



**AGENDA**  
**MEETING OF THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**  
**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 2018 – 10:00 AM**  
**1391 Engineer Street, Vista, CA 92081-8840**

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*In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if special assistance is needed to participate in the Committee meeting, please contact the Board Secretary during regular business hours at (760) 597-3128. Notification received 48 hours before the meeting will enable the District to make reasonable accommodations.*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

**2. ROLL CALL**

**3. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

In the case of an emergency, items may be added to the Agenda by a majority vote of the Committee. An emergency is defined as a work stoppage, a crippling disaster, or other activity that severely imperils public health, safety, or both. Also, items that arise after the posting of the Agenda may be added by a 2/3 vote of the Committee.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME**

Public comment time on items not appearing on the agenda will be limited to 5 minutes per person and 15 minutes per subject. The Committee may find it necessary to limit total time allowable for all public comment on items not appearing on the agenda at any one meeting to one hour. Persons desiring longer public comment time and/or action on specific items shall contact the Secretary and request that the item be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting of the Board of Directors.

**5. SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST**

*Recommendation: Consider changes to the Vista Irrigation District scholarship contest.*

**6. COMMENTS BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

*This item is placed on the agenda to enable individual Committee members to convey information not requiring discussion or action.*

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

*NOTE: ITEMS ON THE AGENDA MAY BE TAKEN OUT OF SEQUENTIAL ORDER AS  
THEIR PRIORITY IS DETERMINED BY THE COMMITTEE*

- *The agenda package and materials related to an agenda item submitted after the packet's distribution to the Committee, are available for public review in the lobby of the District office during normal business hours.*
  - *Agendas and minutes are available at [www.vidwater.org](http://www.vidwater.org).*
  - *VID Board meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month.*

**AFFIDAVIT OF POSTING**

I, Lisa R. Soto, Board Secretary of the Vista Irrigation District, hereby certify that I posted a copy of the foregoing agenda in the lobby of the District office at 1391 Engineer Street, Vista, California at least 72 hours prior to the meeting, in accordance with Govt. Code Sec. 54954.2(a).

Date: December 12, 2018

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Lisa R. Soto, Board Secretary



**PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
STAFF REPORT**

**Meeting Date:**  
**Prepared By:**

**December 19, 2018**  
**Brett Hodgkiss**

SUBJECT: SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

RECOMMENDATION: Consider changes to the Vista Irrigation District scholarship contest.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION: On April 18, 2018, the Board awarded a \$1,500 scholarship to the contest winner and two \$750 scholarships to the runners-up.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$6,000 for the scholarship contest is included in the budget.

SUMMARY: Each year, the District invites high school seniors who live or go to school within its service area to compete for a scholarship. At the conclusion of last year's awards presentation, the Public Affairs Committee indicated to the Board they would like to look at making changes to the scholarship contest to increase participation. The Committee informed the Board it would meet to discuss ideas for restructuring the contest and bring its recommendations to the Board for consideration.

At the December 5, 2018 Board meeting, the Committee presented its ideas for restructuring the scholarship contest, most notably by advertising multiple scholarship awards, increasing the scholarship award amounts and removing the requirement to submit school transcripts, with goal of increasing participation. The Board discussed several ideas to create additional flexibility in administering the scholarship contest and increase participation; ideas included advertising a maximum number of scholarships and a maximum scholarship amount as well as removing the requirement for an applicant to list his/her grade point average on the scholarship application. The Board authorized the Committee to restructure the scholarship contest as necessary to meet the previously stated goal.

DETAILED REPORT: The draft application package that was presented to the Board on December 5, 2018 has been edited to remove the requirement that an applicant list his/her grade point average on the application; the number of scholarships and the scholarship award amounts as well as all other requirements remain the same, pending Committee review and discussion.

Once finalized, staff will distribute application packages and promotional brochures to high school counselors within the District's jurisdictional boundaries. Follow-up calls will be made to counselors to make sure the application materials and brochure are received. Additional scholarship promotional efforts will include placing information about the scholarship in high schools' monthly scholarship bulletins and on daily video bulletins (if space is available), issuing a news release, and announcing the program on our website. Application materials will also be made available on the District website.

As proposed, application packages would be due to the District by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 1, 2019. The Committee, which serves as the competition judges, could meet in the following weeks (based on Committee members' availability) to review the applications and recommend the winners. The Committee's recommendation for the winners could then be submitted to the Board for consideration at a meeting in April. A certificate could be presented to the winners at the next scheduled Board meeting. As in the past, once the students have enrolled at a university, college or vocational school District staff will forward a check to the school on behalf of the student(s).

ATTACHMENT: Draft scholarship application package



## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PACKAGE

Vista Irrigation District (VID) invites local high school seniors to compete for scholarships of \$3,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000 from VID. Winners will be selected based on the quality and originality of essay prepared by the applicant as well as school and community involvement. Applications will not be accepted if all criteria are not met, including correct formatting. **Applicants must submit each of the following documents by 5:00 PM on Friday, March 1, 2019:**

1. Completed application form.
2. School/Community involvement:
  - a. One letter of recommendation from a high school faculty member.
  - b. One letter of character reference from a personal or professional associate.
3. A personal statement (**two pages or less, Arial font, 12 point type, with 1 inch margins top, bottom, left and right, and line spacing set to 1½**). Suggested topics include the student's reasons for applying for the scholarship or seeking a higher education, the student's educational/career goals, personal background or interests.
4. An essay (**two pages, Arial font, 12 point type, with 1 inch margins top, bottom, left and right, and line spacing set to 1½**) addressing the following topic/question:

*Water-use efficiency is an important aspect of ensuring a reliable supply of water in the San Diego region. Explain what specific actions you have taken to use water efficiently and how you can (or do) encourage water-use efficiency in your community.*

The essay will be judged on originality and demonstrated understanding of the question. Students may obtain an application package from their Scholarship Counselor or from VID by contacting Alisa Nichols at (760) 597-3173. The application package and related materials are also available on the district's website ([www.vidwater.org](http://www.vidwater.org)).

A completed application package must be submitted to the Vista Irrigation District, 1391 Engineer Street, Vista, CA 92081-8840, **by 5:00 PM on Friday, March 1, 2019.**

VID will review qualified applications, select first, second, and third place winners who will receive \$3,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000 scholarships, respectively. Once enrolled at a college, university or vocational school, VID will send a check directly to the school on scholarship recipient's behalf.



**2019 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

(Competition is open to all high school seniors who live or attend school in VID's service territory)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone number and best time to call:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**High School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Post high school education plans (college, vocational school, etc.)**

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**Service and/or other extracurricular activities performed through school or volunteer organizations, community groups, church or clubs, etc. (Include contact name/telephone for verification where possible)**

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**Honors or special recognitions received (school or other)**

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**If employed, job title and total hours per week:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Job Responsibilities:** \_\_\_\_\_

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