

BIGHORN STRIKES OUT

What you see on this page are copies of a bill for legal services in January 2011 sent to the Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency. They were obtained through a Public Information Request by Steve Hearn, former BDVWA director, frequently consulted by them on matters such as agendas, reports, ordinances, resolutions, policies and contracts. He was dismayed to see the big black marker strikeouts on many items, such as he had never seen in 17 years.

Mr. Hearn can cite many precedents that the attorney bill is a "summary for professional services for January 2011" and does not contain any legal advice or opinions, only "general purpose of the work performed" (Mr. Hearn has received copies of all attorney bills on a monthly basis since 1993, never "redacted" or struck out like this).

He has asked Bighorn to follow the law and give him a complete un-redacted copy of the bill, or to provide the reason these items are exempt from public disclosure.

The copies are reduced to fit into this limited space. The totals for the struck out items are:

- 1/18 Call with the DA about a "cure and correct" demand on a Brown Act violation325.00
- 1/6-1/20 Bond Debt and Finance Issues: e-mails and calls with General Manager981.25
- 1/6-1/20 Johnson Valley Water Supply Issues: Research, conversation etc with M. West5,850.00

From the Hi-Desert Star, 4/27/11
 "...Great effort has been made trying to be sure all our actions are transparent; if we were more so we would be invisible."
 -Terry Burkhart,
 president of BDVWA
 Board of Directors

SMITH TRAGER LLP

VIA E-MAIL

Marina D. West, P.G.
 Bighorn-Desert View Water Agency
 622 South Jemez Trail
 Yucca Valley CA 92284

INVOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FROM 01/01/2011 THROUGH 01/31/2011

General Counsel

Date	Description	Hours	Rate	Total
01/14/11	SMT Prepare for telephone call with District Attorney re May 2010 Brown Act violation letter	0.50	162.50	
01/18/11	SMT Telephone call with M. Abney, San Bernardino County District Attorney, re April 2010 Brown Act Cure & Correct demand letter; confer with client re [REDACTED]	1.00	325.00	
01/20/11	SMT Follow up re Brown Act matter	0.25	81.25	
01/28/11	SMT Telephone call with M. Abney, San Bernardino County District Attorney; follow up with M. West	0.50	162.50	
SUB-TOTAL THIS MATTER		2.25	731.25	

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PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL - SUBJECT TO ATTORNEY/CLIENT PRIVILEGE AND WORK PRODUCT PROTECTION

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Bond Debt / Finance Issues

Date	Description	Hours	Rate	Total
01/08/11	SMT Telephone call with General Manager re [REDACTED]	0.25	81.25	
01/10/11	SMT E-correspondence and discussion with General Manager [REDACTED]	0.75	243.75	
	MWY Confer with SMT re [REDACTED] review file for [REDACTED]	1.25	250.00	
01/11/11	SMT Prepare memo re [REDACTED] report to General Manager re same	0.75	243.75	
01/20/11	SMT Conference with General Manager re [REDACTED]	0.50	162.50	
SUB-TOTAL THIS MATTER		3.50	981.25	

Johnson Valley Water Supply Issues

Date	Description	Hours	Rate	Total
01/06/11	SMT Prepare memo for meeting [REDACTED] continue preparation of [REDACTED]	2.50	812.50	
01/08/11	SMT Telephone call with General Manager re [REDACTED]	0.50	162.50	

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Johnson Valley Water Supply Issues

Date	Description	Hours	Rate	Total
01/12/11	SMT Telephone call with C. Krieger, M. West [REDACTED] additional telephone call(s) re [REDACTED]	5.25	1,706.25	
01/13/11	SMT Further preparation of [REDACTED]	5.75	1,868.75	
01/14/11	SMT Further research re [REDACTED] work with General Manager to prepare [REDACTED]	1.25	406.25	
01/17/11	SMT Review memo of [REDACTED]	0.25	81.25	
01/18/11	SMT Debriefing conversation with M. West re [REDACTED]	1.00	325.00	
01/19/11	SMT Debriefing by General Manager of [REDACTED]	1.00	325.00	
01/20/11	SMT Follow up from meeting with [REDACTED] discussion re [REDACTED]	0.50	162.50	
SUB-TOTAL THIS MATTER		18.00	5,850.00	
TOTAL DUE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AND COSTS				\$7,562.50