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Zone 7 General Manager to Retire

Myers has been "a visionary," according to board president

Dale Myers, who has served as general manager of the Livermore-Amador Valley's Zone 7 Water Agency for nearly a decade, announced at Wednesday night's board meeting that he will retire at the end of February 2007.

Board President Jim Concannon called Myers "a visionary" whose leadership has been critical to measures Zone 7 is in the process of taking to improve the supply, reliability and quality of drinking water provided to retailers in Pleasanton, Livermore and Dublin.

Concannon also lauded Myers for initiating a fundamental, more cost-effective and environmentally friendly change in Zone 7's approach to Valley flood protection. The agency's newly adopted Stream Management Master Plan is aimed at protecting communities from floods through planned buildout in 2034, while at the same time improving water quality, wildlife habitat and public recreational/educational opportunities.

"Dale will be missed," Concannon said. "His tremendous sense of duty and commitment to public service has brought a sense of urgency to his work. Because of his quiet style and his focus on getting things done, our community may never know what he's done on their behalf."

Among other things, Myers has participated on behalf of Zone 7 and other State Water Contractors in shaping management of the ecologically fragile Bay-Delta, which provides

80 percent of the Valley's drinking water supply.

Concannon, who had been previously apprised by Myers of his intention to retire, has appointed a transition subcommittee of the board, comprised of himself, Vice President Bill Stevens and former President John Greci, to develop a proposed recruitment and selection process for a new general manager.

Zone 7, which provides wholesale water to Livermore, Pleasanton and Dublin, and which provides flood protection to all of eastern Alameda County, has 110 employees. For fiscal year 2006-07, it has an operating budget of \$37.8 million and a capital budget of \$49.8 million.

Myers has worked for Zone 7 since 1980. He was an assistant general manager specializing in finance and emergency response when named general manager in May 1997 in a unanimous decision of the seven-member board. Nearly 50 people had applied for the post.

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The Zone 7 Water Agency is one of the 10 active zones of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. The District was established by the State Legislature in October 1949 to solve problems of flooding, drainage, channel erosion and water supply and conservation in Alameda County. In 1957, by popular vote, Zone 7 became a special district governed by a seven-member board of directors. Along with flood protection, Zone 7 supplies water to all of eastern Alameda County and a population of more than 190,000. Treated water is sold wholesale to local retailers, including the cities of Livermore and Pleasanton, the Dublin San Ramon Services District, and the California Water Service Company. Zone 7 also distributes untreated water to local agriculture operations and golf courses.