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DIRECTOR OSMER RESIGNS FROM PVWMA BOARD AFTER 6 ½ YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE

Watsonville, CA - Dennis Osmer, representing Division C of the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PVWMA), resigned from the agency's board of directors effective January 14, 2013. Osmer was initially appointed to the position in August of 2006 and was re-elected in 2006 and 2010 to serve four year terms. Osmer played a leadership role in guiding the agency through some of its most tumultuous times serving as Chairman of the Board. He also served on the Administrative Finance Committee when the agency was teetering on bankruptcy due to litigation related to how fees were collected.

“His contribution towards leading PVWMA out of its darkest period cannot be overstated,” said Mary Bannister, General Manager of the agency. Bannister credited him with developing the database that allowed the agency to refund over \$11 million in over-collected fees as part of a court mandated stipulated settlement. The refunds were made over a three year period, between 2008 and 2011, and represented over 11,000 individual payments that had to be accurately credited and repaid to customers. Along with Dave Kegebein and Michael Dobler, Osmer was a member of the Ad Hoc Executive Committee that ran the agency during a period when budget and staff were reduced by half due to the adverse court decision. Additionally Osmer represented PVWMA in negotiations and coordination with the US Bureau of Reclamation. This led to approximately \$11 million in Federal funding for the Watsonville Recycled Water Treatment Facility.

Osmer cited challenging projects at his own work as the reason for his resignation. He serves as Executive Director of Central Coast Energy Services, a not for profit that provides weatherization improvements for low-income families.

The PVWMA Board of Directors will accept applications prior to appointing his replacement at their upcoming meeting on February 20, 2013. Information is available to interested applicants on the Agency website pvwater.org.

The PVWMA is a public agency whose mission is to protect and preserve the water resources within the agency's jurisdiction, generally the greater coastal Pajaro Valley.

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