



MT. VIEW SANITARY DISTRICT

Agenda Date: 1-13-22
Agenda Item: 4E

Approved:

Lilia M. Corona
District Manager

STAFF REPORT

TO: Mt. View Sanitary District Board of Directors
FROM: Stephanie Seregin, Board Secretary
DATE: January 13, 2022
SUBJECT: Board Members Ethics and Harassment Training Options

RECOMMENDATION

Receive report and provide direction to the Board Secretary as necessary.

BACKGROUND

Cities, counties and Special Districts in California are required by law ([AB 1234, Chapter 700, Stats. of 2005](#)) to provide two hours of ethics training to their local elected officials every two years.

The law also provides that if an entity develops criteria for the ethics training required by AB 1234, the Fair Political Practices Commission and the Attorney General must be consulted regarding any proposed course content.

The District's Board of Directors is due to receive Ethics training by February 2022.

DISCUSSION

Mandated Ethics Training

There are various issues to consider in deciding on an option for the required ethics training. Cost, convenience to acquire the training on your own schedule, and opportunities for discussion and questions are some of the considerations. Some training options are listed below:

- Group virtual training, provided by Brent Ives. Cost : \$1,500.00
- California Fair Political Practices Commission: an online training program has been established that allows local officials to satisfy the requirements of

AB 1234 on a cost-free basis. <http://www.fppc.ca.gov/learn/public-officials-and-employees-rules-/ethics-training.html>

- CSDA Live Two hour Webinar, January 26, 2022, 10:00 am-12:00 pm; There is no cost to the District.
- CSDA on demand Webinar; There is no cost to the District.

The CSDA training options are all two-hours, covering general ethical principles and state laws related to:

- Personal gain by public servants, conflict of interest, bribery, and nepotism
- Gift, travel, and mass mailing restrictions
- Honoraria, financial interest disclosure, and competitive bidding
- The Brown Act Open meeting law
- The Public Records Act

Mandated Harassment Prevention Training

An additional consideration is that AB1825 and AB1661 make sexual harassment prevention training mandatory for officials receiving any compensation. This legislation requires employers to ensure that all officials receive at least two hours of sexual harassment prevention training every two years. Harassment Training is due in October 2022. Information on Harassment training will be provided to the Board Members later this calendar year.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Directors discuss the ethics training opportunities and provide direction to the District Board Secretary, who will ensure that access to the required training is provided.

FISCAL IMPACT

Sufficient funds for this legally required training is included in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Budget in the Operations and Maintenance Fund 3409.