

Melissa Stone

From: james [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, December 02, 2015 3:38 PM
To: Clerk of the Board
Subject: Board of Directors Application
Attachments: BOD SCVWD.pdf

Attached is my application and letter for the position of the Board of Directors.

Please confirm receipt of application

Thank you for your consideration.

james

James Dill
CalBRE 01416915
Broker/REALTOR®/Veteran
James & Associates
[REDACTED]

President, 2010
South County REALTORS® Alliance
Director, 2009 - 2012
Santa Clara County Association of REALTORS®
Director, 2009 - Present
California Association of REALTORS®

Santa Clara Valley Water District
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, CA 95118-3686

December 02, 2015

Letter of Intent: Board of Directors Santa Clara Valley Water District

Dear Board of Directors.

This is my letter of intent for the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors.

I have been a resident of South County, Morgan Hill, for the past twelve years.

I am a licensed California Real Estate Broker and my real estate business is focused on South County, Morgan Hill, San Martin, and Gilroy where I have sold single family homes and vacant land for development.

I am a graduate from San Jose State University and hold a Doctorate in Education from the University of San Francisco.

I am advocate for affordable housing and recognize the difficulty in our area for a livable wage and affordable housing.

As a resident in South County and a trainer for the Community Emergence Response Team (CERT), I am conscious of providing clean and reliable water to our residents, flood protection for our residents and business owners, and our ecosystems for healthy creeks and our environment.

With my educational background with applications in problem solving and working with working groups, tasks force, and Directors at large, solving daily problems and strategic planning for the next 3-5 years has been a focus on improvement for our environment has been my highest of priority.

I appreciate the opportunity to apply to the Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors and look forward to the challenges that are currently under discussion and future challenges.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



James Dill, Ed.D.

Morgan Hill. CA 95037



**APPLICATION FOR
SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS - DISTRICT 1**

Please complete this application in its entirety and submit an original signed copy along with a letter of interest containing your name, residence address, occupation, summary of interest in the position, and any other relevant qualifications and experience, to the Office of the Clerk of the Board at 5750 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California 95118, by **4:00 p.m. Wednesday, December 2, 2015.**

A. CONTACT INFORMATION

Name (First, Last): James Dill			
Residence Address (Street Address, City, State, Zip): [REDACTED]			
Home Phone: [REDACTED]	Work Phone: [REDACTED]	Cell Phone: [REDACTED]	E-Mail: [REDACTED]

B. QUALIFYING SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS (Please use separate sheet of paper if necessary)

- Explain why you think you should be appointed to the District 1 Board of Directors seat.

I should be appointed to the Board of Directors for District 1 because my involvement as a Director for the California Association of Realtors with an active membership of 178,000 and as a past Director for the Santa Clara County Association of Realtors in advocating for home ownership and property rights.
 I am a licensed California Real Estate Broker and sell and buy properties in South County, Morgan Hill, San Martin, and Gilroy where I have sold single family homes and vacant land for development.
 I am advocate for affordable housing and recognize the difficulty in our area for a livable wage and affordable housing.
 As a resident in South County and a Community Emergence Response Team (CERT) trainer, I am conscious of providing clean and reliable water to our residents, flood protection for our residents and business owners, and our ecosystems for healthy creeks and our environment.
 With my educational background with applications in problem solving and working with working groups, tasks force, and Directors at large, solving daily problems and strategic planning for the next 3-5 years has been a focus on improvement of our environment has been the highest of priority.
- Describe the experience you have that will assist you with the responsibilities required of you while serving as a member of the Board of Directors.

As a Board of Directors member for the California Association of Realtors (CAR), and the Santa Clara County Association of Realtors (SCCAOR), has taught me to engage in the conversation, contribute to problem solving of the issue(s), trust the board in their decision and remain diligent (learning about the subject) on issue(s) that have come before the board.

My CAR committee assignments include home ownership (includes manufactured homes), investment properties, and risk management; currently I am chair of the manufactured homes committee for California.

