

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF VENTURA COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 17 TO INCREASE WATER RATES AND MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-24, AND CONTINUING EXISTING WATER STANDBY CHARGE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-25

WHEREAS, the Ventura County Waterworks District No. 17 (District) provides potable water to the Bell Canyon community, Boeing North American, Inc., and Las Virgenes Municipal Water District customers in the Santa Susana Knolls. The District's entire water supply is imported water from the State Water Project, delivered through the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Calleguas Municipal Water District, and the City of Simi Valley;

WHEREAS, District staff has reviewed the District's costs and revenues and determined that the District must increase its volumetric commodity (water) rates and fixed monthly service charges to provide fiscal stability and meet projected revenue requirements, including operations and maintenance expenses, capital expenditures, and reserve requirements;

WHEREAS, the estimated cost of imported water will increase 6% for calendar year 2024;

WHEREAS, the cost of power is estimated to rise up to 4%, the cost of labor, including salaries and benefits is estimated to increase by 3.5%, and the cost of materials is estimated to increase up to 3% for fiscal year 2024;

WHEREAS, the estimated increase is needed for expenditures for planned capital projects, including a much-needed new 1.5-million-gallon reservoir, as well as repairs and maintenance on aging infrastructure;

WHEREAS, District staff estimates that, if the District does not increase its current rates and charges, the District will have a negative cash balance by fiscal year 2026;

WHEREAS, the amounts of the proposed rates and charges do not exceed the estimated reasonable costs of providing the services for which the rates and charges are imposed, and these costs are allocated to payers in a manner that is proportional and bears a fair and reasonable relationship to the payers' burdens, or benefits received, from such services;

WHEREAS, District staff recommends that the proposed rate increases as shown in Exhibit 4, attached hereto, be adopted;

WHEREAS, the District uses the best available information to calculate proposed increases in the cost of imported water purchases from Calleguas Municipal Water District (CMWD);

WHEREAS, the District's Citizens' Advisory Committee has reviewed the proposed fee schedule and unanimously concurred with the recommended rate and monthly service charge increases;

WHEREAS, per section 53759 of the Government Code effective January 1, 2022, legal challenges to new increased, or extended fees or charges must be brought within 120 days of either the effective date of the fee or charge or the date of the ordinance, resolution or motion, adopting or approving the fee or charge, whichever is later;

WHEREAS, the proposed increases in the District's water rates and monthly service charges are subject to the majority protest provisions of California Constitution Article XIII D, Section 6 (Proposition 218);

WHEREAS, the District, in accordance with Proposition 218, has given timely, proper notice of the proposed increases to volumetric commodity (water) rates and monthly services charges to all affected customers (e.g., parcel owners and directly billed tenants), including providing notice of the public hearing on the proposed increases before this Board at the Ventura County Board of Supervisor Hearing Room in the Hall of Administration, at 800 South Victoria Avenue, Ventura, California, at a time certain;

WHEREAS, the Board has now held a public hearing to consider all oral and written comments, protests and objections concerning these proposed increases;

WHEREAS, the Board, having reviewed all written protests submitted to it prior to the conclusion of the public hearing, has determined that written protests were not received from a majority of affected customers such as parcel owners and directly billed tenants;

WHEREAS, District staff proposes to keep the current water standby charge unchanged for Fiscal Year 2024-25; and

WHEREAS, the District has submitted a report, attached hereto as Exhibit 5, showing a description of each parcel for which, this standby charge is to be billed, together with the amount of the charge applicable to each parcel, so that said charges may be collected as a part of the annual general county tax bill.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Ventura County Waterworks District No. 17 hereby (i) adopts the proposed rate schedule, as shown in Exhibit 4, attached hereto, effective beginning on the next regularly scheduled meter reading and billing cycle on or after February 1, 2024, (ii) directs that these rates be published on the District's website, and (iii) approves continuing the current water standby charge of \$46.82 per acre (or per parcel less than one acre), up to the maximum charge based on five (5) acres, as shown in Exhibit 5, and continuing to collect the standby charges as a part of the annual general county tax bill.

Upon motion of Board Member _____, seconded by Board Member _____, and duly carried, the Board hereby approves and adopts this resolution on this 23rd day of January 2024.

