to the community.

Ed Crouse thanked the Board for holding the workshop.

### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion/Kjome** to adjourn at 9:38 p.m. **Second/Taylor. Ayes: Belton, Kjome, Ferraro, Mobley and Taylor.**

Respectfully submitted,



Suzanne Lindenfeld  
District Secretary