



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: Water Agency
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: November 9, 2021
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Directors, Water Agency

FROM: Department Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, (805) 568-3010
Director(s)
Contact Info: Walter Rubalcava, Deputy Public Works Director, (805) 568-3436

SUBJECT: Adopt Resolution to Accept Small Community Drought Relief Program Grant Funds, 4th Supervisorial District

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Directors of the Water Agency:

- a) Adopt the resolution entitled “Resolution to Accept the Small Community Drought Relief Grant for the Rolling Hills Emergency Intertie Project” to authorize the Public Works Director or designee, to execute any and all grant agreements, amendments, and subsequent agreements with the California Department of Water Resources to receive Small Community Drought Relief Program grant funding to complete the Emergency Intertie Project; and
- b) Find that the proposed action is related to creation of a government funding and other fiscal activity which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment, and is therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to Guideline Section 15378(b)(4).

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda in order to adopt a resolution supporting the Water Agency’s acceptance of a Small Community Drought Relief Grant from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR), which will enable installation of an emergency connection between Rolling Hills Mutual Water Company (MWC) and Golden State Water Company (Emergency Intertie Project).

Rolling Hills MWC has historically relied on a groundwater well for the entirety of its water supply. However, earlier this year it experienced a well failure and its residents have relied on trucked water and

bottled water for several months. Rolling Hills developed a plan for an emergency connection with Golden State Water Company, and applied for a grant from DWR under the Small Community Drought Relief Program to fund the project. The DWR grant is designed to reimburse the project proponent after construction, but Rolling Hills lacks the funding to initiate the project. Water Agency staff are proposing to use budgeted emergency drought funding to pay initial construction cost of the emergency intertie and accept reimbursement from DWR through the Small Community Drought Relief Program grant. Rolling Hills has signed an indemnification agreement protecting the Water Agency from liability associated with the project.

Background:

The Small Community Drought Relief Program (Program) was authorized by the Legislature pursuant to the Budget Act of 2021 (Stats. 2021, ch. 69, §112) and its Trailer Bill, Assembly Bill 148 (Stats. 2021, ch. 115, § 97). The Trailer Bill authorized specified state agencies, defined as implementing agencies, subject to an appropriation for these purposes, to make grants and direct expenditures for interim or immediate relief in response to conditions arising from a drought scenario. The grants address immediate impacts on human health and safety and on fish and wildlife resources. The purpose of the grants are also to provide water to persons or communities that lose or are threatened with the loss or contamination of water supplies.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

<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 DWR Grant	\$29,300		
Federal			
Fees			
Water Agency Funds			
Total	\$29,300		

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative:

Construction costs for the Emergency Intertie Project will be paid from the emergency drought expenses line item that was included in the adopted FY 2021-22 budget in the Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department as shown on page D-340 in the budget book. This money was included in this year’s budget to be able to address unforeseen emergency drought situations. All Water Agency expenditures will ultimately be reimbursed by the DWR Grant.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to return a copy of the resolution and minute order of these actions to the Water Agency office: Attn: Christina Lopez.

Accept Small Community Drought Relief Program Grant Funds, 4th Supervisorial District

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Attachments:

Attachment A – Resolution to Accept a Small Community Drought Relief Grant for the Rolling Hills
Emergency Intertie Project

Authored by:

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