## EI MACERO SERVICE AREA ADVISORY COMMITTEE (EMSAAC) 3411 BERMUDA AVENUE DAVIS, CA 95616

## DRAFT MINUTES OF TOWN HALL SPECIAL MEETING HELD MAY 6, 2015 El Macero Country Club 44571 Clubhouse Drive El Macero, CA 95618

- COMMITTEE: Bill Dendy Committee Member and Chair Diane Cronan – Committee Member Tim Lien – Committee Member Steve Lynch – Committee Member Sandy Uhrhammer – Committee Member
- EXCUSED: None
- OTHERS PRESENT: Taro Echiburu Director of Yolo County Public Works Regina Espinoza – County Service Area Coordinator Roxie Weaver – EMSAAC Staff Approximately 75 El Macero Residents

Chair Bill Dendy called the meeting of the EMSAAC to order at 6:00 PM. The meeting was held at the El Macero Country Club, El Macero, CA 95618.

- A. Introductions: Dendy introduced the committee members and County staff.
- B. 2015 State Drought Regulations: Dendy explained that the purpose of the special meeting was to inform property owners of the state regulations for 2015 and to begin to develop ideas to help adapt to them. Dendy briefly reviewed the State Water Resources Control Board's 2015 Drought Emergency Water Conservation Rules, pointing out that the new regulations are more stringent than those imposed in 2014, indicating a trend toward even more tightening if the drought continues into future years. Two aspects of these rules will directly affect El Macero: Community Rules and Individual Water Users Rules. Under Community Rules, all public water suppliers must reduce community-wide water usage by at least 28% during June 2015 February 2016 compared to the base period June 2013 February 2014. Failure to do so may result in additional restrictions or penalties.

In addition to these community reductions, there are individual water users' rules for potable water, including bans on:

- gutter flooding
- use of a hose with potable water to wash vehicles and driveways unless the hose is fitted with a shut-off nozzle

- use of potable water in fountains or other water features unless it uses a recirculating system
- use of potable water for landscaping during and within 48 hours after rainfall

The 2015 Regulations also prohibit using potable water to irrigate ornamental turf in public street medians and require low water use landscaping for all new residential and commercial construction..

Dendy reported that El Macero residential water usage during the June 2014-February 2015 period showed a 19.5% reduction below water usage during the June 2013-February 2014 base period. When reductions by the Clubhouse are factored in the El Macero community reduced usage by more than the 20% target set by the State for 2014-15. In order to achieve the State's 28% reduction requirement for June 2015- February 2016, an additional 35,000,000 gallons will need to be conserved.

- **C. Q & A With County Public Works Director Taro Echiburu.** Dendy introduced Yolo County Public Works Director Taro Echiburu who thanked the Committee for providing the information on the new water regulations, praised the community for their water reductions in 2014-15 and encouraged continued attention to reductions in 2015-16 to achieve the State's 28% target. He then responded to questions from attendees, summarized as follows:
  - <u>What happens if jurisdictions fail to meet the reduction target?</u> The State has not been clear on this but has indicated that it will hold the local jurisdictions accountable.
  - <u>Will there be additional regulations</u>? Not determined by the State yet. Residents are advised to check the City of Davis website for guidance.
  - <u>How does a resident report gutter flooding?</u> For the time being call 530-666-8725. Residents will be notified of any other reporting method that the County may devise.
  - <u>Are there monetary support programs for re-landscaping?</u> The City of Davis and the County of Yolo do not have programs. There are some State funds available but they are earmarked for lower income households.
  - <u>Are there rules for swimming pools?</u> No, these are not specifically addressed in the State regulations.
  - <u>Has the County adopted watering times per week</u>? No, but the City of Davis has done so and El Macero residents should look at the City website for guidance..
  - <u>Are there rebates available for low flow fixtures and sprinkler</u> <u>systems</u>? The City of Davis and the County of Yolo do not have programs.
  - <u>Are there restrictions on the use of gray water?</u> Houses need special plumbing systems and County building department approval.

Echiburu closed by saying that the County will be sending information to all residents as to how to check water usage on line and to contact Regina Espinoza at 666-8725 or himself at 666-8045 for further information.

**D** Attendee Suggestions. Dendy asked for additional ideas and suggestions from the attendees, some of which are summarized as follows.

- Use non-potable water from the Club well to irrigate medians
- Replace median turf with a lower water use landscaping
- Call the City of Davis and request a leak audit
- Consult a certified landscape irrigation specialist
- Install a hot water recirculation system
- **E. Adjournment**. On a motion by Uhrhammer, seconded by Dendy, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Roxie J. Weaver