



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: CEO
Department No.:
For Agenda Of: 01/21/14
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director(s) Contact Info: Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer, 568-3400 *MM*
Ryan Rockabrand, Director of Emergency Management, 681-5532

Drought Proclamation, All Supervisorial Districts

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

- a) Adopt the Resolution Ratifying the Proclamation of a Local Emergency for Drought and Water Supply Conditions that exist in Santa Barbara County; and
- b) Direct the Office of Emergency Management to return monthly for re-ratification of the Emergency until such a time that weather and water supply conditions dictate otherwise.

Summary Text:

On January 15, 2014, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Declared 27 Counties in California, including Santa Barbara County, be designated as primary natural disaster areas due to drought conditions. Subsequently, on January 17th, 2014, the Governor declared a statewide State of Emergency for Drought in the State of California. In turn, on the same date the Santa Barbara County Director of Emergency Services signed a Proclamation for a Local Emergency for Drought as well. Part of the Governor's declaration and the County's includes a call for voluntary 20% water reduction by residents.

In Santa Barbara County, year to date rainfall totals are currently at approximately 16% of normal with no measurable rainfall so far in January. This extreme low rainfall follows two previous low rainfall

years as shown on the graph below. Accordingly, the water storage in the County's surface water reservoirs is showing signs of strain. Cachuma Lake is currently at approximately 77,000 acre feet (39% capacity) however deliverable water available for municipal use is far less than that. Gibraltar Reservoir is estimated at under 6% capacity and is considered no longer useable by the City of Santa Barbara. Jameson Reservoir, which serves Montecito is at just over 28% capacity and has less than 2 years of supply left.

With reduced water levels in Cachuma, the Cachuma Operations & Maintenance Board (COMB) has been working on plans for an Emergency Pumping Project to pump water into the Tecolote Tunnel if the reservoir levels drop below the ability to gravity feed the South Coast. A similar emergency project was implemented in 1990-91 in response to similar conditions. COMB and County Water Agency staff calculated this project would be needed this coming fall, however, the recent increased usage of Cachuma, thus far, could accelerate that need. As referenced above, agriculture has been impacted as well.

Background:

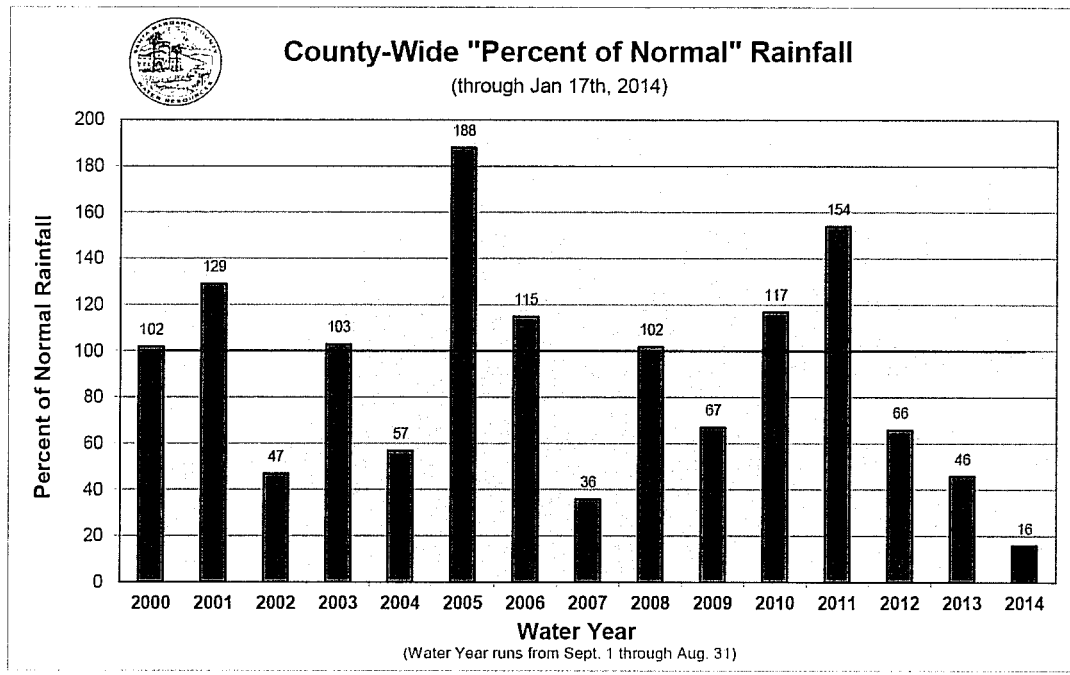
Ratifying the Proclamation for a Local Emergency due to drought conditions falls in line with the Governor's Declaration and the USDA's Declaration.

The USDA's Declaration makes farm operators in primary counties and those counties contiguous to such primary counties eligible to be considered for certain assistance from the Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA emergency loans. Farmers in eligible counties have 8 months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loans. FSA considers each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses on the farm, and the security and repayment ability of the operator.

Water purveyors in the State, as well as the County are also independently making plans for Drought response. The City of Solvang has already done so and others stand to follow suit.

Emergency response projects, such as COMB's project, could also be eligible for funding if these funds come available from the state or federal Government. Other emergency supply projects or programs could be needed as well.

Finally, the CEO is assembling a Local Drought Task Force consisting of representatives from County OEM, County Public Works, County Fire, County Ag Commissioner, COMB, and the Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA). This team will monitor conditions, coordinate public information messaging and take steps as needed.



Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Narrative:

At this time, there is no cost associated with this action.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

FTEs:

Special Instructions:

Director the Clerk of the Board to send a copy of the minute order of these actions to the following:

Office of Emergency Management, ATT: Ryan Rockabrand

Flood Control District office: ATTN: Christina Lopez

Attachments:

Resolution Ratifying the Proclamation of Drought Emergency
Proclamation

Authored by: Thomas D. Fayram, Deputy Public Works Director, 568-3436

CC: