

In reading over the CSD agenda for December 15 – under Item 4 A – Review and Revise Policies

I find it somewhat funny that Director Deel (in her 7 plus years on the CSD Board) is not familiar with Brown Act and that the Act already states how these items must be handled/addressed

The Ralph M Brown Act. -

The Act begins by stating the following:

“In enacting this chapter, the Legislature finds and declares that the public commissions, boards and councils and the other public agencies in this State exist to aid in the conduct of the people’s business. It is the intent of the law that their actions be taken openly and that their deliberations be conducted openly.

The people of this State do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know.

The people insist on The Ralph M. Brown Act California Government Code §54950-54962 remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created.”

As public agencies, special districts must comply with the Brown Act. This means meetings and elections of districts’ governing boards must be open and announced through public channels such as through newspapers, flyers or notices delivered to residents.

These are only a few KEY items listed that the Newberry CSD is in violation of, or is not properly following, or is trying to re-write

Violation of the Act - Criminal penalty:

Each member of a legislative body who attends a meeting where action is taken in violation of the Act with the wrongful intent to deprive the public of information to which it is entitled is guilty of a misdemeanor

§ 54953. Meetings to be open and public; attendance

§ 54954.2. Agenda; posting; action on other matters

§ 54954.3. Opportunity for public to address legislative body; adoption of regulations; public criticism of policies

§ 54957.1. Closed sessions; public report of action taken

§ 54957.9. Disorderly conduct of general public during meeting; clearing of room

§ 54959. Penalty for unlawful meeting

§ 54960.1. Unlawful action by legislative body; action for mandamus or injunction;

Prerequisites

When was the last time the directors refreshed themselves on the Brown Act or attended a class?

Are the 700 forms and knowledge of FPPC current?

Thank You

Kathy