

Review of Responses to the Report on the Groveland Community Service District

Summary

The 2016-2017 Tuolumne County Grand Jury investigated the Groveland Community Services District (GCSD) for possible violation of the Ralph M. Brown Act. This alleged violation occurred during an exploration of privatization of the District's water system. The investigation revealed that the GCSD did violate the Brown Act by discussing an important item which was not included on published meeting agendas for two board meetings. Grand Jury recommendations include increased training in the Brown Act and in the Raker Act.

Recommendations and Responses

The following individuals responded to the recommendations as listed below:

The GCSD Board of Directors and GCSD General Manager: *R1, R2, R3, R4.*

Findings

- F1. The Board of the GCSD violated the Brown Act (§54954.2(a)(1) at the June 13, 2016, and July 11, 2016, meetings.*
- F2. Assigning a study on privatization of the GCSD water services to the Budget Committee, an ad hoc committee, raised questions about transparency.*
- F3. The directors that have attended training in various aspects of managing small districts have found it valuable.*

F4. Unfortunately, no training has been received in the requirements of the Raker Act of 1913, the legislation that created Hetch Hetchy Reservoir and GCSD's water supply.

Recommendations and Responses

R1. Continue training in the Brown Act for new and returning directors (F1)

Did the agency's response address the subject of the findings and recommendations?	Did the agency attempt to avoid the issues, offer excuses, or accept and begin to implement the action within six months of the published date of the report?	Did the agency's response indicate that it would take the necessary action to correct the problem?	Did the agency provide a specific date by which it would take the necessary corrective action?
AGREE	ACCEPT	YES	ONGOING

R2. New issues beyond the normal operation of GCSD should be undertaken by an ad hoc committee. (F2)

Did the agency's response address the subject of the findings and recommendations?	Did the agency attempt to avoid the issues, offer excuses, or accept and begin to implement the action within six months of the published date of the report?	Did the agency's response indicate that it would take the necessary action to correct the problem?	Did the agency provide a specific date by which it would take the necessary corrective action?
NO	OFFERED EXCUSE	YES	NO

R3. All directors should receive continued CSDA training in the appropriate behavior of board members, being successful, and being productive. (F3, F4)

Did the agency's response address the subject of the findings and recommendations?	Did the agency attempt to avoid the issues, offer excuses, or accept and begin to implement the action within six months of the published date of the report?	Did the agency's response indicate that it would take the necessary action to correct the problem?	Did the agency provide a specific date by which it would take the necessary corrective action?
YES	ACCEPTED	ONGOING	ONGOING

R4. All directors should receive training in the Raker Act. Formal training in the content of the Raker Act might be difficult to come by. If training is not available, providing directors with a summary of the act, highlighting the parts that affect GCSD, and including it in the policy manual would be helpful. (F4)

Did the agency's response address the subject of the findings and recommendations?	Did the agency attempt to avoid the issues, offer excuses, or accept and begin to implement the action within six months of the published date of the report?	Did the agency's response indicate that it would take the necessary action to correct the problem?	Did the agency provide a specific date by which it would take the necessary corrective action?
YES	ACCEPTED	YES	ONGOING