

**AMENDED**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**SAN BENITO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**  
**Agenda for**  
**January 8, 2024**  
**Special Meeting – 5:00 p.m.**  
**30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, CA 95023**

*Speakers will be limited to 5 minutes to address the Board*

**Assistance for those with disabilities:**

If you have a disability and need accommodation to participate in the meeting, please call Barbara Mauro, Board Clerk, at (831) 637-8218, 48 hours prior to meeting for assistance so the necessary arrangements can be made.

Effective at the April 27, 2022, The Board of Directors is now allowing the public to attend in person at all meetings of the San Benito County Water District Board. We will also continue to offer the meeting via Zoom as well. Regarding virtual participation, members of the public are instructed to be on mute during the proceedings and to speak only when public comment is allowed, after requesting and receiving recognition from the Board President.

**ZOOM LINK**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88355995243?pwd=22LaOpByKXjqSh5eOfcSFJQMreeV0A.1>

**Meeting ID**

883 5599 5243

**Passcode:**

635480

**Dial Only:**

Dial by your location

- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 719 359 4580 US
- +1 720 707 2699 US (Denver)
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

If you plan to participate in the meeting and need assistance, please call Barbara Mauro, Board Clerk, at (831) 637-8218, 48 hours prior to meeting.

**CALL TO ORDER**

- a. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- b. Roll Call
- c. Speakers will be limited to 5 minutes to address the Board
- d. Approval of the Agenda

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approval of Minutes for: Special Meeting December 12, 2023
2. Allowance of Claims

**REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS:**

3. Public Hearing regarding 2023 Annual Groundwater Report
  - a. Proof of Publication submitted on Notice of Public Hearing, Annual Groundwater Report
  - b. Presentation of Report
  - c. Questions of Directors
  - d. Open Public Hearing
  - e. Close Public Hearing or continue to later date
  - f. Consider Adoption of Statement of Findings and Recommendations
  - g. Consider Acceptance of 2023 District Engineer's Report on Annual Groundwater Conditions and Recommendation on Groundwater Charges
4. **CLOSED SESSION:**  
**Public Employee Performance Evaluation**  
Title: General Manager  
Authority: California Government Code Section 54957
5. **OPEN SESSION:**  
Report action if any

**ADJOURNMENT**

All public records relating to an agenda item on this agenda are available for public inspection at the time the record is distributed to all, or a majority of all, members of the Board. Such records shall be available at the District office located at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
SAN BENITO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT**

December 12, 2023  
Special Meeting  
5:00 p.m.

The Board of Directors of the San Benito County Water District convened in special session on December 12, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. at the San Benito County Water District office at 30 Mansfield Road, Hollister, California. Members present were: President Sonny Flores, Vice President Andrew Shelton and Directors Joe Tonascia, Doug Williams and Mark Wright. Also present were General Manager Steve Wittry, District Counsel Jeremy T. Liem, Deputy District Engineer Rob Hillebrecht, Senior Engineer David Macdonald, Operations and Maintenance Supervisor Michael Craig, Water Conservation Program Manager Shawn Novack, Office Specialist I Jennifer Cosio Arellano and Executive Assistant/Board Clerk Barbara Mauro.

**CALL TO ORDER**

President Flores called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

- a. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**  
President Flores led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- b. **Roll Call**  
Mrs. Mauro called roll; members present were: President Flores, Vice President Shelton and Directors Tonascia, Williams and Wright.
- c. **Speakers will be limited to 5 minutes to address the Board**  
There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

**AGENDA ITEMS:**

- 1. **Status of Hernandez Reservoir Operations**  
Mr. Wittry reported he, Mr. Hillebrecht and Mr. Macdonald went to Hernandez Reservoir yesterday, to survey the reservoir and spillway and took photos. He has provided some data from Hernandez Reservoir levels from 2010 to the present. Using a PowerPoint presentation, Mr. Wittry described the photos taken at the reservoir.

The first photo is from Clear Creek. The second photo is from the concrete bridge, which shows a ten-foot-wide flow. Director Wright asked if it has run like this all year. Mr. Wittry stated no, about 8 weeks ago, there wasn't any flow there. Currently, there is a lot of water coming through the canyon. The third photo is the outflow from the dam at approximately 5cfs (cubic feet per second); it was at 85 cfs when it was running to empty the reservoir. The fourth photo is a view of the spillway with most of the debris removed. Staff has also done some repair work on the top of the spillway. Mr. Craig described the depth of the water on either side of the outlet structure, which is 8-10 feet deep. The photos also showed staff has set siphons to assist in emptying the water. Mr. Craig stated that perhaps something got through the grate and is possibly stuck in the valve. In 2002, Mr. Craig recalled that staff accessed the valve chamber by crawling through the dam outlet pipeline to the valve. Due to the modifications to the outlet chamber, it is too difficult to divert water away from the access ladder. The ladder is the only way to access the valves to attempt to manually operate them.

Director Tonascia asked if these are 30-inch valves; Mr. Wittry confirmed this. Director Wright asked about the work area and why there is water where staff needs to work. Mr. Wittry stated it is due to the elevation of the outlet structure, which is fifty feet above the valve chamber. Discussion ensued about the use of a booster pump and how difficult it would be to pump the water out. Mr. Wittry reported water is seeping in from the hillside around the reservoir. He further reported in its current condition, it is too dangerous to send anyone down to work on it. Mr. Wittry asked the Board if they wanted staff to continue to expend funds on options now or wait until after the rainy season? He then walked through how the District has operated Hernandez in the past and reviewed the handout from 2009-current.

Director Tonascia stated in a drought situation, the District tries to get water from Hernandez down to the San Benito River.

Director Williams expressed concern flooding could occur this year during the rainy season.

Director Tonascia stated because of the water coming from Hernandez, he was unable to fix the channel on his ranch due to the encroachment of the water. He asked about options such as renting equipment from Rain for Rent or hiring a diver.

Mr. Wittry stated hiring a diver could be \$600/hour or more. However, presently, it is unsafe for anyone to attempt to access the valves. Director Tonascia inquired if staff explored all options.

Director Wright had thought it was supposed to be drawn down enough for someone from District staff to enter to look at the valves by mid-November.

Mr. Craig stated it is a vast area. In 2017, when the valve broke, it sheared off the hydraulic hose.

