



OILDALE MUTUAL WATER COMPANY

N E W S L E T T E R

Your Water Company Since 1919

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Litigation avoided, Customers Win!

That's right, it's good news for Oildale Mutual and North of the River Municipal water customers. Litigation pending between the two water providers has been set aside, thanks in large part to the efforts of a local organization dedicated to responsible government practices. Kern Citizens for Sustainable Government (KCSG) expressed interest in helping to resolve issues between the two water entities and your board welcomed their involvement in discussions which ultimately led to the cessation of costly litigation.

Oildale Mutual Water Company was forced to file legal action on behalf of our customers when NOR Municipal Water District declined to sign an agreement which would have preserved our customers' legal rights without filing a lawsuit. Even when necessary, litigation is generally a time-consuming and costly exercise so the agreement is welcomed as a tremendous benefit to all of the area's ratepayers.



KCSG representatives, along with individuals from Oildale Mutual and NOR Municipal Water, entered into discussions regarding how best to achieve resolution of our disagreements. These ultimately productive meetings concluded that litigation could be avoided, while still preserving our legal rights and an agreement was signed to that effect.

Oildale Mutual is always interested in more cost-effective, efficient methods for the delivery of water to the Oildale community and looks forward to further discussions with that goal in mind.

"This is a great result for those of us ultimately footing the bill," commented Hugh Pearson, president of the Oildale Mutual board. "Our company has been committed from day one to cost savings for our customers. This first step in the resolution process is a very positive one for everyone involved."

New Day for North of the River Water

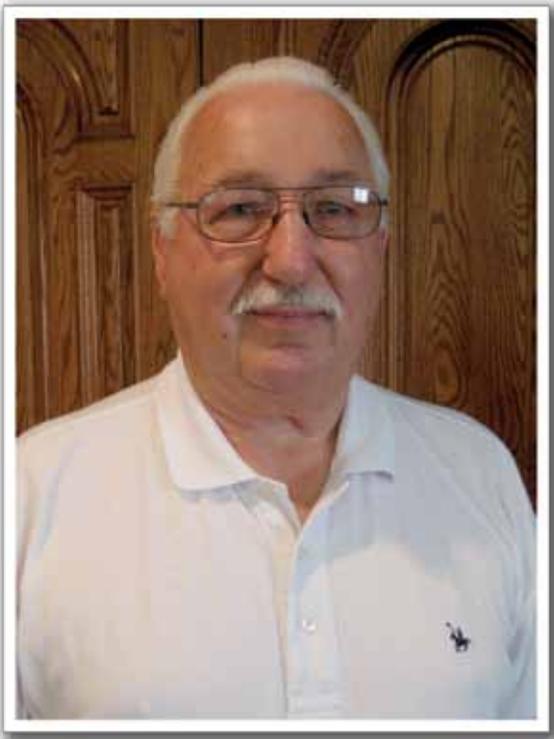
This November's Election brought sweeping change to the Oildale community, as three new directors were elected to serve on the NOR Municipal Water District board. Voters chose newcomers Jim Tyack, Dennis Meier and Ray Etcheverry to take the reins of this north of the river water provider.

As most of you know, Oildale Mutual buys its water supply from NOR Municipal Water District, a public agency. The company is encouraged by the election result and looks forward to working with the new directors - individuals who have each stated their commitment to fiscal responsibility with our dollars.

The five member board welcomed these three lifelong Oildale businessmen in January. Jim Tyack, has lived

bottom line, but especially so when it came to the taxpayer dollars that supported his installation of utility lines in prisons, libraries, schools and water treatment plants throughout California. Retired since 2005, he now has the time to watch water rates with that same critical eye. He's been married to wife Karen for 42 years. The couple are proud parents of three children, nine granddaughters and 2 great-grandsons.

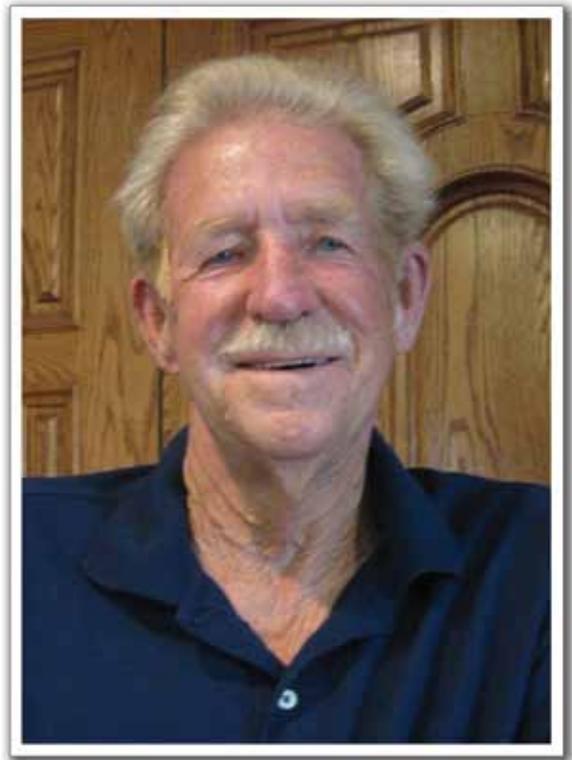
Tyack has stated that "I want to keep [water] rates where they're supposed to be," he said. "I want to see the Board do



Jim Tyack

most of his 73 years in Oildale. He was in the first class of students to attend North High School when it opened in 1953 and was a student at Bakersfield College as well. He attended San Jose State University for one year before eventually starting his own business.

