

Background:

This agenda item requests that Sonoma County Water Agency's (Agency) General Manager/Chief Engineer authorize Jay Jasperse, Deputy Chief Engineer, to participate in a NATO sponsored workshop to be held in Luxor, Egypt from October 24–27, 2009. Mr. Jasperse has been invited to speak at the workshop, which will include participants from the Middle East, Europe, and North America. The invitation letter and list of participants is on file with the Clerk of the Board. NATO will provide funding to cover Mr. Jasperse's travel expenses. In addition to speaking at the workshop, Mr. Jasperse has been asked to provide a manuscript of the presentation for publication as a chapter in a book relating to the same topic as the workshop.

The Agency's water supply diversion facilities rely on natural filtration processes to provide a safe and reliable water supply to its contractors and customers. The Agency has conducted extensive scientific studies and applied research to better understand natural filtration processes. These programs are intended to ensure the reliability of the Agency's water supply facilities. As a result, the Agency and its collaborators have published several reports and journal articles that have received interest from the scientific community.

Participation in this workshop will provide the Agency with valuable information regarding: (1) ongoing research of riverbank filtration processes; (2) case studies of other systems; (3) input regarding the Agency's research activities; and (4) possible collaboration opportunities.

REQUESTED BOARD ACTION:

Authorize the General Manager/Chief Engineer to approve Jay Jasperse, Deputy Chief Engineer, to travel to Egypt as an invited speaker in the NATO workshop, "Riverbank Filtration for Water Security in Desert Countries," being held October 24-27, 2009.

Attachments

On File With Clerk: Invitation letter and list of participants.

CLERK OF THE BOARD USE ONLY

Board Action (If other than "Requested")

Vote: