




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.: 012  
For Agenda Of: May 2, 2017  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Tme:  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department: Mona Miyasato, County Executive Officer   
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Robert Lewin, Director of Emergency Management  
**SUBJECT:** Re-Ratification Proclamation of Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions,  
Last Action April 4, 2017, All Supervisorial Districts, (Thirty-Day Renewal)

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board Supervisors:

- a) Adopt a Resolution re-ratifying the Proclamation of Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions that exist in Santa Barbara County pursuant to Government Code Section 8630(c); 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; and
- c) Determine that this project was found by your Board to be exempt from the provisions of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant State CEQA Guidelines Sections 15061(b) (3) and 15269(a), and that the proposed actions are within the scope of the prior CEQA exemption.

**Summary Text:**

This item is on the agenda to re-ratify the Proclamation of Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions that was last re-ratified on April 4, 2017.

On January 15, 2014, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Declared 27 Counties in California, including Santa Barbara County, to be designated as primary natural disaster areas due to drought conditions. On January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the Governor declared a statewide State of

Emergency for Drought. On the same date the Santa Barbara County Director of Emergency Services proclaimed a Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions in Santa Barbara County.

On April 7, 2017, following significant winter rains in California, Governor Edmund G. Brown issued an executive order ending the drought state of emergency, in most counties, including Santa Barbara County. Despite the Governor ending the drought state of emergency, local drought conditions continue. Santa Barbara County remains in a “moderate” drought; reservoir levels are still at reduced levels.

**Background:**

Santa Barbara County remains at the D1 Drought level of Moderate, which warrants the re-ratification of the Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions. The County Office of Emergency Management (OEM) is currently at a level one activation—essential staffing for centralized coordination and decentralized direction. OEM continues to monitor conditions and coordinate County communication and outreach plans with all stakeholder agencies to support the County Drought Task Force (DTF). The DTF convenes on a regular basis, as directed by the chair, to obtain regular updates and to identify potential plans for drought response, recovery, and mitigation.

Winter storms have impacted the County and have triggered significant inflow into Lake Cachuma. The inflow has increased the capacity to approximately 51% (from a low of near 7%). This percent capacity was last seen in August 2013, prior to the County proclaiming a drought emergency. As of April 12, 2017, Cachuma’s storage was at approximately 98,000 acre-feet.

In 2015, the level of Lake Cachuma fell below the level needed for water to flow unassisted into Tecolote Tunnel, the conduit that delivers water to the South Coast. A pump barge facility was installed to pump water to Tecolote Tunnel. With the recent rise in the level of Lake Cachuma, water is again flowing unassisted into Tecolote Tunnel, and the pump barge has been removed.

Meanwhile, Gibraltar Reservoir (City of Santa Barbara’s reservoir) has spilled and is at its capacity of 5,300 acre-feet. Jameson Reservoir (Montecito Water District reservoir) is at 60% capacity, with 3,053 acre feet.

The opening of the City of Santa Barbara’s Desalination facility has been delayed until May. The facility will have the capacity to produce nearly 3 million gallons of water per day, which is equivalent to 3,125 acre-feet of water annually or about 30% of the City’s demand.

On December 12, 2016, the Governor’s Drought Task Force held a meeting in Santa Barbara with State Senator Jackson, Assemblymember Limón, local water purveyors, local elected officials and staff. Subsequently, a Drought Action Working Group was convened to develop strategies and projects to work on short term and long term drought issues with County OEM as the facilitator. This work has been completed and approved by resolution by all the large water agencies and the Board of Supervisors. As directed, staff will forward the resolutions to the Governor’s Drought Task Force.

Government Code Section 8630(c) requires the Board to review the need for the continued existence of the Proclamation of Local Emergency at least every 30 days. Government Code Section 8630(d)

requires termination of the Proclamation of Local Emergency at the earliest possible date that conditions warrant.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

**Fiscal Analysis:**

Costs continue to be compiled. Updates will be provided at future re-ratification Board items.

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>FY 16-17 Costs</b>	<b>Total Inception-to-date Project Costs</b>
General Fund	\$18,546.67	\$113,598.54
State		
Federal		
Fees		
Other		76,703.53
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$18,546.67</b>	<b>\$190,302.07</b>

The CEO established a project code for tracking staffing costs and time associated with drought activities. Since declaration in January 2014, costs for management of emergency drought conditions have been reported by the CEO's Office of Emergency Management and Public Works' Department Flood Control and Water Agency Divisions; minor costs have been reported by Agricultural Commissioner and Parks Department.

**Staffing Impacts:**

Although there are no FTE personnel resourced to management of the drought, labor hours as reported countywide at last analysis are approximately 2,322 hours for emergency drought management since tracking began in January 2014.

**Special Instructions:**

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

Office of Emergency Management, Attn: Sonia Thompson  
Flood Control District office, Attn: Christina Lopez

**Attachments:**

Attachment A: Resolution Re-ratifying the Proclamation of Local Emergency Caused by Drought Conditions

**Authored by:**

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