

**SANTA YNEZ COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT**  
**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Loch Dreizler, General Manager  
Alicia Marin, Office Manager/Board Secretary  
**DATE:** January 21, 2026  
**SUBJECT:** Board of Directors' Compensation Increase

**Proposed Motion / Recommendation**

Adopt Ordinance O-26-01

**Policy Implications**

Section 20201 - Compensation to Members of the Governing Board

The Legislature intended that any future increase in compensation received by members of the governing board of a water district be authorized by an ordinance adopted according to this chapter and not by an act of the Legislature.

California Water Code § 20202

In any ordinance adopted according to this chapter to increase the amount of compensation that may be received by members of the governing board of a water district above the amount of one hundred dollars (\$100) per day, the increase may not exceed an amount equal to 5 percent, for each calendar year following the operative date of the last adjustment, of the compensation which is received when the ordinance is adopted.

**Fiscal Implications**

The financial implications will be minimal.

**Maximum Increase Allowed by Statute (5%):**

Committee =  $\$90.56 * 1.05 = \mathbf{\$95.09}$

Board Meeting =  $\$181.13 * 1.05 = \mathbf{\$190.19}$

Max Monthly =  $\$1,086.72 * 1.05 = \mathbf{\$1,141.06}$

**Recommended Calculations using Staff's 2025 COLA Increase (3.4%):**

Committee =  $\$90.56 * 1.034 = \mathbf{\$93.64}$

Board Meeting =  $\$181.13 * 1.034 = \mathbf{\$187.29}$

Max Monthly =  $\$1,086.72 * 1.034 = \mathbf{\$1,123.67}$

### **Alternatives Considered**

Do not increase Board compensation.

### **Discussion**

Under Water Code Section 20203, an ordinance setting or increasing Board member compensation may be adopted only after a public hearing. Notice of the hearing was published in a newspaper of general circulation under Section 6066 of the Government Code.

Under Water Code Section 20204, an ordinance adopted in accordance with this chapter shall become effective 60 days after its final passage. The voters of any water district shall have the right, as provided in this chapter, to petition for a referendum on any ordinance adopted according to this chapter.

### **Proposed Timeline:**

- |                                                     |                     |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Published Public Notice #1                       | December 26, 2025   |
| 2. Published Public Notice #2                       | January 2, 2026     |
| 3. Hold Public Hearing                              | January 21, 2026    |
| 4. Board Adopts Ordinance at Hearing                | January 21, 2026    |
| 5. President and Secretary Sign the Ordinance       | January 21, 2026    |
| 6. Publish Ordinance                                | By February 5, 2026 |
| 7. Board Approves Resolution to modify Board Policy | March 18, 2026      |
| 8. Ordinance Takes Effect 60 days after Adoption    | March 22, 2026      |

Attachment(s):

1. Ordinance O-26-01

**ORDINANCE NO. O-26-01**

**ORDINANCE OF THE SANTA YNEZ COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT INCREASING DIRECTOR COMPENSATION**

**WHEREAS**, Members of the Board of Directors (the “Board”) of the Santa Ynez Community Services District (the “District”) currently receive compensation of (i) \$181.13 for attendance at regularly scheduled Board meetings and special Board meetings; (ii) \$90.56 for attendance at standing committee meetings and ad hoc committee meetings; and (iii) \$90.56 for attending and participating in meetings of other agencies and organizations at which matters that pertain to or affect the District are to be discussed and/or acted upon; and

**WHEREAS**, Government Code Section 61047 authorizes the Board, by ordinance adopted pursuant to Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 20200) of Division 10 of the Water Code, to increase the amount of compensation that may be received by members of the Board by an amount not to exceed five percent (5%) for each calendar year following the operative date of the last adjustment; and

**WHEREAS**, the Board wishes to increase the compensation payable to members of the Board, as authorized by Government Code Section 61047.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of Directors of the Santa Ynez Community Services District ordains as follows:

**1. Compensation Increase.** The compensation for members of the Board shall be increased from the current rates to (i) \$\_\_\_\_\_ for attendance at regularly scheduled Board meetings and special Board meetings; (ii) \$\_\_\_\_\_ for attendance at standing committee meetings and ad hoc committee meetings; and (iii) \$\_\_\_\_\_ for attending and participating in meetings of other agencies and organizations at which matters that pertain to or affect the District are to be discussed and/or acted upon. A Director's maximum compensation for attending Board and committee meetings and rendering other services is \$\_\_\_\_\_ monthly.

2. **Repeal of Conflicting Provisions.** All ordinances, resolutions, regulations and policies in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

3. **Publication.** Before the expiration of fifteen (15) days after adoption, the Secretary of the District is directed to publish this Ordinance once, with the names of the members voting for and against the Ordinance, in a newspaper published in Santa Barbara County.

4. **Effective Date.** This Ordinance shall take effect sixty (60) days from the date of its adoption.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 21st day of January 2026 by the following vote of the Board of Directors of the Santa Ynez Community Services District:

**AYES:**

**NOES:**

**ABSTENTIONS:**

**ABSENT:**

**APPROVED:**

**ATTEST:**

---

Frank Redfern, President  
of the Board of Directors

---

Alicia Marin, Secretary  
of the Board of Directors