

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
BOARD ACTION SUMMARY

DEPT: Office Of Emergency Services

BOARD AGENDA #: *B-6

AGENDA DATE: August 30, 2016

SUBJECT:

Approval to Accept the Fourteenth Update on the Temporary Water Assistance Program and Continue the Countywide Declaration of a Local Emergency Due to a Multi-year Drought in California

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No.

2016-453

On motion of Supervisor Withrow, Seconded by Supervisor O'Brien
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: O'Brien, Chiesa, Withrow, DeMartini, and Chairman Monteith

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

1) Approved as recommended

2) Denied

3) Approved as amended

4) Other:

MOTION:

ATTEST: Elizabeth A. King
ELIZABETH A. KING, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

File No.

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
AGENDA ITEM**

DEPT: Office Of Emergency Services
Urgent Routine

BOARD AGENDA #: _____ *B-6

AGENDA DATE: August 30, 2016

D.S.

CEO CONCURRENCE: phd

4/5 Vote Required: Yes No

SUBJECT:

Approval to Accept the Fourteenth Update on the Temporary Water Assistance Program and Continue the Countywide Declaration of a Local Emergency Due to a Multi-year Drought in California

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Accept the fourteenth update on the Temporary Water Assistance Program in Stanislaus County.
2. Approve to continue the Countywide declaration of a local emergency due to a multi-year drought.

DISCUSSION:

With California facing one of the most severe droughts on record, Governor Brown proclaimed a drought State of Emergency on January 17, 2014 and directed State officials to take all necessary actions to prepare for water shortages. While rain and snow levels this winter certainly improved from recent years, it is not enough to draw the State out of the current drought. Californians face a fifth year of drought conditions and its effects.

Governor Brown has initiated several Executive Orders due to continued severe drought conditions causing extreme peril to the safety of persons and property in California. Saving water, increased enforcement against water waste, investing in new water technologies, and streamlining government response were specifically outlined in the Governor's Proclamation. Most recently, Governor Brown issued Executive Order B-37-16 on May 9, 2016, that builds on temporary statewide emergency water restrictions to establish longer-term water conservation measures including permanent monthly water use reporting, new permanent water use standard in California communities, and bans on clearly wasteful practices such as hosing off sidewalks, driveways, and other hardscapes.

The financial impact of the drought and subsequent water shortage on Stanislaus County may not be fully understood for years to come. The California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA), California Government Code 8680 et. seq. provides financial assistance from the State for costs incurred by local governments as a result of emergency activities undertaken in response to a State of Emergency proclaimed by the Governor. The \$3.7 billion in State drought funding appropriated in the 2014 and 2015 Budget Acts, as well as in March 2015 through emergency legislation, continues to advance toward meeting critical near-term needs

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and long-term drought resiliency and water supply needs. To date, \$997 million has been committed and an additional \$415 million is anticipated to be committed by the end of Fiscal Year 2015-16. In addition, Governor Brown has proposed an additional \$323 million for the 2016-17 budget to continue the State's response to the drought. If approved by the Legislature, these additional funds will be available to aid in emergency drinking water for communities, emergency food assistance, enhanced fire protection, environmental and wildlife assistance, assistance to communities to help dispose of the dead and dying trees in high hazard zones for public safety issues, and the continued statewide awareness campaign.

On July 28, 2015, the Board of Supervisors proclaimed a local State of Emergency in Stanislaus County due to the severity of the water shortage and the impacts of the drought to County residents. Additionally, the Board accepted the Stanislaus County Water Contingency Plan which includes a Temporary Water Assistance (TWA) Program. The TWA is administered by Self-Help Enterprises, a private non-profit organization, which places temporary water tanks at homes where a domestic well has run dry.

To date, Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services has received 91 Homeowner Applications for the Temporary Water Assistance Program. Fifty-six (56) tanks have been installed since program inception. Twenty-four (24) tanks have been removed due to drilling of new wells or well repairs leaving 32 tanks still in service. Seven (7) properties continue to receive water delivery only. Permanent solutions continue to rise and are a marker of the success of the temporary program.

A Temporary Water Assistance Program Hotline has been established to assist the public in receiving the services needed. The Hotline number is 552-3880 and directs callers to the County's website (www.stancounty.com) for a Homeowners Application, with options to speak to someone at the Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services (OES) or Self-Help Enterprises. Additionally, Spanish language versions of the application have been posted online.

POLICY ISSUE:

The Board of Supervisors shall review the need for continuing the local emergency at least once every 30 days, pursuant to Government Code Section 8630, subd. c. Termination of the emergency shall be proclaimed by the Board of Supervisors at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant, pursuant to Government Code Section 8630, subd. d.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Self-Help Enterprises (SHE), a private non-profit organization, is administering the TWA program in Stanislaus County. As a non-profit organization, SHE is eligible for 100% reimbursement of funds expended through the California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA). For the months of August 2015 through March 2016, SHE has invoiced and been approved for reimbursement by CDAA for \$551,567 on behalf of work completed in Stanislaus County. Due to a backlog and end of fiscal year, SHE has not invoiced since March 2016.

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PRIORITY:

The recommended actions support the Board's priorities of A Safe Community and A Healthy Community by delivering emergency services, specifically drinking and sanitation water, in a cost effective manner.

STAFFING IMPACT:

The department has existing staff to perform the work necessary to continue this emergency proclamation. The Temporary Water Assistance Program will be administered by Self-Help Enterprises with County administrative oversight.

CONTACT PERSON:

Stan Risen, Chief Executive Officer	Phone (209) 525-4305
Dale Skiles, Fire Warden /Assistant Director of OES	Phone (209) 552-3600
Keith Boggs, Assistant Executive Officer	Phone (209) 652-1514

ATTACHMENT(S):

None