Tyack was an underground utility contractor for 35 years, and has always been conscientious about the



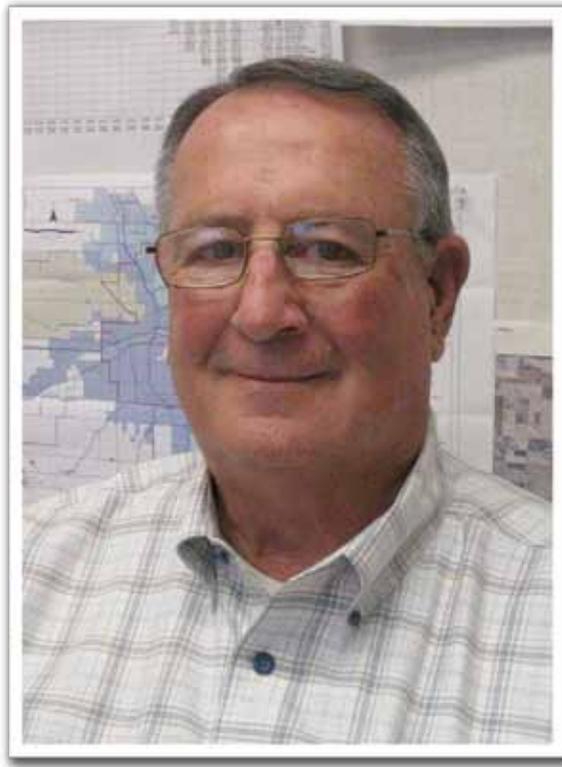
Dennis Meier

what it's elected to do, which is to provide an economical supply of water to the residents of Oildale."

Dennis Meier has spent a career learning about water and how it's delivered. He worked more than three decades for Rain for Rent, laying pipelines for water and gas. Meier ran for the office of North of the River Water District Board because he was concerned about the runaway costs being incurred at the district - with residents and retirees like him paying the bills. Meier noted that "The Board is entrenched in the way they've done things all these years..." he said. "I want to slash some of those costs."

Happily retired since 1999, he and Mary, his wife of 54 years, spend much of their time enjoying the company of their four children, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Ray Etcheverry is a lifelong Oildale resident who has spent his career in farming so knows a thing or two about water. Etcheverry no doubt inherited his practical, no-nonsense attitude from his father, also a farmer. As far back as he can remember, Etcheverry knew he would pursue a career in farming. After graduating from Garces High School in 1961, he went on to earn a Bachelor's of Science degree in 1965 from California State University, Fresno. He served with the



Ray Etcheverry

National Guard Reserves for six years while working his first job at Bidart Bros., a local farming company.

He has noted, "Water has always been a huge, important issue here, cost, availability - it's our lifeline."

So Etcheverry decided to get involved and ran successfully for the elected position. With his background, and a strong level of voter confidence, Etcheverry and the other newly elected directors are more than ready to diligently represent the citizens of Oildale. "When it comes to a fight over water, we haven't seen anything yet," he said. "We've got to keep an eye on the costs - it's just that simple."

About Oildale Mutual Water Company

O i l d a l e Mutual Water Company is a private, not-for-profit corporation which was founded by area citizens to represent the interests



of its customers/stockholders. Each of the 8,000+ retail customers is also a stockholder, having a personal interest in the company. Since its founding in 1919, the Company has been committed to providing the best quality water available at the least cost to its customers/stockholders. The Board of Directors of Oildale Mutual Water Company is comprised of local citizens dedicated to preserving our clean, reliable water supply at an affordable price. These individuals have anywhere from one to over four decades of service to the Oildale community. Don Wattenbarger, Fred Hupp, Lonny Boller, Bill Purkiser and Hugh Pearson each possess a business background and a long tenure in Kern

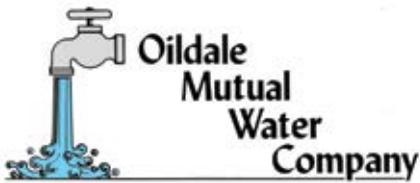
County. Our staff members have also been with the company for an extraordinary number of years and enjoy serving Oildale citizens.

Private water

companies like Oildale Mutual operate with significant cost savings for taxpayers and ratepayers alike and we are very proud to have been doing this effectively for nearly 100 years.

You can find more information about the company at www.oildalewater.com and like us on Facebook as well and we'll keep you informed!





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TM



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Don Wattenbarger
Board Member

Bill Purkiser
Vice President

Lonny Boller
Board Member

Fred Hupp
Asst. Sec.-Treas.

Doug Nunneley
General Manager