

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

DEPT: Office Of Emergency Services

BOARD AGENDA #: *B-20

AGENDA DATE: June 13, 2017

SUBJECT:

Approval to Accept the Twenty-Fifth Update on the Temporary Water Assistance Program, Continue the Countywide Proclamation of a Local Emergency Due to a Multi-year Water Shortage in California, and Delegate Self-Help Enterprises to Continue Service to Temporary Water Assistance Program Participants

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2017-309

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

Ayes: Supervisors: Olsen, Withrow, Monteith, and Vice-Chairman DeMartini

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: Chairman Chiesa

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

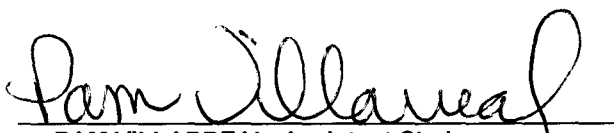
1) Approved as recommended

2) Denied

3) Approved as amended

4) Other:

MOTION:



ATTEST: PAM VILLARREAL, Assistant Clerk

File No.

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

DEPT: Office Of Emergency Services
Urgent Routine

BOARD AGENDA #: *B-20

AGENDA DATE: June 13, 2017



CEO CONCURRENCE: _____

4/5 Vote Required: Yes No

SUBJECT:

Approval to Accept the Twenty-Fifth Update on the Temporary Water Assistance Program, Continue the Countywide Proclamation of a Local Emergency Due to a Multi-year Water Shortage in California, and Delegate Self-Help Enterprises to Continue Service to Temporary Water Assistance Program Participants

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Accept the twenty-fifth 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 by June 30, 2017.
4. Approve to delegate Self-Help Enterprises to continue service to currently enrolled Stanislaus County Temporary Water Assistance Program participants and to report weekly to Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services on the progress of participants toward a permanent water solution.

DISCUSSION:

California faced some of the driest years in recorded state history spanning the water years 2012 through 2016. 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 (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.

On July 28, 2015, the Stanislaus County 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 included a Temporary Water Assistance (TWA) Program. The TWA Program is administered by Self-Help Enterprises (SHE), a private non-profit organization, which placed temporary water tanks at homes where a domestic well has run dry. This program has been funded 100% by California Disaster Assistance Act (CDAA) funding.

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Following unprecedented water conservation and plentiful rain and snow in the winter of 2016-2017, Governor Brown, on April 7, 2017, ended the State of Emergency in most of California. Executive Order B-40-17 lifted the drought emergency in all California counties except Fresno, Kings, Tulare and Tuolumne. As a result CDAA funding is only available until June 30, 2017 to provide water deliveries for households who are currently enrolled in an emergency water tank program.

A phasing out of the Temporary Water Assistance Program in Stanislaus County started on February 7, 2017. The program application period was closed and no new TWA agreements have been started. Staff has been working closely with Self-Help Enterprises in finding permanent water solutions for the remaining program participants. Each of the participants have been contacted by phone and certified letter, advising them of the Governor's latest actions and that water delivery through the Stanislaus County Temporary Water Assistance program will be available through June 30, 2017.

On May 9, 2017, Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services received a letter from Cal OES stating their recognition that some counties may still have households who need further water assistance beyond the June 30, 2017 deadline. For those households that have not yet secured an alternative potable water source by the June deadline, the State may continue to provide temporary grant funds for up to a year for the delivery of potable water for existing program participants in order to maintain public health and safety. This opportunity will give program participants additional time to establish permanent solutions. Funding for this continued service may be provided through a grant program of which a local government or non-profit organization, who are currently embedded in a TWA Program, can apply for.

On May 25, 2017, Cal OES issued State Guidance providing direction for the demobilization of the tank program throughout California. All water delivery, under the current TWA program, will end in Stanislaus County on June 30, 2017 due to the cessation of CDAA funding. The State, however, is allowing counties an additional 30 days to July 31, 2017, for tanks to be removed from properties that have reached a permanent solution, with costs to be covered by CDAA. SHE has expressed an interest in applying for the grant program to continue providing water deliveries to Stanislaus County homeowners starting July 1, 2017.

Staff is recommending approval to delegate Self-Help Enterprises, the non-profit that has been administering the County's program, to continue service to Stanislaus County participants until each can reach a permanent water solution or up to one year. SHE will apply for the grant program to continue this service. Stanislaus County OES will have the responsibility of reporting to Cal OES on the status of the program participants.

Stanislaus County's TWA program currently has 23 households receiving assistance. Each of these remaining participants is receiving individualized attention and assistance from OES and SHE, to address their needs in obtaining a permanent solution as soon as possible.

In order to continue to provide temporary assistance to Stanislaus County homeowners and be eligible for the appropriated drought funding allocation through CDAA through June 30, 2017, the County must continue the emergency proclamation in accordance with Government Code

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Section 8630, subdivision c. It is recommended to continue the countywide proclamation of a local emergency, delegate Self-Help Enterprises to apply for grant funding to continue service to Stanislaus County TWA participants and for staff and SHE to continue to 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, subdivision 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, subdivision 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 2017, SHE has invoiced and been approved for reimbursement through CDAA for \$1,028,776 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:

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