President Flores asked how much would it need to drop? Mr. Hillebrecht stated 20-30 acre-feet without any inflow. Mr. Wittry stated it is staff's recommendation to wait. He further asked what level the Board is comfortable spending to work on the issue. Mr. Wittry stated it would likely be a six-figure amount if the District were to hire additional staff such as a diver and equipment.

Director Wright said the figures given by staff must have been incorrect, as it was estimated the area would be drained by sometime in November, so staff could get in and assess the situation with the valves. He also asked why a pump wouldn't buy some time to allow someone to get in safely. Mr. Wittry stated that water continued to drain from the saturated soil surrounding the reservoir and it is unlikely staff could change the rams this season.

Director Tonascia stated he didn't feel staff had any sense of urgency. Director Williams asked if the District could rent equipment from Rain for Rent. Mr. Wittry stated the challenge is getting the equipment to the site due to how remote the area is. He stated that historically the District has not utilized pumping equipment at Hernandez. He further discussed that if the valve was to break, it is in a ¾ open position and its the best position possible to get us through the rainy season. Water will be metered out by the valve, however we will not be able to retain any water for percolation from Hernandez this year.

Director Williams said Zone 3 had approximately \$1 million a year in revenue; why can't the District use these funds for necessary repairs at the spillway and at the canal.

Director Tonascia asked Mr. Craig if the parts needed at the spillway were ordered last year. Mr. Craig stated staff has welded at the valves over a period of time rather than replacing the valves.

Mr. Wittry stated this was discussed in the committee meeting about operational use and needing a plan to repair and maintain the equipment.

President Flores stated staff should continue to monitor the situation and when they can safely get into where the valves are, see about operating the valve. It appears the Board is looking for more action to be taken. Mr. Wittry stated, if that is the wish of the Board, he can spend up to \$30,000 without Board approval Mr. Liem confirmed this statement. Discussion ensued about whether something should already have been done and all options should have been evaluated. Mr. Wittry further stated the access road has been regraded, improved the access and an outside firm has repaired 17 culverts around the end of July. Director Tonascia said there was no sense of urgency and Mr. Wittry stated it is unfair to say staff hasn't done enough.

Vice President Shelton asked how much time is needed to close the valve. Mr. Craig stated if they could safely get in there, perhaps 30 minutes. Mr. Hillebrecht added, the valve can't be kept closed because with rain coming, they would have no way to open it again and that could create other problems.

President Flores asked how much time is needed to change the ram. Mr. Craig said that is a more difficult answer, as it is more complicated. There would have to be no water in where the valves are, as welding is likely necessary, and Mr. Craig estimates about a week.

Director Williams asked if the water is coming from Clear Creek? Mr. Hillebrecht stated yes, but that is not the only location water is seeping in from. Also, Mr. Hillebrecht added the location is so remote, it is 2 hours from the office one way, so it is also a logistical problem as well. Director Wright stated the District should hire an outside company to do this work.

Mr. Wittry stated Directors Williams and Tonascia mentioned operational maintenance, which has been "kicked down the road" for a while now. This kind of issue will continue

to happen at district facilities if meaningful repairs are not made. He further stated there are funds to do this work.

President Flores asked staff to keep this as a priority and hire additional staff or an outside firm to assist with this work as necessary.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m.**

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Andrew Shelton, President

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Barbara L. Mauro, Executive Assistant/Board Clerk

Batch ID: CK010824  
 Batch Comment:

Audit Trail Code: PMCHK00001003  
 Posting Date: 1/8/2024

Checkbook: UB-CKG  
 \* Voided Checks

Check #	Date	Payment Number	Vendor ID	Check Name	Amount
0058146	1/8/2024	031871	A1JAN	A-1 Services	\$524.00
0058147	1/8/2024	031872	ALPHA	Alpha Analytical Laboratories, Inc.	\$4,145.00
0058148	1/8/2024	031873	BRIGA	Brigantino Irrigation	\$3,280.35
0058149	1/8/2024	031874	CINTA	Cintas Corporation	\$306.48
0058150	1/8/2024	031875	CMANA	CM Analytical Inc	\$7,290.00
0058151	1/8/2024	031876	CSISE	CSI Services Inc	\$19,272.00
0058152	1/8/2024	031877	DASSE	Dassel's Petroleum Inc	\$129.20
0058153	1/8/2024	031878	ELCCO	ELC Consulting	\$8,755.00
0058154	1/8/2024	031879	FASTE	Fastenal Company	\$88.84
0058155	1/8/2024	031880	FERGU	Ferguson Enterprises LLC #686	\$1,100.25
0058156	1/8/2024	031881	FRESN	Fresno Valves & Castings Inc.	\$3,272.47
0058157	1/8/2024	031882	GOLDC	Gold Coast Electric Services Inc	\$10,000.00
0058158	1/8/2024	031883	GOLDEN	Golden State Portables	\$900.00
0058159	1/8/2024	031884	GROSS	Grossmayer & Associates	\$145.00
0058160	1/8/2024	031885	HAUTO	Hollister Auto Parts Inc	\$106.43
0058161	1/8/2024	031886	HDRENG	HDR Engineering Inc	\$122,171.25
0058162	1/8/2024	031887	ICONI	ICONIX Waterworks Inc	\$6,333.24
0058163	1/8/2024	031888	JOHNS	Johnson Lumber Company	\$183.99
0058164	1/8/2024	031889	LANDS	Landscape Design by Rosemary Bridwell C	\$200.00
0058165	1/8/2024	031890	LIEBE	Liebert Cassidy Whitmore	\$2,525.50
0058166	1/8/2024	031891	NEWSV	New SV Media Inc	\$690.80
0058167	1/8/2024	031892	PALAC	Palace Business Solutions	\$321.11
0058168	1/8/2024	031893	RJRRE	RJR Environmental Inc.	\$901.35
0058169	1/8/2024	031894	SENTR	Sentry Alarm Systems	\$120.00
0058170	1/8/2024	031895	SHRED	Shred-it	\$184.99
0058171	1/8/2024	031896	THOMS	Thomson Reuters-West	\$528.26
0058172	1/8/2024	031897	TODDE	Todd Groundwater	\$32,034.05
0058173	1/8/2024	031898	WRIIN	Wright Bros Industrial Supply	\$68.50
0058174	1/8/2024	031899	ZEIAL	Alan Zeisbrich	\$2,170.00

Total Checks: 29

Checks Total: \$227,748.06  
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\* Voided Checks

Check #	Date	Payment Number	Vendor ID	Check Name	Amount
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STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
COUNTY OF SAN BENITO

I DO HEREBY CERTIFY, UNDER THE PENALTY OF PERJURY AT HOLLISTER, CALIFORNIA THIS 8TH DAY OF JANUARY 2024 THAT THE FOREGOING DEMANDS ENUMERATED HAVE BEEN AUDITED; THAT THE SAME ARE ACCURATE AND JUST CLAIMS AGAINST THE DISTRICT; AND THAT THERE ARE FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR PAYMENT.

*Cindy Paine*

Prepared by: ~~Manager of Admin and Finance~~  
*Supervising Accountant*

*[Signature]*

Submitted by: General Manager

APPROVED BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
President



Payment Fund Responsibility

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name	
031871	1/4/2024	\$524.00	AIJAN	A-1 Services	
Voucher: 049407	Invoice: 4875		Date: 1/2/2024	Janitorial Services	Doc Amt: \$524.00
	Allocations:	\$30.60	100-6275-0000-563-06	CS-Maint 10/5/85	
	Allocations:	\$15.30	300-6275-0000-563-06	CS-Maint 10/5/85	
	Allocations:	\$260.10	600-6275-0000-563-06	CS-Maint 10/5/85	
	Allocations:	\$21.80	100-6275-0000-563-06	CS-Maint 10/5/85	
	Allocations:	\$10.90	300-6275-0000-563-06	CS-Maint 10/5/85	
	Allocations:	\$185.30	600-6275-0000-563-06	CS-Maint 10/5/85	

**Payment Responsibilities:**  
 Fund 000: \$0.00      Fund 100: \$52.40      Fund 300: \$26.20      Fund 600: \$445.40  
 Fund 700: \$0.00      Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name	
031872	1/4/2024	\$4,145.00	ALPHA	Alpha Analytical Laboratories, Inc.	
Voucher: 049406	Invoice: 3126650-DP_SBCWD		Date: 12/29/2023	Water Quality Testing	Doc Amt: \$4,145.00
	Allocations:	\$4,145.00	700-1351-0221-151	GSA-Grdwtr Mgmt Plan	

**Payment Responsibilities:**  
 Fund 000: \$0.00      Fund 100: \$0.00      Fund 300: \$0.00      Fund 600: \$0.00  
 Fund 700: \$4,145.00      Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name	
031873	1/4/2024	\$3,280.35	BRIGA	Brigantino Irrigation	
Voucher: 049353	Invoice: 220000057419		Date: 12/7/2023	Maintenance Supplies	Doc Amt: \$480.35
	Allocations:	\$480.35	300-6320-0000-512	Supplies-SSM	

Voucher: 049354	Invoice: 220000056654		Date: 11/27/2023	Contracted Maintenance	Doc Amt: \$2,800.00
	Allocations:	\$2,800.00	600-6275-0920-542	CS Maintenance TDM-Subsystem Breaks	

**Payment Responsibilities:**  
 Fund 000: \$0.00      Fund 100: \$0.00      Fund 300: \$480.35      Fund 600: \$2,800.00  
 Fund 700: \$0.00      Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name	
031874	1/4/2024	\$306.48	CINTA	Cintas Corporation	
Voucher: 049377	Invoice: 4177537603		Date: 12/19/2023	Weekly Service	Doc Amt: \$121.20
	Allocations:	\$12.12	100-6275-0000-563-06	CS-Maint 10/5/85	
	Allocations:	\$6.06	300-6275-0000-563-06	CS-Maint 10/5/85	
	Allocations:	\$103.02	600-6275-0000-563-06	CS-Maint 10/5/85	

Voucher: 049378	Invoice: 1904508327		Date: 12/19/2023	District Uniform	Doc Amt: \$64.08
	Allocations:	\$62.16	600-6197-0000-565-06	Personal Uniforms Field 0/3/97	
	Allocations:	\$1.92	300-6197-0000-565-06	Personal Uniforms Field 0/3/97	

Voucher: 049389 Invoice: 4178293024 Date: 12/27/2023 Weekly Service Doc Amt: \$121.20  
 Allocations: \$12.12 100-6275-0000-563-06 CS-Maint 10/5/85  
 Allocations: \$6.06 300-6275-0000-563-06 CS-Maint 10/5/85  
 Allocations: \$103.02 600-6275-0000-563-06 CS-Maint 10/5/85

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$24.24 Fund 300: \$14.04 Fund 600: \$268.20  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment# Date Check Total Vendor ID Vendor Name  
 031875 1/4/2024 \$7,290.00 CMANA CM Analytical Inc

Voucher: 049355 Invoice: 81556 Date: 12/12/2023 Water Quality Testing Doc Amt: \$2,970.00  
 Allocations: \$1,220.00 600-6270-0604-541 CS Operations Recycled Water Project  
 Allocations: \$1,575.00 600-6270-0135-511 CS Ops-Water Quality Grwtr-SSO  
 Allocations: \$175.00 300-6270-0135-511 CS-Ops-Water Quality Groundwater-SSO

Voucher: 049397 Invoice: 81732 Date: 12/28/2023 Water Quality Testing Doc Amt: \$4,320.00  
 Allocations: \$4,320.00 600-6270-0135-511 CS Ops-Water Quality Grwtr-SSO

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$0.00 Fund 300: \$175.00 Fund 600: \$7,115.00  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment# Date Check Total Vendor ID Vendor Name  
 031876 1/4/2024 \$19,272.00 CSISE CSI Services Inc

Voucher: 049396 Invoice: 15238 Date: 12/18/2023 Contracted Maintenance Doc Amt: \$19,272.00  
 Allocations: \$19,272.00 600-6275-0939-542 CS- Maintenance-Blue Valve Paint Project

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$0.00 Fund 300: \$0.00 Fund 600: \$19,272.00  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment# Date Check Total Vendor ID Vendor Name  
 031877 1/4/2024 \$129.20 DASSE Dassel's Petroleum Inc

Voucher: 049398 Invoice: 5136037 Date: 11/15/2023 Vehicle Fuel Doc Amt: \$129.20  
 Allocations: \$129.20 600-6465-0000-562 Vehicle Fuel-GA

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$0.00 Fund 300: \$0.00 Fund 600: \$129.20  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment# Date Check Total Vendor ID Vendor Name  
 031878 1/4/2024 \$8,755.00 ELCCO ELC Consulting

Voucher: 049390 Invoice: 9111 Date: 12/26/2023 Microsoft Office 365 EE Doc Amt: \$278.00  
 Allocations: \$27.80 100-6260-0000-563-06 CS-Computer (10/5/85)  
 Allocations: \$13.90 300-6260-0000-563-06 CS-Computer (10/5/85)

