



## ***SOUTH FEATHER WATER & POWER***

---

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Michael Glaze, General Manager

**DATE:** August 17, 2005

**RE:** General Information (regarding matters not scheduled on the agenda)  
8/23/05 Board of Directors Meeting

### **Strategic Planning for Future Power Marketing**

As reported the previous two months, I initiated the process to recruit an energy/financial advisor that could assist the Agency in negotiating the next-generation power-purchase agreement. Although SFWPA's current power-purchase agreement (PPA) with PG&E does not expire until 2010, beginning the process now to either renew the existing agreement or secure a replacement seems to be a prudent move. However, before spending a lot of time considering one of the options that may presently be apparent, the Agency should first develop a strategy to ensure that our valuable hydropower resource will be optimized in the electricity market of the coming years.

On Friday, August 19, the Board's Hydro Committee will conduct the second interview of representatives from qualified firms, as a first step in making a final recommendation to the full Board at your September meeting.

### **MRTP Annexation to LOAPUD**

As reported last month, LOAPUD is requesting that the MRTP property – currently receiving sewer service under an agreement with LOAPUD approved in the '80s – be annexed to LOAPUD.

I had asked John Christofferson (GDA Engineering, Surveying, Planning) to prepare the necessary description and plat for the Board's application approvals. But I have now put that project on hold until after the first of next year as part of our debt-service compliance effort.

### **LAFCo Municipal Services Review**

Now that we have responded to the LAFCo consultant's survey, the next phase will be on-site visits by the consultant. The first (and possibly last visit) with LAFCo's consultant will be sometime during the last two weeks of the month.

### **Yuba County Water District Issues**

There is nothing new to report relative to the efforts of Yuba County Water District and its consulting engineer, Naser Batini, regarding the prospect of modifying the design of the Forbestown Ditch pipeline project for which they were awarded a \$4 million grant. Apparently no progress has been made in determining if DWR will approve grant funding for proposed modifications to install the pipeline in the existing ditch alignment by SFWPA force account.

### **CEQA Processing – Petition for Extension of Time for Water Rights Permits**

As you already know, I have reviewed the Statement of Qualifications received from three qualified environmental consulting firms, and have ranked Jones and Stokes as the highest. Yuba County Water District has been advised of this ranking and that my next step is to begin negotiating a professional services agreement with Jones & Stokes. I anticipate that said agreement will be ready for your consideration at the September meeting.

### **Relicensing Update**

Attached is Devine, Tarbell & Associates' progress report through July 31, 2005. The first page thereof includes an index by "activity description" for each task and where information on it can be found in the report.

If this is more detail than you care to see each month, please let me know and I'll make it available on an as-requested basis from now on.

### **Employee Wins Safety Award**

Utility Worker Gary Daley received a cash award recently from the ACWA Joint Power Insurance Authority for a safety suggestion he made. Please see the attached article from the July/August 2005 issue of the JPIA's newsletter (second page).

### **Surplus Water Agreements**

A surplus water agreement was approved for Troy Scarberry (annual renewal) at 17674 Ponderosa Way and for Elden Fowler (new) at 17635 Ponderosa Way, both receiving service from the Forbestown Ditch.

# Workers' Compensation Safety Awards Presented At Spring Conference

by Harve LaBounty

The JPIA encourages members of its Workers' Compensation program to support their employees through promotion of the JPIA's Safety Award Program. This program is designed to promote safe workplace behavior and reward those employees who demonstrate safe behavior, take part in recognizable proactive activity, or participate in related actions. Employees may be nominated by their co-workers, supervisors, or managers. Nominations should be based on observable behavior, demonstrable activities, or participation in or development of safety-related programs. Awards are announced at the spring and fall conferences.

Cash awards were announced at the Board of Directors' meeting held May 2, 2005, in San Jose. The JPIA would like to share ideas from

nominations received and acknowledge all JPIA member employees that received these awards. Award checks were mailed to **Ross Kawamura**, Flood Maintenance Worker, \$350; **Sean O'Connor**, Flood Maintenance Worker, \$350; **Eric Maculak**, Senior Flood Maintenance Worker, \$300; and **Roger Unruh**, Flood Maintenance Worker, \$250. They are employees of **American River Flood Control District** and their winning ideas were highlighted in the March/April 2005 edition of the *Perspective*.

