

CENTRAL BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

NOVEMBER 9, 2006 - Communications
Apodaca, Vasquez
NOVEMBER 28, 2006 - Board Meeting
Prepared by: Mark Moss
Submitted by: Mark Moss
Approved by: Art Aguilar

ACTION CALENDAR

WATER SCHOLAR AWARDSUMMARY:

At the request of Director Apodaca, staff has developed the Water Scholar Award, a \$5,000 scholarship for water-related studies. One high university/college-bound high school senior in each Director's Division will be awarded the scholarship.

There are 28 public high schools within Central Basin's service area. There are seven in Division I, seven in Division II, three in Division III, four in Division IV, and seven in Division V. During the Communications Committee meeting, the Directors indicated their desire to include the participation of private high schools in the Water Scholar Award. Staff has begun to research and compile a data base of private high schools within the District's Service Area.

The Water Scholar Award criteria will be based upon the following criteria:

- Full-time university/college attendance during the 2007-08 academic year;
- Academic Major, which should be related to the water industry (Environmental Studies, Engineering, Geology, Biology, Chemistry, Urban Planning, Public Administration, or other water-related majors);
- Cumulative High School GPA;
- High School Transcripts;
- University/College Letter of Acceptance or Intent;
- Two letters of recommendation from the applicant's high school teachers, guidance counselor, and/or employer;
- Extracurricular Activities;
- Awards or Honors Received; and
- A 500 word essay as to why the applicant has applied for the Water Scholar Award and how it relates to the applicant's future academic and career goals.

The Water Scholar Award will be advertised to the District's high schools in early January 2007 through each school's guidance department. In addition, the scholarship would be advertised in the District's print and electronic publications.

Applications are to be turned in by the end of April. Candidates will be notified of their application's status by the end of May. Scholarship recipients will be selected by a panel of Central Basin staff, who will evaluate each application based on the scholarship criteria. Upon completion of the evaluation process, potential scholarship recipients will be required to submit proof of enrollment from an accredited college or university for the 2007-08 academic year, as well as a copy of student I.D. card. According to staff's research, most University of California and California State University schools notify applicants of their acceptance by early May.

One Water Scholar Award recipient from each Director's Division will be awarded a scholarship during the Board's regularly scheduled meeting in June 2007, which will also coincide with the District's awarding of the Water Is Life Poster Contest winner.

FISCAL IMPACTS:

Funds in the amount \$30,000 will need to be allocated to the Fiscal Year 2006-07 Budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE:

None.

COMMITTEE STATUS:

This item will be reviewed by the Communications Committee on November 9, 2006.

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

That the Board authorizes the allocation of \$30,000 for the Water Scholar Program to the Fiscal Year 2006-07 Budget.

LIST OF EXHIBITS:

None.