

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

DEPT: Office Of Emergency Services

BOARD AGENDA #: *B-6

AGENDA DATE: April 4, 2017

SUBJECT:

Approval to Accept the Twenty-Second Update on the Temporary Water Assistance Program and Continue the Countywide Proclamation of a Local Emergency Due to a Multi-year Water Shortage in California

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No.

2017-158

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-6

AGENDA DATE: April 4, 2017

CEO CONCURRENCE: _____

4/5 Vote Required: Yes No

DS.

pht

SUBJECT:

Approval to Accept the Twenty-Second Update on the Temporary Water Assistance Program and Continue the Countywide Proclamation of a Local Emergency Due to a Multi-year Water Shortage in California

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Accept the twenty-second update on the Temporary Water Assistance Program in Stanislaus County.
2. Approve to continue the Countywide proclamation of a local emergency due to a multi-year water shortage.
3. 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. The California Disaster Assistance Act (CDA), 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.

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.

On February 7, 2017 the Board of Supervisors directed staff to close the Temporary Water Assistance Program application period and grant no continued lease agreements with current program participants. Self-Help Enterprises sent letters via US certified mail to program participants informing them their program participation will end when their current lease expires. These remaining participants are in contact with SHE on a monthly basis with the status of their progress toward a permanent water solution.

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To date, 49 permanent solutions have been realized out of 80 households that have received assistance through the program. Permanent solutions include the drilling of new wells or well repairs. Since the last report in February 2017, four participants had a new well drilled. Four participants plan to connect to the City of Newman as soon as the project is completed which is estimated to be summer of 2017. There are currently 31 households receiving assistance which includes 25 tanks in service and 6 water deliveries. Over 3.6 million gallons of water have been delivered through the TWA program to Stanislaus County residents since program inception in August 2015.

While the drought continues to decline in California due to heavy precipitation and above average snowpack, emergency conditions continue for homeowners in Stanislaus County who have not yet achieved a permanent water solution. In order to continue to provide temporary assistance and be eligible for the appropriated drought funding allocation through CDAA, the County must continue the emergency proclamation in accordance with Government Code Section 8630, subd. c. It is recommended to continue the countywide proclamation of a local emergency and staff will work with affected homeowners 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 January 2017, SHE has invoiced and been approved for reimbursement through CDAA for \$968,381 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.

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CONTACT PERSON:

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ATTACHMENT(S):

None