

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

DEPT: Office Of Emergency Services

BOARD AGENDA #: *B-2

AGENDA DATE: February 7, 2017

SUBJECT:

Approval to Accept the Twentieth Update on the Temporary Water Assistance Program and Continue the Countywide Declaration of a Local Emergency Due to a Multi-year Water Shortage in California; and Close the Temporary Water Assistance Program Application Period

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No.

2017-52

On motion of Supervisor Withrow, Seconded by Supervisor Olsen
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Olsen, Withrow, Monteith, DeMartini, and Chairman Chiesa

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, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

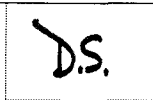
File No.

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

DEPT: Office Of Emergency Services
Urgent Routine

BOARD AGENDA #: *B-2

AGENDA DATE: February 7, 2017



CEO CONCURRENCE: _____

4/5 Vote Required: Yes No

SUBJECT:

Approval to Accept the Twentieth Update on the Temporary Water Assistance Program and Continue the Countywide Declaration of a Local Emergency Due to a Multi-year Water Shortage in California; and Close the Temporary Water Assistance Program Application Period

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Accept the twentieth 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 water shortage.
3. Direct staff to close the Temporary Water Assistance Program application period and grant no continued lease agreements with current program participants effective upon Board approval of this item.
4. Direct staff to continue working with those individuals who are currently receiving assistance to find a permanent water supply solution.

DISCUSSION:

California has faced some of the driest years in recorded state history. As a result, Governor Brown proclaimed a State of Emergency on January 17, 2014 and directed state officials to take all necessary actions to address the dry conditions. Governor Brown initiated several Executive Orders where severe conditions caused extreme peril to the safety of persons and property in California. Specifically outlined in the Governor's Proclamation were, saving water, increasing enforcement against water waste, investing in new water technologies, and streamlining government response activities. The Governor's last drought-related executive order on May 9, 2016, established a new water use efficiency framework to bolster the state's drought resilience and strengthen urban water contingency plans.

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 and long-term drought resiliency and water supply needs. At the end of Fiscal Year 2015-2016, \$997 million had been committed to supporting drought

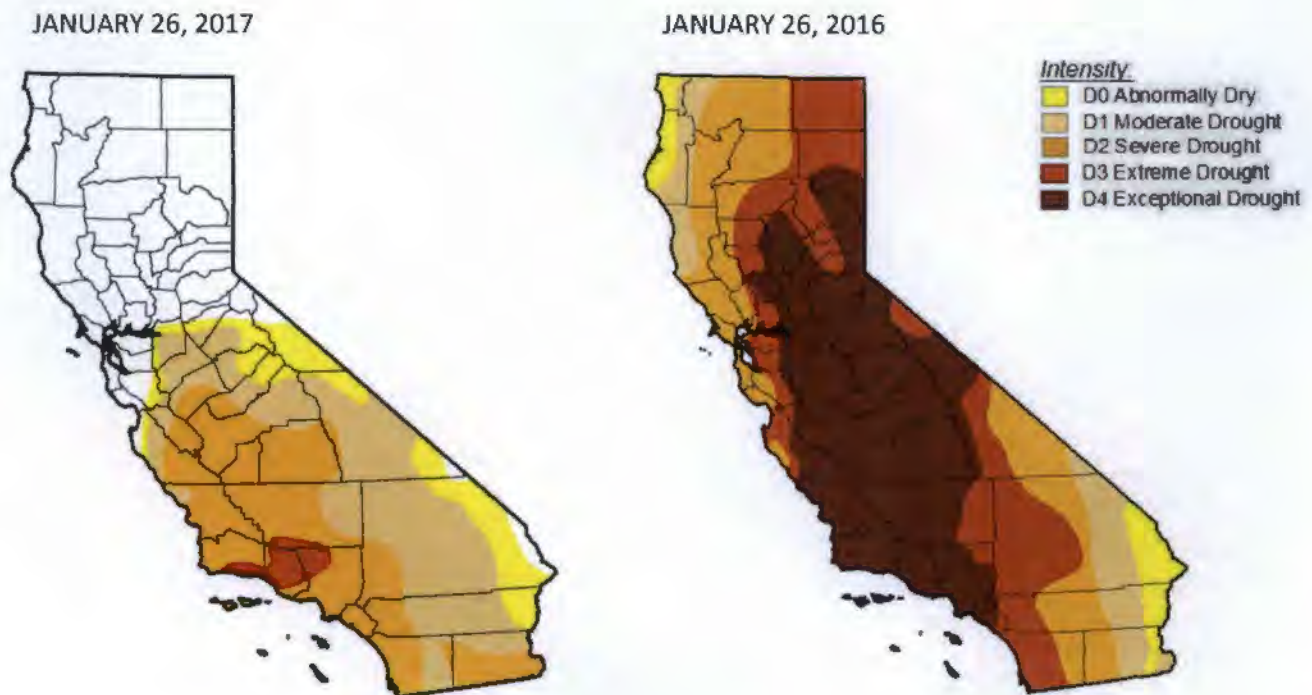
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relief and infrastructure improvement projects. In June 2016, Governor Brown approved an additional \$254.7 million for the 2016-2017 budget to continue the state's response to the water shortages. These additional funds will be available to aid in 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 potential impacts 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 has placed temporary water tanks at homes where a domestic well has run dry.

To date, Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services has received 103 Homeowner Applications for the Temporary Water Assistance Program. Sixty-six (66) tanks have been installed since program inception. Thirty-seven (37) tanks have been removed due to drilling of new wells or well repairs leaving 29 tanks still in service. Six (6) properties continue to receive water delivery only. Over three million gallons of water have been delivered through the TWA program to Stanislaus County residents since the program inception in August 2015.

The United States Drought Monitor reported that January 2017 was the wettest ever observed in 112 years of record in the San Joaquin area. Statewide average snowpack is almost twice normal for late January and actually exceeds those typically recorded on April 1. Given these dramatically wet indicators, widespread improvements throughout California were published on January 26, 2017.



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As a result of the recent precipitation reports and United States Drought Monitor, it is recommended to wind down the TWA program. No new applications or lease extensions for the Temporary Water Assistance Program will be accepted upon Board approval of this agenda item. It is recommended that the twentieth update be approved to continue the declaration and allow staff to transition homeowners currently participating in the TWA to seek permanent water supply solutions.

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 November 2016, SHE has invoiced and been approved for reimbursement by CDAA for \$897,116 on behalf of work completed in Stanislaus County.

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:

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

ATTACHMENT(S):

None