Allocations: \$236.30 600-6260-0000-563-06 CS-Computer (10/5/85)

Voucher: 049408 Invoice: 9141 Date: 1/1/2024 Monthly Service Agreement Doc Amt: \$1,480.00  
 Allocations: \$690.00 600-6260-0602-531 CS Computer - Lessalt WTP

Allocations: \$790.00 600-6260-0603-531 CS Computer - West Hills WTP

Voucher: 049409 Invoice: 9140 Date: 1/1/2024 Monthly Service Agreement Doc Amt: \$6,897.00  
 Allocations: \$659.70 100-6260-0000-563-06 CS-Computer (10/5/85)  
 Allocations: \$329.85 300-6260-0000-563-06 CS-Computer (10/5/85)  
 Allocations: \$5,607.45 600-6260-0000-563-06 CS-Computer (10/5/85)

Allocations: \$300.00 600-6260-0000-563 CS-Computer-GA

Voucher: 049410 Invoice: 9142 Date: 1/1/2024 Monthly Service Agreement Doc Amt: \$100.00  
 Allocations: \$100.00 803-6260-0000-563 CS - Computers

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$687.50 Fund 300: \$343.75 Fund 600: \$7,623.75  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$100.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031879	1/4/2024	\$88.84	FASTE	Fastenal Company

Voucher: 049226 Invoice: CMCAHOS62063 Date: 10/24/2023 Maintenance Supplies Doc Amt: -\$167.24  
 Allocations: -\$167.24 600-6320-0000-542 Supplies-TM

Voucher: 049383 Invoice: CAHOS63020 Date: 12/8/2023 Maintenance Supplies Doc Amt: \$147.29  
 Allocations: \$147.29 600-6320-0000-542 Supplies-TM

Voucher: 049400 Invoice: CAHOS63180 Date: 12/15/2023 Maintenance Supplies Doc Amt: \$108.79  
 Allocations: \$108.79 600-6320-0000-542 Supplies-TM

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$0.00 Fund 300: \$0.00 Fund 600: \$88.84  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031880	1/4/2024	\$1,100.25	FERGU	Ferguson Enterprises, Inc.

Voucher: 049356 Invoice: 4744285 Date: 12/15/2023 Supplies Doc Amt: \$1,100.25  
 Allocations: \$1,100.25 803-6320-0000-562 Supplies (TP)

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$0.00 Fund 300: \$0.00 Fund 600: \$0.00  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$1,100.25

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031881	1/4/2024	\$3,272.47	FRESN	Fresno Valves & Castings, Inc.

Voucher: 049384 Invoice: S0673499 Date: 12/14/2023 Maintenance Supplies Doc Amt: \$3,272.47  
 Allocations: \$3,272.47 600-6337-0916-551 Chemigation Valves-- (New)-CA

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00      Fund 100: \$0.00      Fund 300: \$0.00      Fund 600: \$3,272.47  
 Fund 700: \$0.00      Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031882	1/4/2024	\$10,000.00	GOLDC	Gold Coast Electric Services Inc
Voucher: 049357	Invoice: 7802		Date: 12/14/2023	Contracted Maintenance
	Allocations:	\$10,000.00	600-6275-0000-542	CS- Maintenance
				Doc Amt: \$10,000.00

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00      Fund 100: \$0.00      Fund 300: \$0.00      Fund 600: \$10,000.00  
 Fund 700: \$0.00      Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031883	1/4/2024	\$900.00	GOLDEN	Golden State Portables
Voucher: 049401	Invoice: 55253		Date: 1/1/2024	Portable Toilet Rental
	Allocations:	\$450.00	600-6275-0000-542	CS-Maintenance-TM
				Doc Amt: \$450.00

Voucher: 049402	Invoice: 55252		Date: 1/1/2024	Portable Toilet Rental	Doc Amt: \$450.00
	Allocations:	\$450.00	600-6275-0000-542	CS-Maintenance-TM	

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00      Fund 100: \$0.00      Fund 300: \$0.00      Fund 600: \$900.00  
 Fund 700: \$0.00      Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031884	1/4/2024	\$145.00	GROSS	Grossmayer & Associates
Voucher: 049381	Invoice: IVC3675		Date: 12/8/2023	Consulting Services
	Allocations:	\$14.50	100-6260-0000-563-06	CS-Computer (10/5/85)
	Allocations:	\$7.25	300-6260-0000-563-06	CS-Computer (10/5/85)
	Allocations:	\$123.25	600-6260-0000-563-06	CS-Computer (10/5/85)
				Doc Amt: \$145.00

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00      Fund 100: \$14.50      Fund 300: \$7.25      Fund 600: \$123.25  
 Fund 700: \$0.00      Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031885	1/4/2024	\$106.43	HAUTO	Hollister Auto Parts Inc
Voucher: 049358	Invoice: 953071		Date: 12/11/2023	Maintenance Supplies
	Allocations:	\$54.01	600-6320-0000-542	Supplies-TM
				Doc Amt: \$54.01

Voucher: 049359	Invoice: 953747		Date: 12/18/2023	Vehicle Maintenance #20	Doc Amt: \$52.42
	Allocations:	\$52.42	600-6460-0000-562	Vehicle Maintenance-GA	

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00      Fund 100: \$0.00      Fund 300: \$0.00      Fund 600: \$106.43  
 Fund 700: \$0.00      Fund 803:\$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name	
031886	1/4/2024	\$122,171.25	HDRENG	HDR Engineering Inc	
Voucher: 049360	Invoice: 1200581409	Date: 12/18/2023	Engineering Services	Doc Amt: \$108,029.00	
	Allocations: \$108,029.00	600-1351-A129-151	ADRoP-Accelerated Drought Response Project		
Voucher: 049361	Invoice: 1200580750	Date: 12/15/2023	Engineering Services	Doc Amt: \$11,406.50	
	Allocations: \$11,406.50	600-6240-0000-563	CS-General Consulting-GA		
Voucher: 049395	Invoice: 1200581412	Date: 12/18/2023	Engineering Services	Doc Amt: \$2,735.75	
	Allocations: \$2,735.75	600-1395-0945-112	SP-SJB Treated Water Pipeline		

