This brief is being provided to inform the board, staff and public of the details of an agenda item that requires no action from the board. The President of the Board will provide board members, staff, and the public the opportunity to ask questions about this topic when this agenda item is announced.

**Date:** March 18, 2022

**Originator:** Cary Curtis

**Agenda Topic Title**:  **CSDA Transparency Challenge**

**Purpose of Brief:**  Provide update on work in progress for the Transparency Challenge

**Supporting Documents Included:** Yes. Spreadsheet of requirements and status

**\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\***

**Agenda Topic Brief or Update:**

At the November 15, 2021, board meeting, we reported the following:

Nov. 15th is the date the committee agreed the requirements of the challenge would be completed to allow for review by outside officials as required by the Challenge. Although the committee did not hold all meetings as agreed to, the committee felt confident at their Oct. 9 meeting that the Challenge deadline to submit a final package with all outside reviews would be completed by Nov. 24.

Most of the requirements for the Challenge fell to Tiana to complete. Due to staff resource availability and unforeseen impacts the key elements of ensuring the CSD website is updated with requirements is not complete. With only ten business days left and the impact of the Thanksgiving holiday, it has now become apparent that the committee will not meet the submission deadline to participate in the Challenge.

What this means is the CSD will not be able to enter the Challenge for recognition from state representatives and receive special certificates, however, the committee will continue to follow through with the requirements and submit the transparency package to CSDA and once accepted, the CSD to be identified as a Transparent Special District.

The committee will work to complete the requirements and will provide ongoing updates to the board. Completion dates will need to be adjusted due to the new staffing model for the office. A new timeline is TBD. It is possible that upgrades to the CSD website will be needed to support the requirements of the Challenge.

March 18, 2022 – Next Steps:

* Pick up the Transparency Challenge work once the office transition and training are complete.
* Determine if CSD website upgrades are needed to support Challenge requirements.
* Establish meetings to accomplish the Challenge with specific dates for tasks to be completed.
* Identify date for completion.
* Utilize tracking spreadsheet to keep on track.
* Report back to board at each meeting.

1. **Anticipated Impacts to the District -** (*Consider financial impact, change in procedures, customer, and staff communication*):

The Challenge would serve as a confirmation and commitment of transparency in the district.

1. **Anticipated Impacts to the Customer –** *Standby, Residential, Commercial***:**

Will build additional customer confidence that the district operates in a transparent manner.

1. **Next Steps for this Topic**: Work toward implementing next steps and report back to the board on progress.