

June 22, 2021

Another Public Comment --- for CVWD Board Mtg on 6/22/2021 (from Marilyn Tyler)

RE: Cover-Up Going On At CVWD----How Can The Public Trust CVWD?

I am really disappointed in the recent actions of CVWD:

[Event 1] June 8, 2021: At the CVWD Board meeting, Board President Sharon Raghavachary abruptly announces she is suspending the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) until July 2021.

[Event 2] June 19, 2021: I send a Public Comment to CVWD pointing out that President Raghavachary's suspension of the CAC was illegal because neither she nor the Board had any authority over the CAC, which was created by Staff. (CVWD legal counsel confirmed my opinion was correct.)

[Event 3] June 22, 2021: CVWD General Manager Nem Ocha sends a "Dear John" email to CAC members saying the CAC had completed its work and the CAC was no longer needed.

Really? Even a blind person can see this is a cover-up: Why has the CAC gone from being "suspended until July 2021" to suddenly being "no longer needed"?

And why is General Manager Nem Ochoa sacrificing his good reputation as a "straight-shooter" to give cover to someone like President Raghavachary, a reckless leader who time and again illegally tries to exert power that she does not have?

President Raghavachary's actions should be censured, not covered up.

If CVWD persists in this cover-up, CVWD will LOSE any trust it has developed with the Crescenta Valley community.

How can the community trust CVWD when it says it really needs an 8% rate increase for the next 3 years, when the community sees CVWD doing the following:

[1] CVWD is willing to give cover to the attempted illegal action of a Board President,

[2] CVWD is willing to sacrifice the hard-working members of the CAC who are volunteers from the community for this cover-up, by callously treating them as a lightswitch to be abruptly turned off.

In the past I have been willing to trust CVWD and speak out in favor of the proposed 3-year schedule of rate increases, but if CVWD persists in this coverup and the resulting appalling treatment of CAC members, I will instead speak out that perhaps CVWD is not to be trusted after all.