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00      Fund 100: \$0.00      Fund 300: \$0.00      Fund 600: \$122,171.25  
 Fund 700: \$0.00      Fund 803:\$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name	
031887	1/4/2024	\$6,333.24	ICONI	ICONIX Waterworks Inc	
Voucher: 049362	Invoice: U2316054640	Date: 12/13/2023	Maintenance Supplies	Doc Amt: \$3,281.14	
	Allocations: \$3,281.14	600-6320-0000-542	Supplies-TM		
Voucher: 049411	Invoice: U2316055695	Date: 12/21/2023	Maintenance Supplies	Doc Amt: \$2,626.12	
	Allocations: \$2,626.12	600-6320-0000-542	Supplies-TM		
Voucher: 049412	Invoice: U2316055696	Date: 12/21/2023	Maintenance Supplies	Doc Amt: \$425.98	
	Allocations: \$425.98	600-6320-0000-542	Supplies-TM		

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00      Fund 100: \$0.00      Fund 300: \$0.00      Fund 600: \$6,333.24  
 Fund 700: \$0.00      Fund 803:\$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name	
031888	1/4/2024	\$183.99	JOHNS	Johnson Lumber Company	
Voucher: 049363	Invoice: 269315	Date: 12/13/2023	District Supplies	Doc Amt: \$30.55	
	Allocations: \$25.97	600-6320-0000-562-03	Supplies - GA		
	Allocations: \$3.06	100-6320-0000-562-03	Supplies - GA		
	Allocations: \$1.53	300-6320-0000-562-03	Supplies - GA		
Voucher: 049364	Invoice: 270155	Date: 12/13/2023	District Supplies	Doc Amt: \$81.85	
	Allocations: \$69.57	600-6320-0000-562-03	Supplies - GA		
	Allocations: \$8.19	100-6320-0000-562-03	Supplies - GA		
	Allocations: \$4.09	300-6320-0000-562-03	Supplies - GA		
Voucher: 049365	Invoice: 270164	Date: 12/14/2023	District Supplies	Doc Amt: \$71.59	
	Allocations: \$60.85	600-6320-0000-562-03	Supplies - GA		
	Allocations: \$7.16	100-6320-0000-562-03	Supplies - GA		

Allocations: \$3.58 300-6320-0000-562-03 Supplies - GA

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$18.40 Fund 300: \$9.20 Fund 600: \$156.39  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031889	1/4/2024	\$200.00	LANDS	Landscape Design by Rosemary Bridw
Voucher: 049366	Invoice: 121923		Date: 12/19/2023	Landscape Plan Review Doc Amt: \$200.00
	Allocations:	\$200.00	803-6240-0000-563	CS - General Consulting (Plan Cks/Rev)

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$0.00 Fund 300: \$0.00 Fund 600: \$0.00  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$200.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031890	1/4/2024	\$2,525.50	LIEBE	Liebert Cassidy Whitmore Prof Law C
Voucher: 049386	Invoice: 256201		Date: 11/30/2023	Legal Services Doc Amt: \$328.50
	Allocations:	\$32.85	100-6210-0000-563-06	CS-Legal GA 10/5/85
	Allocations:	\$16.43	300-6210-0000-563-06	CS-Legal GA 10/5/85
	Allocations:	\$279.23	600-6210-0000-563-06	CS-Legal GA 10/5/85

Voucher: 049387	Invoice: 256071		Date: 11/30/2023	Legal Services Doc Amt: \$182.50
	Allocations:	\$18.25	100-6210-0000-563-06	CS-Legal GA 10/5/85
	Allocations:	\$9.13	300-6210-0000-563-06	CS-Legal GA 10/5/85
	Allocations:	\$155.13	600-6210-0000-563-06	CS-Legal GA 10/5/85

Voucher: 049388	Invoice: 256277		Date: 11/30/2023	Legal Services Doc Amt: \$2,014.50
	Allocations:	\$201.45	100-6210-0000-563-06	CS-Legal GA 10/5/85
	Allocations:	\$100.73	300-6210-0000-563-06	CS-Legal GA 10/5/85
	Allocations:	\$1,712.33	600-6210-0000-563-06	CS-Legal GA 10/5/85

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$252.55 Fund 300: \$126.28 Fund 600: \$2,146.68  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031891	1/4/2024	\$690.80	NEWSV	New SV Media, Inc
Voucher: 049385	Invoice: 99084		Date: 12/15/2023	12/15/23 Weekly Print Ads Doc Amt: \$160.00
	Allocations:	\$160.00	803-6865-0000-562	Advertising/Public Info (PI)

Voucher: 049393	Invoice: 100142		Date: 12/29/2023	12/22/23 Weekly Print Ads Doc Amt: \$160.00
	Allocations:	\$160.00	803-6865-0000-562	Advertising/Public Info (PI)

Voucher: 049394	Invoice: 98564		Date: 12/12/2023	Public Notice Doc Amt: \$210.80
	Allocations:	\$10.54	300-6865-0000-562-06	Advertising-Pub Information GA 10/5/85
	Allocations:	\$179.18	600-6865-0000-562-06	Advertising-Pub Information GA 10/5/85
	Allocations:	\$21.08	100-6865-0000-562-06	Advertising-Pub Information GA 10/5/85

Voucher: 049405 Invoice: 100079 Date: 12/29/2023 12/29/23 Weekly Print Ads Doc Amt: \$160.00  
 Allocations: \$160.00 803-6865-0000-562 Advertising/Public Info (PI)

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$21.08 Fund 300: \$10.54 Fund 600: \$179.18  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$480.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031892	1/4/2024	\$321.11	PALAC	Palace Business Solutions

Voucher: 049367 Invoice: 2306939-0 Date: 12/18/2023 Office Supplies Doc Amt: \$158.77  
 Allocations: \$134.95 600-6835-0000-562-06 Office Supplies 10/5/85 GA  
 Allocations: \$7.94 300-6835-0000-562-06 Office Supplies 10/5/85 GA  
 Allocations: \$15.88 100-6835-0000-562-06 Office Supplies 10/5/85 GA

Voucher: 049380 Invoice: 2307128-0 Date: 12/19/2023 Office Supplies Doc Amt: \$162.34  
 Allocations: \$137.99 600-6835-0000-562-06 Office Supplies 10/5/85 GA  
 Allocations: \$8.12 300-6835-0000-562-06 Office Supplies 10/5/85 GA  
 Allocations: \$16.23 100-6835-0000-562-06 Office Supplies 10/5/85 GA

