

### EID planning \$127,000 employee pay

**By Letters to the Editor - Mountain Democrat**

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In his proposed \$47 million gross operating spending for 2013, EID General Manager Jim Abercrombie has included \$28.1 million of salaries and benefits for 221.5 employees ... an average of \$127,000 per employee.

Abercrombie wants EID average salaries to climb to \$78,000 and employee benefits, excluding paid time off, to average an “eye-popping” \$49,000 per employee. Included in the \$78,000 average salary is \$13,000 of paid time off which, along with the \$49,000 of other benefits, effectively provides employees \$62,000 annual compensation above base pay for time actually worked.

EID’s Board shows no concern that more than 30 percent of EID’s rates are going just to pay for employee benefits and paid time off while ratepayers struggle to absorb 102 percent of Board-approved water rate increases for 2010-2015.

A number of “rate-shocked” ratepayers have questioned, “Why aren’t the Board and Abercrombie looking out for ratepayers by suspending all non-promotional pay hikes, cutting the extravagant benefits nowhere seen in for-profit companies and slashing bloated headquarters staff?”

After just 10 minutes of Board member questions following a 20-minute presentation on Oct. 22, EID’s Board has requested no changes and is slated to officially “rubber stamp” Abercrombie’s budget proposal on Nov. 12.

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