

NEWS

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Re: Ojai Valley Defense Fund supports Ojai FLOW

Ojai, California - The Ojai Valley Defense Fund has announced that its board of directors unanimously adopted the following resolution at its November 17, 2011 meeting: "The Ojai Valley Defense Fund strongly supports the efforts of Ojai FLOW to establish a community-controlled water system as acting in the best environmental interests of the Ojai Valley". According to John Broesamle, Defense Fund president, "this is not just a case of working to bring water rates in Ojai into line with those of other local water companies, but a real opportunity to act in the best interests of the Ojai Valley's watershed. Many people don't realize that this region is not tied to the state water system and is totally dependent on what falls from the sky. By removing Golden State Water Company and replacing it with a public entity, we can have local control and management of our watershed, and in that way we will assure that these vital water resources will be managed for the benefit of the valley's citizens."

The all-volunteer Ojai Valley Defense Fund is half-way toward its goal of a million-dollar legal defense fund to protect the environmental quality and sustainability of the greater Ojai Valley, as well as our local economy. The community is encouraged to help by making tax-deductible donations to the Ojai Valley Defense Fund at www.ovdf.org.

According Ojai FLOW's spokesman Pat McPherson, "Ojai FLOW has invested over one thousand hours and spent over \$10,000 in donations educating the community about the need for rate payers to buy Golden State Water Company and have it managed by Casitas Municipal Water District. Golden State water rates are so high the citizens can purchase them and upgrade the system just in the savings by going to Casitas. We are truly grateful to have the full support of the Ojai Valley Defense Fund that represents contributors from the Upper Ojai to Casitas Springs. This is an opportunity to solve an environmental problem that has been of concern for many years. We still need donations to run Ojai FLOW's day-to-day operations so please visit our web site at www.OjaiFlow.com to contribute, learn more, and sign up for our newsletters."

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