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$32.11 Fund 300: \$16.06 Fund 600: \$272.94  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031893	1/4/2024	\$901.35	RJRRE	RJR Environmental Professional Servi

Voucher: 049403 Invoice: 62277 Date: 12/20/2023 Monthly Garbage Service Doc Amt: \$901.35  
 Allocations: \$616.35 600-6860-0000-542 Utilities-Disposal fees  
 Allocations: \$285.00 600-6860-0000-542 Utilities-Disposal fees

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$0.00 Fund 300: \$0.00 Fund 600: \$901.35  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031894	1/4/2024	\$120.00	SENTR	Sentry Alarm Systems

Voucher: 049382 Invoice: 2237131 Date: 12/15/2023 Quarterly Monitoring Doc Amt: \$120.00  
 Allocations: \$12.00 100-6270-0000-563-06 CS-Operations GA 10/5/85  
 Allocations: \$6.00 300-6270-0000-563-06 CS-Operations GA 10/5/85  
 Allocations: \$102.00 600-6270-0000-563-06 CS-Operations GA 10/5/85

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$12.00 Fund 300: \$6.00 Fund 600: \$102.00  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031895	1/4/2024	\$184.99	SHRED	Shred-it

Voucher: 049413 Invoice: 8005756365 Date: 12/31/2023 Monthly Shredding Service Doc Amt: \$184.99  
 Allocations: \$18.50 100-6270-0000-563-06 CS-Operations GA 10/5/85  
 Allocations: \$9.25 300-6270-0000-563-06 CS-Operations GA 10/5/85

Allocations: \$157.24 600-6270-0000-563-06 CS-Operations GA 10/5/85

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$18.50 Fund 300: \$9.25 Fund 600: \$157.24  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031896	1/4/2024	\$528.26	THOMS	Thomson Reuters-West
Voucher: 049379	Invoice: 849471121	Date: 12/18/2023	Water Code Updates	
	Allocations:	\$52.83	100-6830-0000-562-06	Subscriptions/Publications 10/5/85
	Allocations:	\$26.41	300-6830-0000-562-06	Subscriptions/Publications 10/5/85
	Allocations:	\$449.02	600-6830-0000-562-06	Subscriptions/Publications 10/5/85

Doc Amt: \$528.26

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$52.83 Fund 300: \$26.41 Fund 600: \$449.02  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031897	1/4/2024	\$32,034.05	TODDE	Todd Groundwater
Voucher: 049368	Invoice: 37657-41223	Date: 12/8/2023	Engineering Services	
	Allocations:	\$18,650.00	600-6240-0000-563	CS-General Consulting-GA
Voucher: 049369	Invoice: 37656 1223	Date: 12/8/2023	Engineering Services	
	Allocations:	\$977.50	700-6270-0000-511	CS - Operations-SSO
Voucher: 049370	Invoice: 37657-11223	Date: 12/8/2023	Engineering Services	
	Allocations:	\$7,387.05	700-1351-0221-151	GSA-Grdwtr Mgmt Plan
Voucher: 049371	Invoice: 37653-23122	Date: 12/8/2023	Engineering Services	
	Allocations:	\$718.25	700-6240-0160-511	CS-Annual Grwtr Report-SSO
Voucher: 049372	Invoice: 37658 1223	Date: 12/8/2023	Engineering Services	
	Allocations:	\$4,301.25	600-1351-A129-151	ADRoP-Accelerated Drought Response Project

Doc Amt: \$18,650.00

Doc Amt: \$977.50

Doc Amt: \$7,387.05

Doc Amt: \$718.25

Doc Amt: \$4,301.25

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$0.00 Fund 300: \$0.00 Fund 600: \$22,951.25  
 Fund 700: \$9,082.80 Fund 803: \$0.00

Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name
031898	1/4/2024	\$68.50	WRIIN	Wright Bros Industrial Supply
Voucher: 049404	Invoice: 280908	Date: 12/22/2023	Welding Supplies	
	Allocations:	\$68.50	600-6320-0000-542	Supplies-TM

Doc Amt: \$68.50

**Payment Responsibilities:**

Fund 000: \$0.00 Fund 100: \$0.00 Fund 300: \$0.00 Fund 600: \$68.50  
 Fund 700: \$0.00 Fund 803: \$0.00



Payment#	Date	Check Total	Vendor ID	Vendor Name			
031899	1/4/2024	\$2,170.00	ZEIAL	Alan Zeisbrich			
Voucher: 049391	Invoice: 12-2023			Date: 1/1/2024	Contract Services	Doc Amt: \$1,400.00	
	Allocations:	\$105.00	300-6270-0000-511		CS-Operations-SS0		
	Allocations:	\$945.00	600-6270-0000-541		CS-Operations-TO		
	Allocations:	\$175.00	600-6270-0602-531		CS Operations - Lessalt WTP		
	Allocations:	\$175.00	600-6270-0603-531		CS Operations - West Hills WTP		
Voucher: 049392	Invoice: 12-2023P			Date: 1/1/2024	Contract Services	Doc Amt: \$770.00	
	Allocations:	\$169.40	600-1503-0158-125		Reach 1 Capital Improvement Project		
	Allocations:	\$600.60	600-1503-0158-125		Reach 1 Capital Improvement Project		

**Payment Responsibilities:**  
Fund 000: \$0.00      Fund 100: \$0.00      Fund 300: \$105.00      Fund 600: \$2,065.00  
Fund 700: \$0.00      Fund 803: \$0.00

**Report Totals, Payment Fund Responsibilities**

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<b>Fund 000: \$0.00</b>	<b>Fund 100: \$1,186.11</b>	<b>Fund 300: \$1,355.32</b>	<b>Fund 600: \$210,098.58</b>
<b>Fund 700: \$13,227.80</b>	<b>Fund 803: \$1,880.25</b>		

Fund 100 = District Administration  
Fund 300 = Zone 3  
Fund 600 = Zone 6  
Fund 700 = Zone GSA  
Fund 803 = Zone WRA

0 \*  
0 \*  
1,186.11 +  
1,355.32 +  
210,098.58 +  
13,227.80 +  
1,880.25 +  
227,748.06 \*  
0 \*

San Benito County Water District  
Agenda Transmittal

Agenda Item: 3

Meeting Date: January 8, 2024

Submitted By: Steve Wittry

Presented By: Steve Wittry

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Agenda Title: Annual Presentation of Groundwater Conditions of the District and 2024-2025 Zone 6 Groundwater Rates

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The San Benito County Water District (District or SBCWD) was formed in 1953 by a special act (District Act) of the State with responsibility and authority to manage groundwater. Section 7.6 of the District Act (Act) states that “the Board may ... require the district to annually prepare an investigation and report on conditions of the district and zones thereof”. The Act requires the condition assessment to include all of the reporting parameters as identified in Section 7.6 (a)-(j).