By: _____
 Chair, Board of Ventura County Waterworks
 District No. 17

ATTEST:
 SEVET JOHNSON
 Clerk of the Board of Ventura County Waterworks District No. 17
 County of Ventura, State of California

By: _____
 Deputy Clerk of the Board

EXHIBIT 4

VENTURA COUNTY WATERWORKS DISTRICT NO. 17 (BELL CANYON) PROPOSED SCHEDULE OF WATER RATES AND MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGES TO TAKE EFFECT ON THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED METER READING AND BILLING CYCLE ON OR AFTER FEBRUARY 1, 2024

Water Commodity Rates		
Residential	Current Rates	Proposed Rates
28-day Billing Cycle		
Tier 1	0 – 9.33 HCF*	\$5.50
Tier 2	>9.34 – 50.40 HCF	\$6.52
Tier 3	>50.41 HCF	\$8.18
35-day Billing Cycle		
Tier 1	0 – 11.67 HCF	\$5.50
Tier 2	>11.68 – 63.00 HCF	\$6.52
Tier 3	>63.01 HCF	\$8.18
Other Classes		
Non-Residential	\$6.66	\$7.16
Temporary Construction	\$6.86	\$7.37
<i>* HCF = Hundred Cubic Feet (748 Gallons); AF = Acre Feet (435.60 HCF)</i>		
Monthly Service Charges - Meters		
Meter Size	Current Rates	Proposed Rates
3/4-inch	\$24.24	\$26.06
1-inch	\$34.87	\$37.49
1 1/2-inch	\$61.45	\$66.06
2-inch	\$93.33	\$100.33
3-inch	\$194.31	\$208.88
4-inch	\$343.10	\$368.83
6-inch	\$699.14	\$751.58

Monthly Service Charges - Fire Line		
Meter Size	Current Rates	Proposed Rates
6-inch	\$44.68	\$48.03
<i>NOTE: Water used through private fire services will be charged at the temporary construction water rate</i>		

EXHIBIT 5
Waterworks District No. 17
Schedule of Water Standby Charges
for Fiscal Year 2024-25

Parcel No.	Standby Acres	Standby Charge
6850060165	5.000	234.10
6850060215	5.000	234.10
6850060325	5.000	234.10
6850060335	5.000	234.10
6850060345	5.000	234.10
8500011105	1.010	47.30
8500011145	1.000	46.82
8500012135	1.130	52.92
8500022085	2.830	132.50
8500024135	1.150	53.84
8500032085	1.090	51.04
8500034025	1.000	46.82
8500043015	5.000	234.10
8500043065	2.030	95.04
8500043085	2.740	128.30
8500043095	2.670	125.02
8500051105	1.000	46.82
8500052105	2.790	130.64
8500052125	2.810	131.56
8500061115	1.000	46.82
8500061155	1.000	46.82
8500062095	1.780	83.34
8500062135	1.000	46.82
8500062155	1.360	63.68
8500071105	1.910	89.44
8500071145	1.230	57.60
8500071215	1.350	63.22
8500071365	1.460	68.36
8500071445	1.380	64.62
8500082015	1.040	48.70
8500101075	1.740	81.48
8500101105	5.000	234.10
8500101185	1.180	55.26
8500106055	1.140	53.38
8500106085	1.000	46.82
8500111055	1.000	46.82
8500111105	1.000	46.82
8500111115	1.000	46.82
8500111125	1.000	46.82
8500111135	1.000	46.82
8500111355	1.000	46.82
8500122175	1.750	81.94
8500132055	1.270	59.46
8500132175	1.000	46.82

8500132235	1.690	79.14
8500141125	1.090	51.04
8500142145	1.050	49.16
8500151135	2.390	111.90
8500152145	4.500	210.70
8500160185	1.520	71.18
8500171095	5.000	234.10
8500172065	1.230	57.60
8500200025	5.000	234.10
8500200035	5.000	234.10
8500200045	5.000	234.10
8500211335	1.560	73.04
8500212205	1.720	80.54
	<u>124.595</u>	<u>5,833.52</u>

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