I have been a member and chaired on working groups, tasks force, and ad hoc committees for recommendation to the Board of Directors for consideration of policy and By Law changes. This experience has facilitated my understanding how issues are addressed and the protocol to address those issues.

3. A. What are your detailed thoughts on the current SCVWD practice of using parcel (property) taxes for State Water Project costs versus having the water consumers pay for 100% of these costs?

B. If some of the costs are to be paid by property owners, should certain property owners who are not able to receive any water from the SCVWD despite asking for water, be required to pay the costs?

(A). As a Real Estate Broker and Realtor, the burden of adding additional expense to the home owner on their parcel tax is not a fair balance for consumers who don't own property but use water at the property owner's expense.

I believe the costs should be divided between bonds, grants, and loans and not 100% on the property owner.

I would be supportive in funding divided equally among the State of California and property owners.

(B). The answer is yes, entities who are not able to receive water from SCVWD should pay a minimal fee for construction for aquifers and storage facilities for future use and SCVWD should not use the assessment for uses other than providing clean and safe water to our residents and business' in Santa Clara County.

I can relate to this question. I have two wells on my property and assessed annually for them. At times I fail to see the reasoning to assess my two wells which I do not receive benefit from Santa Clara County.

4. Agricultural water rates in both North and South County are heavily subsidized by water consumers and tax payers in Morgan Hill, Gilroy and others. Please explain your reasoning behind supporting the continuation of the rapidly expanding "open space credit" expense or reducing that expense so the SCVWD can use those funds for conservation, reduced water rates and other projects.

The Open Space Credit is a policy where agriculture water charges to help preserve agricultural lands.

The SCVWD diverts a portion of 1% ad valorem property taxes away from other areas of the water districts toward paying for the costs of providing agricultural water service that are not covered by revenues received from agricultural water users.

With consideration of diverting the 1% property tax revenue to pay for the Open Space Credit that could be used for flood protection, water supply and unfunded capital projects such as the South County Upper Ligas Creek Flood Protection Project may not benefit the majority of the residents of the SCVWD.

Therefore, I am in support of the continuation of the "Open Space Credit" expense. The purpose of the open space policy was to encourage the continuance of agriculture use of land. It also encourage the preservation of open space and limit restrictions imposed by the State Legislature.

I believe it is imperative that we continue to encourage and support the preservation of agricultural land because without the funds, the State of California may mandate an increase in the contribution from the SCVWD.

5. What do you think will be the most significant challenges that the District will be facing in the next few years?

Not ranked:

1. Operate and maintain local reservoirs to capture and fill recharge ponds.
2. If we go through another year of little or no rain, the purchase of imported water.
3. To ensure safe drinking water by monitor and protect groundwater from pollutants.
4. Continue to ensure proper construction of wells.
5. Construct improvements to infrastructure such as dams, pipelines, ponds, and treatment plant.
6. Operate pumping plants to sustain the groundwater aquifers.
7. Constantly vetting ways to pay for equipment and personnel.



APPLICATION FOR
SANTA CLARA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
BOARD OF DIRECTORS - DISTRICT 1

6. What three items would be your highest priority if you are appointed as a SCVWD District 1 Board Member?

First, review with the Board of Directors (BOD), which issues are in need of immediate engagement.

Second, prioritize the issues as determined from the BOD.

Third, take ownership of three items determined by the data from the BOD's.

Without the data from above, I would request to work on the following:

First, public relations, how we interact/interface with SCVWD's customers and determine the areas of communication that have been weak in the past.

Second, water quality, i.e. filtering gray and black water for human consumption

Third, flood control for urban and rural areas such as South County Creeks.

james dill

Applicant Signature

Digitally signed by James Dill
DN: cn=James Dill, o=ou, email=bdirect1@yahoo.com,
s=US
Date: 2015.12.02 14:55:45 -0800

12/02/15
Date Signed