In addition, the report identifies a recommendation of the Groundwater Charge to be levied in Zone 6 for the upcoming water year consistent with the Zone 6 Water Rate and Capacity Fee study.

The following recommendations are responsive to section 7.6 of the Act:

- The District should continue to purchase and supply all imported CVP water available under the SBCWD contract and any additional supplies that can reasonably be attained.
- The District should continue to operate Hernandez and Paicines reservoirs for downstream percolation to improve downstream groundwater conditions.
- The District should continue off-channel percolation of CVP water as available and expand percolation capabilities.
- A groundwater charge should be levied in Zone 6 as substantiated and recommended in the 2023 Annual Groundwater Report. The groundwater charge for the USBR contract year (March 2024-February 2025) is recommended to be \$14.03 per AF for agricultural use in Zone 6 and a groundwater charge of \$14.03 per AF is recommended for M&I use.

Prior Committee or Board Action: None

Financial Impact:            X       Yes                         No

Material Included for Information/Consideration: District Engineer's Annual Groundwater Conditions Report for January 8, 2024 Meeting of the Board of Directors

Recommendation: Board to adopt the Statement of Findings and Recommendations and accept the 2023 District Engineer's Report on Annual Groundwater Conditions and Recommendation on 2024-2025 Zone 6 Groundwater Rates.

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Action Required:                         Resolution            X       Motion                         Review

           Resolution No.            Motion By:                                    Second By:                                   

Ayes                                    Abstained                                   

Noes                                    Absent                                   

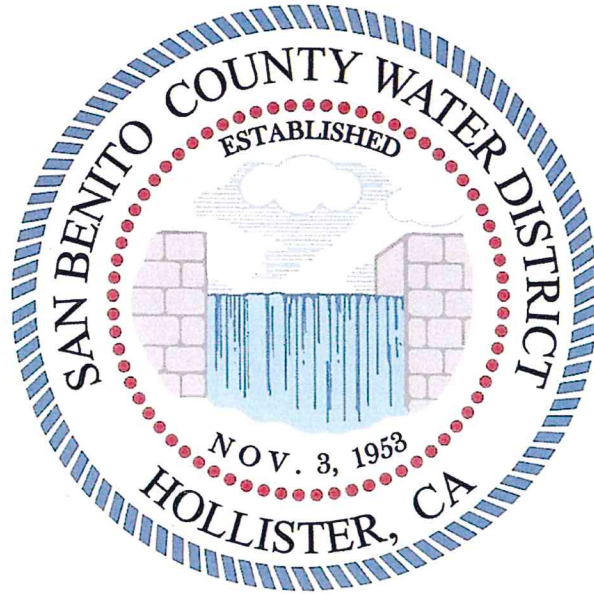
Reagendized                                    Date                    No Action Taken                                   

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**SAN BENITO COUNTY WATER DISTRICT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

FINDINGS IN SUPPORT OF MOTION TO ACCEPT  
ANNUAL GROUNDWATER REPORT FOR WATER YEAR 2023

1. The Report contains a recommendation for the operation of Hernandez and Paicines Reservoirs.
2. The report contains information as to the amount of water the District is obligated to purchase during the 2024 Water Year.
3. The report recommends the quantity of water needed for surface delivery and or replenishment of groundwater supplies of the District and the Zones thereof for the 2024 Water Year.
4. The report recommends that a groundwater charge should be levied in the Zones of the District for 2024-2025 Water Year and proposes a rate per acre foot for agricultural water and a rate per acre foot for water other than agricultural water.



San Benito County Water District Annual Groundwater  
Assessment

December 2023



The San Benito County Water District (District or SBCWD) was formed in 1953 by a special act (District Act) of the State with responsibility and authority to manage groundwater. The District Act authorizes the Board of Directors, at its discretion, to direct staff to prepare an annual report on groundwater conditions of the District and its zones of benefit, such as Zone 6, the area for distribution of Central Valley Project (CVP) water. The groundwater report (addressing the previous water year from October 1 through September 30) also summarizes activities of the District for protection and augmentation of water supplies and provides management recommendations. Annual Groundwater Reports have been prepared since the 1970s and District Act requirements are listed in Appendix A of recent reports.

In response to the 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), the District has become the exclusive Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the North San Benito Groundwater Basin (Basin) in San Benito County. In coordination with Santa Clara Water District (Valley Water), the GSA for the Santa Clara County portion of the Basin, the District led preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Basin that was submitted to DWR in January 2022 and received Approval from DWR in July 2023. Starting in 2022, the District shifted Annual Groundwater Report preparation to align with the requirements of SGMA, and SGMA Annual Reports for water years 2021 and 2022 (Todd 2022 and 2023) have been prepared for local use and submittal to DWR. The District recently initiated preparation of the SGMA Annual Report for water year 2023 in accordance with SGMA and consistent with the District Act. The water year 2023 SGMA Annual Groundwater Report is due to DWR by April 1, 2024.

This brief Memorandum Report has been prepared at the direction of the SBCWD Board of Directors to address requirements of the District Act, while recognizing that the SGMA Annual Report will provide the substantial documentation that has been presented in pre-SGMA Annual Groundwater Reports.

## **1. GROUNDWATER BASIN CONDITIONS**

As documented in the GSP (Todd 2021), the Basin is not in overdraft. Historical overdraft was halted through importation of CVP water and other management actions. In water year (WY) 2023<sup>1</sup>, the State-wide drought continued in the beginning of the year but was followed by a wet winter and spring. In February 2023, CVP initial allocations were at 35 percent for agricultural uses and 75 percent for municipal and industrial (M&I) uses. In March, the USBR increased allocation to 80 percent and 100 percent for agricultural and M&I uses, respectively. Finally in April, USBR announced the CVP 2023 water supply allocations were 100 percent for both agricultural and M&I uses (ACWA 2023).

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<sup>1</sup> Water year 2023 was the 12-month period from October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

Several infrastructure issues affected the water supply in WY 2023, including:

- Construction delays along Highway 156 caused disruption of CVP deliveries to Subsystem 10 (San Juan area) from January to early June.
- West Hills Treatment plant was offline from mid-November 2022 through April 2023 due to an electrical power surge.
- Lessalt Treatment plant was offline in 2022 due to the reduced CVP supply.

