## VANDENBERG VILLAGE COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT

Constellation Road • Vandenberg Village • Lompoc, CA 93436 Terephone: (805) 733-2475 • Fax: (805) 733-2109



"Pride in Community Service"

http://vvcsd.org info@vvcsd.org

**Resolution 181-08** 

## December 5, 2008

## TO COMMEND AND THANK DONALD D. ROWLAND FOR SERVICE ON THE BOARD

WHEREAS, Don Rowland was elected to the Board of Directors of Vandenberg Village Community Services District (VVCSD) in November 2000 and he served two consecutive four-year terms on the Board, and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rowland has served on both the Finance/Budget and Water/Wastewater Committees every year of his two terms. An alert and astute watchdog over public money, he scrutinized budget details while simultaneously keeping the big picture in focus. He staunchly advocated gradual rate increases that generated over \$3 million in reserves; and

WHEREAS, this placed the District in a financial posture to pay off revenue bonds three years early and become debt free in 2007. Don provided the financial direction for a 10-year strategic plan that is currently funding VVCSD's \$16 million share of the \$100 million Lompoc Regional Wastewater Reclamation Plant upgrade project. Annual audits of District finances have been nearly flawless during Mr. Rowland's tenure—a testament to his keen oversight of public money; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Rowland acquired an impressive level of understanding of hydrology in the Lompoc Uplands Aquifer, the sole source of groundwater for Vandenberg Village and Mission Hills. When contentious and confusing issues surfaced during committee and board meetings, he provided clear, instructive explanations of the water picture. During the development of an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) for Santa Barbara County, Rowland suggested using a longstanding permit to recharge the Lompoc Uplands Aquifer with winter flows from the Santa Ynez River. A reconnaissance study is underway and could lay the foundation to sustain the aquifer beyond the next one hundred years; and

WHEREAS, as a member the Water/Wastewater Committee, Don was instrumental in negotiating development agreements to govern the connection of \$5.3 million in new water distribution and wastewater collection pipelines to serve the 328-residence *Providence Landing* and the 52-residence *Clubhouse Estates* developments; and

WHEREAS, Rowland guided the Water/Wastewater Committee to expand the District's water conservation program to include a demonstration garden, additional rebates and a grant program for schools; and

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WHEREAS, because of his outstanding grasp of District operations, leadership abilities, good nature and sense of humor, his fellow directors unanimously elected him Board President in both 2007 and 2008: and

WHEREAS, during this tenure on this board, Rowland also served his community as a board member of five other organizations: Association of California Water Agencies/Joint Powers Insurance Authority, Santa Barbara County Assessment Appeals Board, Lompoc Housing and Community Development Corporation, Santa Barbara Foundation (Lompoc Affiliate) and Bethany Lutheran Church.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Vandenberg Village Community Services District, that Donald D. Rowland be commended and thanked on behalf of the 6,000 residents of Vandenberg Village for his dedicated service as a director from December 1, 2000 through December 5, 2008.

Upon a motion duly made and carried this 5<sup>th</sup> Day of December 2008.

Charles Blair

**Christopher Brooks**