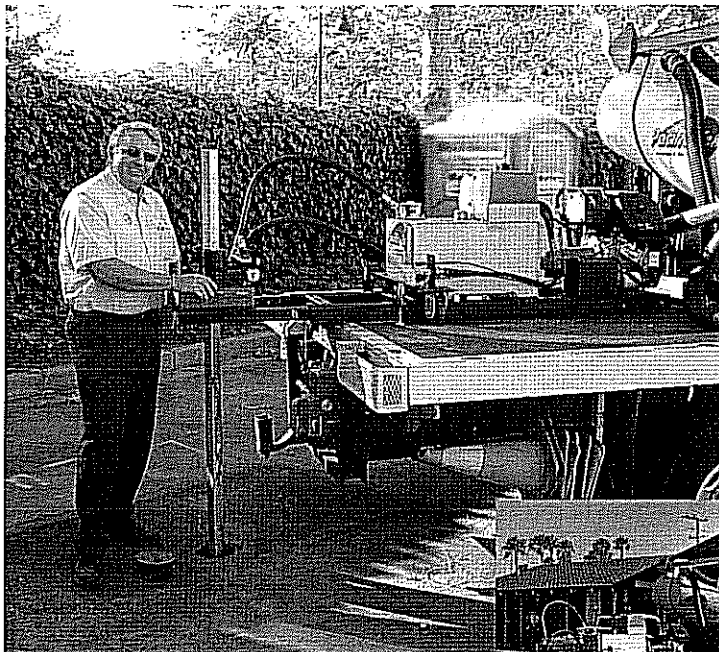
In addition, the following awards were presented.

**Al Reginato**, Transmission/Distribution Supervisor for **Goleta Water District**, was awarded \$200. He utilized a more efficient truck for operating valves. The flatbed mounted vacuum and valve operator

allows greater operator visibility. The swivel system eliminates repositioning the truck for clustered valves. It reduces operator fatigue and minimizes operator entry/exit from the

truck cab. Sequential arrow lights in the front and rear with rotating beacons on the sides make the vehicle highly visible in traffic.

**Loren Unruh**, Mechanic for **Merced Irrigation District**, was awarded \$200. Loren designed and



Al Reginato of Goleta Water District demonstrates his winning idea. Al mentioned that he took the employees in his section out to lunch with the money he won.



This stationary bracket cradle for meter readers was created by Loren Unruh of Merced Irrigation District.



constructed a stationary bracket cradle for a meter reader. The cradle is mounted on the seat next to the driver and allows hands free operation for the reader. The electronic hand held can be removed from the cradle and stored elsewhere when not in use.

Derek Davis, Water Utilities Technician at **Oakdale Irrigation District**, was also awarded \$200. With little supervision, Derek took over the responsibilities as Field Safety Coordinator. Derek developed, implemented, and coordinated a safety-training program for the District. Derek produced a safety plan, monthly training schedule, and a periodic inspection schedule for the District. He continues to plan and coordinate an established training plan for each calendar year.

**Pat Riley**, Emissions Foreman from **Tehachapi-Cummings County Water District**, received a \$200 award. During a recent project, Pat noticed an employee using an electrical tool plugged into an extension cord while working in a wet environment. Pat suggested all standard outlets and/or electrical cords be supplied with GFCI protection. Tehachapi-Cummings CWD now requires all service trucks be equipped with GFCI protective equipment.

**Gary Daley**, Utility Worker at **South Feather Water and Power Agency**, received \$100 for his winning idea. He suggested that non-agency accidents be discussed at regularly scheduled safety meetings. South Feather Water and Power Agency has few accidents and near misses that are routinely discussed during the meetings. Gary's suggestion would allow discussion of many different situations. One of the sources used is the *Cal-OSHA Reporter*.

Many of these ideas or suggestions can be found on the JPIA website, pictures included.

Members should get their employees involved in this Program! Nomination forms may be obtained from the JPIA via fax, mail, or the website. Call Nancy Morgan at the JPIA, extension 3114 for additional assistance.

## From The Meeting Room

by Jeanette Waterstradt

At its regularly scheduled meeting of June 24, 2005, the Executive Committee took action on the vacancy created by Ronald W. Vickery's resignation. Following a discussion, the Committee appointed Edward N. Layton President and Joan Finnegan was appointed Vice President. The member at large vacancy was tabled for further discussion at the July 22, 2005, meeting.

In conclusion, the Executive Committee approved the applications of Mammoth Community

Water District and Sierra Lakes County Water District for participation in the JPIA's Workers' Compensation Program and approved the application of San Geronio Pass Water Agency for participation in the JPIA's Liability, Property, and Workers' Compensation Programs. All participation is pending implementation of, or an acceptable action plan for, the applicable Risk Management recommendations.

The Executive Committee is scheduled to meet again on Friday, July 22, 2005, at the JPIA office in Citrus Heights.

## ACWA Joint Powers Insurance Authority

### Mission Statement

*The ACWA Joint Powers Insurance Authority is dedicated to consistently and cost effectively providing the broadest possible affordable insurance coverages and related services to its member agencies.*