These disruptions of CVP delivery reduced the potential CVP that could have been delivered in this wet year with 100 percent allocation. As a result, the growers in Subsystem 10 and the municipalities in the Hollister Urban Area relied more on groundwater as a back-up supply. Table 1 shows that WY 2023 M&I groundwater pumping was higher than previous wet and average years but lower than pumping during the severe drought of WY 2021 and WY 2019. Even so, Water Year 2023 shows the lowest agricultural pumping over the last five years, Table 1.

**Table 1. Groundwater Production in Zone 6 by Water Year, acre-feet per year**

	WY 2019	WY 2020	WY 2021	WY 2022	WY 2023
<b>Agriculture*</b>	15,423	17,021	22,614	23,945	13,147
<b>Municipal &amp; Industrial</b>	2,660	3,514	6,067	5,840	4,769

\* based on power meters in Zone 6

While WY 2023 was a wet year hydrologically, the lasting effects of the multiple year drought can still be seen in the North San Benito Basin. Groundwater levels and storage reserves have shown an increase over the past years but remain below historical highs. However, the District continues to manage the Basin to maintain water levels above the quantitative minimum thresholds that are protective of beneficial uses of groundwater (Todd 2021).

## **2. WATER SUPPLIES AND MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

As described in the previous SGMA Annual Reports and pre-SGMA Annual Groundwater Reports, water supply sources available in Zone 6 include local groundwater, imported CVP water, recycled water, and local surface water.

The District contract with the USBR provides up to 35,550 acre-feet per year (AFY) of imported water for agricultural use and 8,250 AFY for M&I use. As noted above, CVP allocations were increased to 100 percent for agricultural and M&I uses in WY 2023. However, the overall delivery of CVP to users in Zone 6 was less than the previous two years



of severe drought and recent normal and wet years due to the delivery and treatment infrastructure issues described above. **Figure 1** shows the delivered CVP water by user type over the last 20 years.

**Figure 1. CVP Deliveries by User Type (WY 2004- WY 2023)**



CVP and the other non-groundwater water sources are used conjunctively with local groundwater. The District has consistently worked to maintain groundwater storage in the Basin to serve as an important water source in dry years when CVP and other sources are restricted. District groundwater management projects (also described in GSP Chapter 8, Todd 2021) are focused on increasing water importation, local water storage, managed aquifer recharge, and water recycling, all of which maintain and increase local groundwater storage.

Ongoing management actions include groundwater level, quality, and water use monitoring, data compilation and analysis, numerical modeling, water conservation, water quality improvement programs, stakeholder outreach, reporting, and administrative activities among others that contribute to long-term sustainability.

### 3. RECOMMENDATIONS

The following recommendations are responsive to the District Act:



- Continue to purchase and supply all imported CVP water available under the District's contract and any additional supplies that can reasonably be attained.
- Continue to operate Hernandez and Paicines reservoirs for downstream percolation to improve downstream groundwater conditions.
- Continue off-channel percolation of CVP water as available and expand percolation capabilities.
- Levy a groundwater charge in Zone 6 as substantiated and recommended in the 2023 Annual Groundwater Report. The groundwater charge for the USBR contract year (March 2024-February 2025) is recommended to be \$14.03 per acre-foot (AF) for agricultural use in Zone 6 and a groundwater charge of \$14.03 per AF is recommended for M&I use.

#### **4. REFERENCES**

Association of California Agencies, 2023, Bureau of Reclamation Bolsters CVP Water Supply Allocations, <https://www.acwa.com/news/bureau-of-reclamation-bolsters-cvp-water-supply-allocations/>, April 23, 2023.

Todd Groundwater (Todd), 2022, 2021 Annual Groundwater Report, March.

Todd Groundwater (Todd), 2021, North San Benito Groundwater Sustainability Plan, November.

Todd Groundwater (Todd), 2023, 2022 Annual Groundwater Report, March.

## **Appendix A**

### **2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act impacts to the Groundwater Investigation, Report and Recommendations required by the District Act**

The San Benito County Water Conservation and Flood Control District Act (District Act) Section 70-7.6, requires the San Benito County Water District (District) to prepare an annual investigation and report on groundwater conditions. In 2014, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was approved by the legislature. Since SGMA approval, the District has become the exclusive Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the North San Benito Groundwater Basin (Basin) in San Benito County and has led the preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the basin.

Consistent with SGMA and the District Act, the District is required to complete an Annual Groundwater Report. There is considerable overlap between the two legislative requirements as both require the development and analysis of groundwater conditions. The SGMA Annual Report is required to be submitted to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) by April 1 of each year. The District Act requires a public hearing on the second Monday in January for interested parties to inquire/discuss the condition of the groundwater supplies or surface water supplies of the district.

The District has determined the most efficient method for meeting the requirements of the SGMA and District Act is to provide an Annual Groundwater Assessment available to the public in December of each year. This assessment will provide an overview of basin conditions and recommendations. A public hearing will be held on the second Monday in January of each year in compliance with the District Act. The annual report will be completed following the public hearing and prior to the April 1 deadline. This will allow the District the opportunity to address any groundwater issues brought forward at the January public hearing and incorporate any substantive changes prior to submission to the DWR.

Per the District Act, the investigation and report shall include the following information:

- (a) Information for the consideration of the board in its determination of the annual overdraft.
- (b) Information for the consideration of the board in its determination if the accumulated overdraft as of September 30 of the current calendar year.
- (c) A report as to the total production of water from the groundwater supplies of the district and the zones thereof as of September 30 of the current calendar year.
- (d) An estimate of the annual overdraft for the current water year and for the ensuing water year.
- (e) Information for the consideration of the board in its determination if the estimated amount of agricultural water and the estimated amount of water other than agricultural water to be withdrawn from the groundwater supplies of the district and zones thereof for the ensuing water year.

- (f) The amount of water the district is obligated to purchase during the ensuing water year
- (g) A recommendation as to the quality of water needed for surface delivery and for replenishment of the groundwater supplies of the district and the zones thereof the ensuing water year.
- (h) A recommendation as to whether or not a groundwater charge should be levied in any zone or zones of the district during the ensuing water year.
- (i) If any groundwater charge is recommended, a proposal of a rate per acre-foot for agricultural water and a rate per acre-foot for all water other than agricultural water for such zone or zones.

Any other information the board requires.